

Executive summary

A large circular graphic with a blue outer ring and a central area containing several overlapping, semi-transparent circles in various colors (orange, red, pink, purple, brown, green). A horizontal white band across the center contains the text.

VLC/CAMPUS

VALENCIA, CAMPUS OF INTERNATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Science And Technology For The Quality Of Life In The 21St Century

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VLC/CAMPUS is the joint proposal promoted by the University of Valencia (UV), the Polytechnic University of Valencia (UPV) and the High Council for Scientific Research (CSIC) for the creation of a Campus of International Excellence within the metropolitan area of Valencia.

This aggregation is based on the structural and functional complementarity of promoting entities in the areas of training and technological science. The UV and the UPV are very highly ranked in international classification; the CSIC, the eleventh most important research institution in the world, has 10 institutes in the Valencian Community, of which 6 are centres joint with the UV and the UPV.

VLC/CAMPUS is composed of 32 educational centres, 63 research institutes, 135 departments, 46 libraries, two scientific parks and the whole range of services belonging to these three institutions in order to support its activity. Its built space covers 1,123,951 m².

6,201 PDI (Teaching and Research Staff) and 4,212 PAS (Administration and Service Staff) work in these centres. 79,485 undergraduates, 7,345 Master students and 5,257 postgraduate students use the VLC/CAMPUS classrooms on a daily basis. (5,800 of these students come from International Exchange programmes). All these students have at their disposal the most complete and highest quality training offer for undergraduates, master and postgraduate students in the surrounding area.

OBJECTIVES

In this era of globalization, those regions wishing to maintain levels of well-being and preserve their leadership need to function as ecosystems which are open to global flows with a capacity to concentrate innovation, attract talent and generate creativity. Competitiveness on a global scale constitutes the best programme to consolidate contribution towards regional and international development. For this reason, by way of integration of the best training, scientific-technological and innovation resources of the three institutions, VLC/CAMPUS aims to:

- become the **main driving force and motivator within the surrounding area**, by way of encouraging Metropolitan importance.
- and take on **full internationalization** of activities, allowing relevant contributions towards solving **global problems** to be made.

Promoting institutions propose to:

- convert the VLC/CAMPUS into a hub of knowledge of international excellence, through specialization of scientific-technological production in health, information/communication and sustainability;
- improve the quality of training on offer, services and facilities, with an orientation towards student centrality;
- promote attraction and retention of talent.
- lead, from its own area, the change towards a new social and economic model in the territory, more intensive in knowledge and a generator of employability and productivity;
- act as reference model for those values and socio-cultural innovations that allow for a transition towards a sustainable economy and society.

VLC/CAMPUS SPECIALISATION

From the analysis of the thematic areas enjoying consolidated recognition on an international level and from the study, together with social agents, of needs arising when faced with the reform of the productive system, a conceptual model of campus specialised in three areas (HEALTH, INFORMATION/COMMUNICATION and SUSTAINABILITY) is derived. With these, VLC/CAMPUS demonstrates its commitment to science and technology production for the quality of life in the 21st Century.

These three nuclei develop lines of action in all university functions. Around these, different types of resources which are necessary for adequate working are organised, via the creation of **Joint Platforms for Innovation**, which will guide the programmes of excellence both in teaching –especially at doctorate level – as well as in research and knowledge transfer.

- The **Platform for Innovation in Science and Technology for Health** will strengthen and maximize interaction between different disciplines covering the entire field of health sciences as well as basic sciences, engineering and social sciences.
- The **Platform for Innovation in Information Technologies and Communications** deals with basic research -photonics, form recognition, physics of solid state- up to supercomputing, robotics, construction of communication networks and creation of multimedia content.
- The **Platform for Innovation in Science and Technology for Sustainability** takes into consideration our training and research potential from the area of energies, the environment and global change, productive diversification, landscape protection and local development or environmental education.

MAIN ACTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

In accordance with its conceptual model VLC/CAMPUS has proposed actions in each and every one of the areas envisaged in the Commission.

IMPROVED TEACHING AND ADAPTATION TO THE EEES (EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA)

In this area, we present the organised actions in four programmes:

1. Creation of the **Valencia International School of Postgraduate and Doctorate Studies** (EIPDV), aiming for joint management of the offer of greater excellence with special attention to the organisation of the very highest quality postgraduates in specialised VLC/CAMPUS areas.
2. **Teaching Excellence Programme**: Map of Degrees (META 2015), with studies of the viability of joint degrees, an Observatory of degree-quality and the creation of **Grupos ARA** (High Academic Performance groups) with teaching given in English.
3. **Academic Internationalization and Mobility Plan**, one of whose most relevant actions will be starting up the **Inter-university Unit for International Exchange Students**.
4. **European Higher Education Area adaptation programme**, which includes five main actions:
 - Infrastructures and teaching equipment.
 - Educational innovation and new “**Digital University**” technologies.
 - Learning and Research Resource Centres (**CRAI**).
 - European Higher Education Area **social dimension**.
 - Support programme for “**entrepreneurship**”.

SCIENTIFIC IMPROVEMENT AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

Five main programmes are considered in this area:

1. The creation of **Joint Resources for Research and Innovation**, which is expressed emblematically in the creation of three **Joint Innovation Platforms** (one for each specialised area) and initially 18 **Research Micro-clusters**, which are inter-disciplinary and inter-institutional. Additionally ICTSs will be promoted ie: the **Institute of Medical Physics** (IFIMED), the **Integral Centre for Energetic and Environmental Improvement of Transport Systems** (CiMET) and the supercomputer **Tirant**. Already existing inter-institutional structures will be reinforced, such as the Joint Institute of Molecular Recognition and Technological Development (IDM), the Valencia Space Consortium (VSC), the Inter-university Institute of Research and Bioengineering focused on the human being (I3BH), the Landscape Observatory and the iGEM Consortium (International Genetically Engineered Machine competition) in the field of synthetic biology.

The creation of a **Scientific Production Observatory** is planned as well as setting up a **Central Support Unit for Research in Social Science and Humanities UCRESH**.

2. The **Attracting Talent Programme** includes policies and actions for attracting and retaining (pre-doctoral grants, stays, mobility allowance, post-doctoral contracts and stabilization) as well as creating adequate accommodation conditions, such as the construction of the **Lluís Vives residency for researchers**, by way of refurbishing the current hall of residency, which is of historical heritage.

3. The **Evaluation Programme**, by way of consolidating the **Inter-university Evaluation Unit**, will promote transference transference, protection of results, motivation of innovation and entrepreneurship, and the promotion of RDI-based work.

4. **Programme for Scientific Diffusion**, with the creation of the Inter-institutional Scientific Culture Unit, the Scientific Documentation Archive and plans for awareness and diffusion.

5. **Plan for Strengthening Scientific Parks**, using excellence strategies, internationalization and extending its capacity.

CAMPUS TRANSFORMATION FOR AN INTEGRAL SOCIAL MODEL

This area of improvement contemplates the transformation of the campus into an **ecosystem of science and an area of life, open to the city and responsible with the environment**, via 8 action programmes. From these, the most relevant actions are highlighted below:

1. Construction of the **VLC/CAMPUS Edificio Pórtico** and setting up the **VLC/CAMPUS Foundation**. Amongst other services it will house governing bodies, the Valencia International School of Postgraduate and Doctorate Studies and the Inter-university Unit for International Exchange Students.
2. Programmes aimed at improving the Conditions of Life of the academic community and its surroundings:
 - Universal Accessibility;
 - Mobility and Sustainable Transport Plan;
 - Employability and the Job Market;
 - Promoting sporting activities;
 - Wireless Communication;
 - Inter-university Equality Observatory;
 - Historical-Cultural and Natural Heritage Conservation;
 - Offer for participation and cultural creativity.
3. Services open to society:
 - Life-Long Training Centre;
 - Innovation and Strategy Centre;
 - Early Attention Centre for children with disabilities;
 - Logopedic and Psychological Applications Centre;
 - Clinics: Dental, Podiatry, Optometric, Nutritional, Legal;
 - Socio-sanitary Attention State Reference Centre for IMSERSO Serious Mental Illness Patients.
 - Language Centres;
 - Espai Innova (Gandia);
 - Confucio Institute.
4. Cooperation with the educational system and in particular with Higher Degree Professional Training centres: Scholarship programme for Technical Support Research Staff Training (FPATI).

VLC/CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY PROPOSAL

In accordance with the Spanish Strategy of Sustainable Development, VLC/CAMPUS is launching a proposal dealing with a specialised area in training, research, transfer of knowledge and innovation, and which is simultaneously conceived by VLC/CAMPUS as a **Sustainable Campus**.

BUDGET

AREAS	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	TOTAL
a) Improved teaching and EHEA adaptation	2.259.000 €	6.101.760 €	4.751.000 €	3.641.000 €	2.097.000 €	840.000 €	19.689.760 €
b) Scientific improvement and Knowledge and Technology Transfer	1.857.000 €	6.715.755 €	14.674.437 €	8.812.500 €	6.312.250 €	4.800.000 €	43.171.942 €
c) Campus transformation for an integral social model and interaction between campus and territorial environment	579.200 €	5.145.000 €	8.590.000 €	8.140.000 €	2.345.000 €	2.100.000 €	26.899.200 €
TOTAL	4.695.200 €	17.962.515 €	28.015.437 €	20.593.500 €	10.754.250 €	7.740.000 €	89.760.902 €

VLC/CAMPUS GOVERNMENT

This project counts on the unanimous **support** of **state institutions** (Corts Valencianes, Generalitat, Councils where universities have headquarters), as well as the **Chamber of Commerce and business and union organizations**. It also counts on direct involvement of **centres, organizations and research entities**, such as the Prince Felipe Research Centre, the Public Health Higher Research Centre and hospital research foundations, as well as on some of the most dynamic and innovative base technology **companies**.

The proposed objectives, the actions on which they are specified and the coordination of both VLC/CAMPUS promotion institutions and the rest of the appointed organisations, can only be reached using an efficient and solid model of government. This is based on the creation of a **VLC/CAMPUS Foundation**, which will count on the political management of an **Administration Council**. This Council is endowed with social legitimacy by way of an **Advisory Council** and puts an **Executive Management** and a **Technical Coordination Unit** in charge of coordination and management.

VLC/CAMPUS aims to create a hub of knowledge of excellence, capable of modernising our universities (Strategy 2015), by way of opening towards territory and its position in the global competitiveness scenario.

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