



Présentation

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Symposium RETI

Réseau d'Excellence des Territoires Insulaires

9 -10 juillet 2010, Corte, Corsica

Universidad de La Laguna (Iles Canaries, Espagne)



The Canary Islands



The University of La Laguna (ULL) is located in Tenerife, one of the seven islands of the Canaries Archipelago, which is found in the Atlantic Ocean just off the north-eastern coast of Africa. This archipelago is one of the seventeen autonomous communities of Spain and contains two provinces, Santa Cruz de Tenerife and Las Palmas. According to official data, on January of 2010 2,114,928 people lived on the islands.



LA ULL Y



LA MACARONESIA



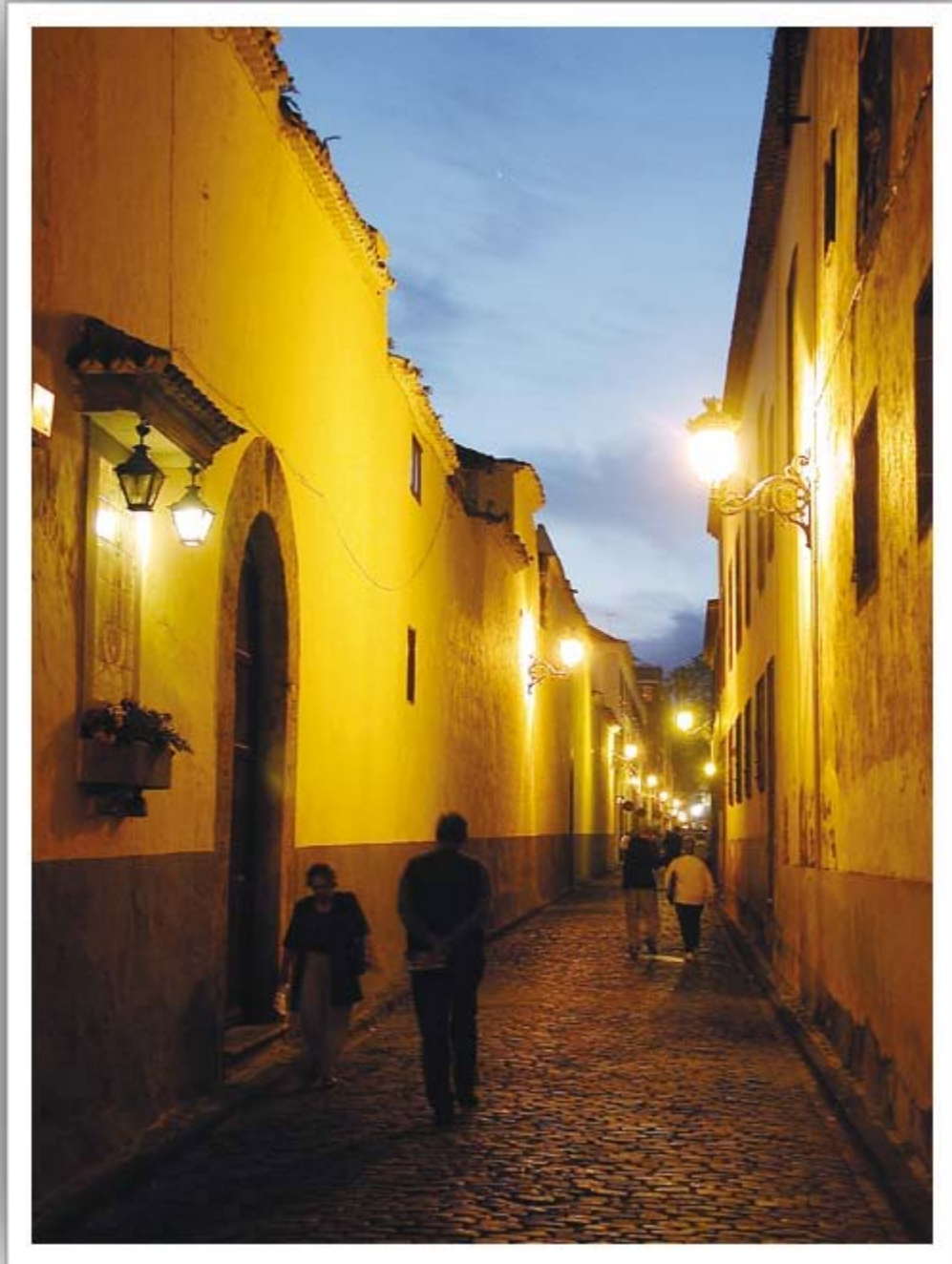
LA MACARONESIA



CANARIAS

TRICONTINENTAL PLATAFORME





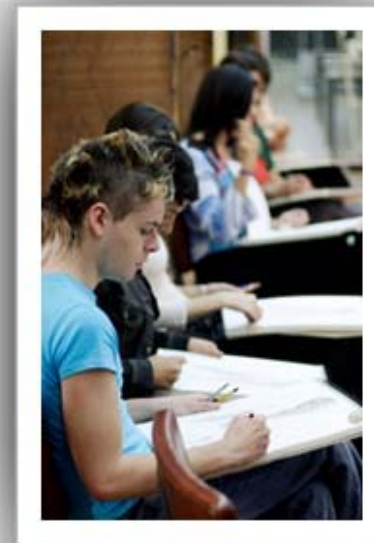
La Laguna

The majority of ULL's centres are found in La Laguna, which currently has the second largest population in Tenerife, with 150,661 inhabitants. This city, which dates back to the 15th Century, served as a blueprint for the new cities built in America after the Spanish colonisation. For this reason UNESCO inscribed it as a cultural property on the World Heritage List in December of 1999.



ULL History

A Royal Decree in 1792 created the first university in the Canaries. Initially called *Universidad Literaria de San Fernando* [San Fernando Literary University], it was closed in 1845 when the number of Spanish universities was reduced to ten. In 1913 the institution began a new era under a new name, the University of La Laguna. It began with only two faculties and gradually expanded. The new century will definitely bear witness to further expansion as projects for new faculties of Fine Arts and Education have already been approved.



Campuses

ULL has 16 faculties and 7 university schools distributed across five campuses: the Central Campus, Anchieta, Guajara, Ofra and Santa Cruz de Tenerife. These campuses also hold research institutes and various study halls and computer labs.

Housing

In order to provide the best study environment for all students who meet academic criteria, especially those with financial hardship, ULL offers 674 openings in four residence halls: San Fernando, San Agustín, Santa María and Parque de las Islas.



Study Programmes

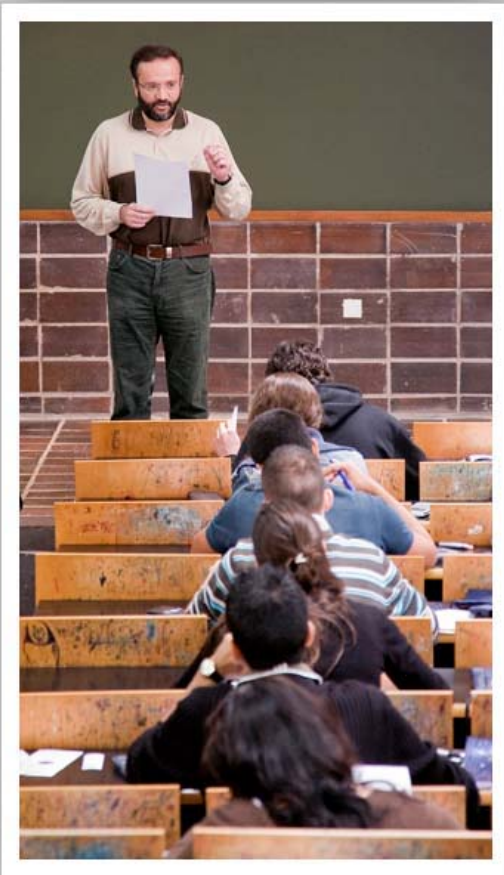
ULL offers a wide range of degrees that cover every field of knowledge: 41 Degrees, and 21 Official Postgraduate Degrees, all of them adapted to the European Area of Higher Education





Students

During the 2009/2010 Academic year ULL had 24,412 students, including the ones in the first cycle, all of the students studying in doctoral programmes, post-graduate degrees, the entrance course for students who are 25 or older, the teacher training course and the adults over 50 programme. The Erasmus exchange programme allowed around 400 students to visit other universities, and a similar number to study at ULL.



Student Aid

In order to ensure that the right to be provided with quality education is not compromised by a student's financial, domestic or health problems, ULL offers different kinds of assistance to students: financial aid (cafeteria vouchers, financial assistance for travelling, assistance for paying third cycle fees, etc.); the Disabled Students Programme; the Grants Department, which assists students in requesting financial aid from different institutions; and SIO [the Information and Orientation Service], which provides legal and academic advice.

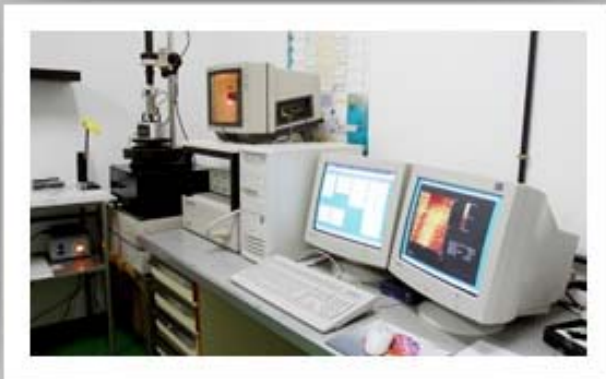
Research

ULL leads the Canaries in financing projects and capturing funds from national and regional calls for grant proposals and has also had significant success in European calls. The scientific and technological expertise offered by ULL has been published on the university's website so that it can be made available to businesses and institutions and it also has 257 registered research groups.

We are specially focused on areas as Bio-Technology, Astro-Physics and Sustainable Politics and Energies. In that particular area, we actually have six international projects, in collaboration with other scientific institutions.



Research Support



SEGA [General Services for Research Support] is a set of services that makes latest-generation scientific equipment available to ULL researchers and external institutions who request to use them. OTRI [Research Results Transfer Office] is in charge of developing productive partnerships between the university, business community and society through contracts, agreements and patents.

Library



The Library Service includes 637,202 monographs, 12,025 magazines and 17,481 electronic publications. Its Old Collection contains more than 13,000 texts published before 1801 and its prized possession is a 15th Century Franco-Flemish prayer book painted with miniatures. The Library Service's network includes fourteen libraries distributed throughout the different university centres, containing a total of 4,898 reading and study spaces.



Sports

ULL has various facilities dedicated to physical activities and sports located in the Central Campus, including a grass pitch, tennis courts, running tracks and several indoor sports pavilions. The Sports Service offers a wide range of supervised physical activities and sports, it manages the use of the sports facilities by individuals and it handles the paperwork for students entering in national university competitions.

Culture and University Outreach



ULL promotes artistic creation and cultural association. Each year it gives national prizes for theatre, cinema, music and literature, accompanied by their respective festivals, exhibitions and publications. It also has various cultural workshops in which the university community can create projects involving these and other disciplines. Moreover, it has recently created forums where current social issues can be periodically debated.

International Vision



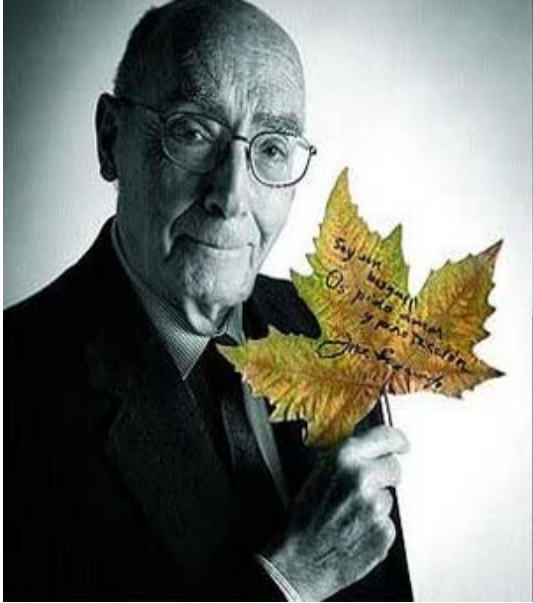
ULL is actually starting an ambitious process of international expansion focused in the tri-continental geographical and cultural influence area in which Canary Islands is located: Europe, Africa and America.

In collaboration with the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, we have developed a wide project called “International Atlantic Campus”, to promote diverse actions in that context, related with areas as Sea Studies, Astro-Physics, Bio-Technology and Sustainability.

We also maintain excellent relations with the other Islands of the so-called “Macaronesian” zone: Azores, Madeira and Cabo Verde, with which we share the condition of Ultra-Periferic Area within the European Union.

CAMPUS ATLÁNTICO TRICONTINENTAL





*[...] pero quiero encontrar la isla desconocida,
quiero saber quien soy yo cuando esté en ella.*

- ¿No lo sabes?

- Si no sales de ti, no llegas a saber quién eres

*– El filósofo del rey [...] decía que todo hombre es
[...] tú qué crees.*

*– Que es necesario salir de la isla
para ver la isla,
que no nos vemos
si no nos salimos de nosotros. [...]*

José Saramago.

“El cuento de la isla desconocida”





Después, apenas el sol acabó de nacer, el hombre y la mujer fueron a pintar en la proa del barco, de un lado y de otro, en blancas letras, el nombre que todavía le faltaba a la carabela. Hacia la hora del mediodía, con la marea, La Isla Desconocida se hizo por fin a la mar, a la búsqueda de sí misma.

José Saramago