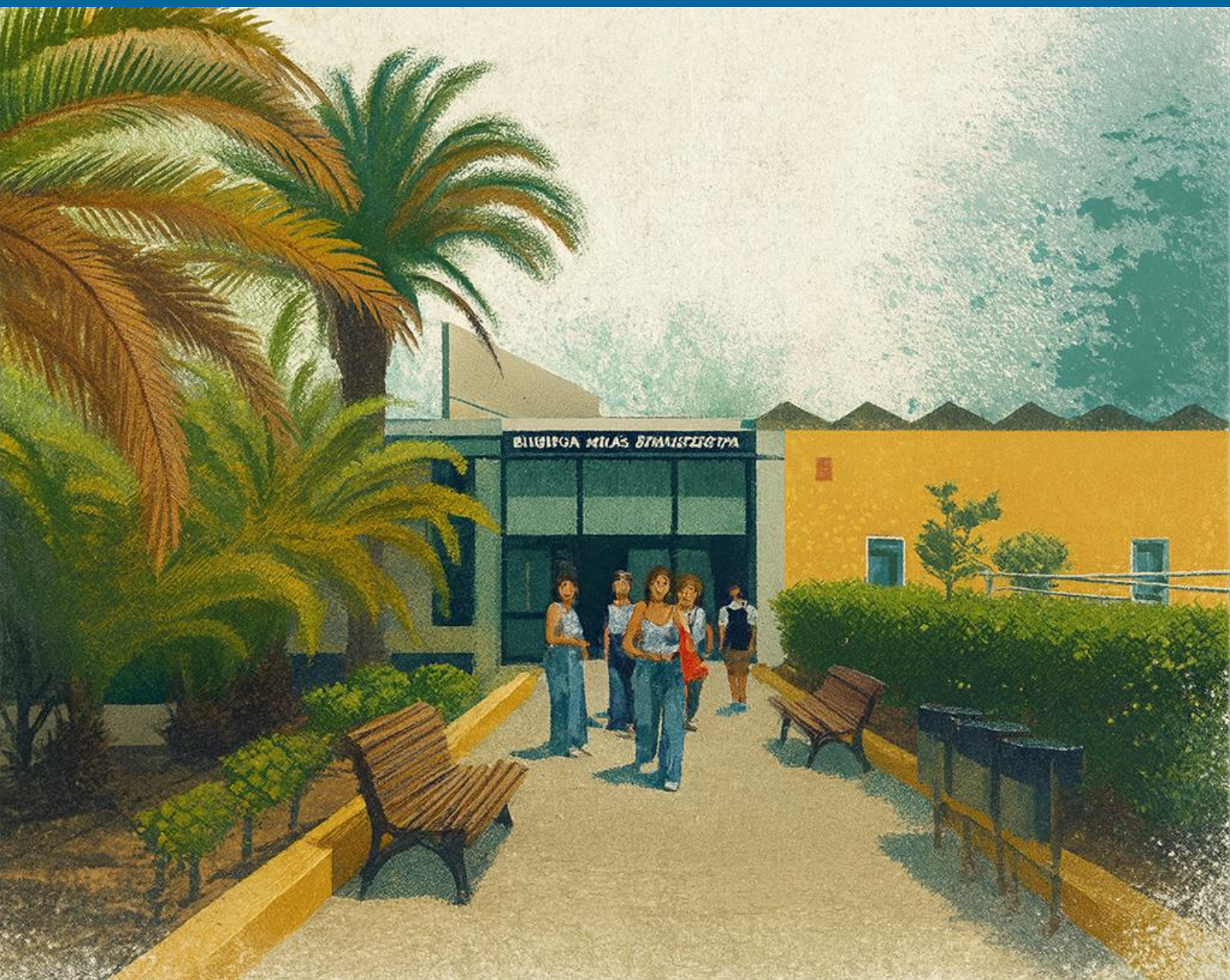




Veterinary Faculty ULPGC
Self-Evaluation Report (SER)
2025
1st-5th December 2025

Area 10. Research programmes, continuing and postgraduate education

Standard 10.1: The VEE must demonstrate significant and broad research activities of teaching staff that integrate with and strengthen the study programme through research based teaching. The research activities must include veterinary basic and clinical sciences. Evidence must be provided that most teaching staff are actively involved with research programmes (e.g. via research grants, publications in congress proceedings and in peer reviewed scientific journals).

Description of how the research activities of the VEE and the implication of most teaching staff in it contribute to research-based veterinary education

The FVULPGC is not only focused on academic excellence but also plays a pivotal role in the field of research. Consequently, all FVULPGC staff, teaching and research, are encouraged and supported, both financially and academically, to sustain their research endeavors. Financial assistance is offered through the internal ULPGC programme “Complementary Aid for Research,” allocated proportionally to all research groups according to their scientific output (JCR publications, conference presentations or posters, competitive grants from European, National, or regional calls, as well as research or service contracts with industry) from the preceding year.

The ULPGC’s commitment must to promote research through the [Research Support Services](#) and the [European Projects Office](#), among others, where university researchers benefit from specialised facilities and support. In addition, the ULPGC has its own [regulation for recognising research groups](#) which is based on their research activity and scientific productivity. Therefore, every year the research group’s activity is monitored by the Vice-Rectorate of Research, and the groups are classified as type A++, A+, A and B. The Vice-Rectorate of Research will take the necessary measures to particularly encourage the promotion of research groups in the lowest ranking category (B).

At present, FVULPGC research staff are primarily distributed among [13 recognised research groups](#) (RRG). RRGs constitute the basic functional and fundamental units through which research activity at ULPGC is carried out. Research undertaken in these RRGs focuses on fundamental scientific areas of interest in veterinary sciences including cutting edge research in animal production, nutrition, pathology and marine mammal health, food hygiene and food safety, endocrinology, toxicology, microbiology, parasitology, therapeutic research, toxicology and all aspects of the One Health spectrum, directly contributing to the delivery of cutting-edge training and education to our students. The scientific work of RRGs has led to the publication of over 200 peer-reviewed articles in JCR-indexed journals during the period 2021/2022 to 2023/2024, with more than 60% appearing in Q1-ranked journals (Appendix 10.1.). These achievements have strengthened both the national and international reputation of FVULPGC as a research institution, a fact also reflected in the recently released 2025 Global Ranking of Academic Subjects in Veterinary Sciences. In this ranking, FVULPGC was positioned between [101-150](#) among veterinary schools worldwide and placed 7th among the 15 veterinary faculties in Spain. The RGs related to the FVULPGC are the following:

- Animal Nutrition, Rural development and Rural Economy
- Applied Anatomy and Herpetopathology
- ECOAQUA – Aquaculture Research Group
- IUIBS – Diabetes and Applied Endocrinology
- IUIBS – Environment and Health Group GIMAS
- IUIBS – Veterinary Medicine and Therapeutic Research
- IUSA – Animal Production and Biotechnology
- IUSA – Animal Reproduction
- IUSA – Aquaculture and Wild Species Health, Infectious Diseases
- IUSA – Epidemiology and Veterinary Preventive Medicine
- IUSA – Histology and Veterinary Pathology
- OHAPA – Food Hygiene and Food Safety Research Group
- Parasitology, dermatology and veterinary clinical pathology

Table 10.1.1 presents the main externally funded research projects at FVULPGC that were active during the most recent complete academic years. As shown, FVULPGC research groups regularly obtain competitive funding from national and regional research agencies in line with their scientific productivity, as well as from the European Union and additional international funding organisations. In addition, thanks to the outstanding research activities performed during the last decades, the [Marine Mammal research section of the IUSA](#) has been registered as collaborating centre of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), a fact that reflects in the training of our students by direct collaboration in the research and surveillance activities performed at the institute.

In addition, the ULPGC has its own funding programme, which offers, among other things, general research aid. This aid aims to facilitate the research activity and training of researchers carried out by the staff within the framework of the tasks of the groups and the research institutes recognized by the ULPGC. The aid is provided through an internal call to all research groups, proportionally based on their scientific production (JCR papers, congress presentations or posters, research grants from European, national or regional calls, research or assistance contracts with companies) of the previous year.

The research conducted by FVULPGC staff enriches research-based teaching in several ways. Firstly, as academics transfer and apply their expertise directly in theoretical and practical classes, students benefit from up-to-date knowledge and by participating in cutting-edge research activities during their undergraduate training, enabling them to understand the current state of the field. Secondly, multiple activities (seminars, conferences, etc.) are organised throughout the academic year, which not only familiarise students with the research activities carried out by the FVULPGC researchers and external collaborators. Thirdly, ULPGC demonstrates a strong commitment to scientific outreach, ensuring that all VEE researchers are aware of its importance and actively participate in dissemination activities. Collectively, these initiatives contribute not only to the scientific education of students but also to raising their awareness of the research lines being pursued.

Table 10.1.1. List of ongoing research projects.

Projects funded by International Entities				
<i>Reference</i>	<i>Financing Entity</i>	<i>Scientific Area</i>	<i>Grant total (€)</i>	<i>Duration</i>
101057014 - PARC	European Commision	Toxicology	15,136.88	01/05/2022 30/04/2029
766347 - BIOMEDAQU	European Commision	Animal Health	668,067.26	01/08/2018 31/01/2023
892267 - ARTERIAL AGING	European Commision	Animal Health	245,732.16	01/06/2021 31/05/2024
GP/EFSA/KNOW/2022/03	European Commision	Animal Health	193,539.2	03/09/2022 02/09/2025
PROJECT 101113584	European Commision	Biology	184,016.46	01/07/2023 30/06/2028
1/MAC/1/1,1/0087	European Commision	Animal Health	525,322.13	06/06/2024 31/10/2027
1/MAC/1/1,1/0088	European Commision	Biology	585,000	06/06/2024 31/10/2028
1/MAC/1/1,1/0123	European Commision	Animal Health	137,303	06/06/2024 31/10/2028
1/MAC/2/2.6/0075	European Commision	Biology	317,557.76	06/06/2024 31/10/2028
1/MAC/2/2.6/0116	European Commision	Animal Health	516,773.31	06/06/2024 31/10/2028
TOTAL			3,388,448.16	
Projects funded by National Entities				

<i>Reference</i>	<i>Financing Entity</i>	<i>Scientific Area</i>	<i>Grant total (€)</i>	<i>Duration</i>
CONVENIO MAPA 2021	State Investigation Agency	Animal Health	164,306.25	15/11/2021 15/12/2024
EAPA_0004/2022	State Investigation Agency	Animal Health	308,453.77	01/01/2024 31/12/2026
EQC2019-006048-P	State Investigation Agency	Chemistry	243,615.56	01/01/2019 31/03/2022
EQC2019-006476-P	State Investigation Agency	Animal Health	708,049.81	01/01/2019 31/03/2022
EQC2019-006518-P	State Investigation Agency	Animal Health	210,085.28	01/01/2019 31/03/2022
EQC2019-006587-P	State Investigation Agency	Animal Health	112,296.47	01/01/2019 31/03/2022
GLOBICAN	State Investigation Agency	Animal Health	40,838.11	01/05/2021 30/04/2023
GOB-ESP2017-03	State Investigation Agency	Animal Health	19,445.69	01/01/2019 31/12/2020
GOB-ESP2019-05	State Investigation Agency	Agronomics	7,718	01/01/2020 30/04/2021
PID2019-108781RR-C22	State Investigation Agency	Animal Health	108,900	01/06/2020 01/12/2023
PID2020-113056RA-I00	State Investigation Agency	Animal Health	71,390	01/09/2021 31/08/2024
PID2020-118720RB-I00	State Investigation Agency	Chemistry	96,800	01/09/2021 31/08/2024
PID2021-122474OB-I00	State Investigation Agency	Animal Health	186,703	01/09/2022 31/08/2026
PID2021-127687NB-I00	State Investigation Agency	Animal Health	210,827	01/09/2022 31/08/2025
PID2022-136868OB-I00	State Investigation Agency	Animal Health	101,875	01/09/2023 31/08/2026
PLÁTICAS	State Investigation Agency	Animal Health	48,000	07/10/2022 30/09/2023
PROID2020010029	State Investigation Agency	Biology	70,000	01/01/2020 01/12/2023
RTA2015-00090-C03-03	State Investigation Agency	Animal Health	104,000	17/07/2017 31/12/2020
TED2021-131736B-I00	State Investigation Agency	Biology	134,550	01/12/2022 30/11/2024
VARROAFORM	State Investigation Agency	Animal Health	67,662.75	01/02/2019 15/09/2021
TOTAL			3,015,516.69	

Projects funded by Regional Entities

<i>Reference</i>	<i>Financing Entity</i>	<i>Scientific Area</i>	<i>Grant total (€)</i>	<i>Duration</i>
2021ECO12	Banking Foundation	Biology	34,000	01/02/2024 01/05/2024
2022CLISA20	Banking Foundation	Animal Health	57,000	01/04/2023 01/04/2026
2022CLISA28	Banking Foundation	Agronomics	32,706	01/04/2023 01/04/2025
2023DIG29	Regional Government	Animal Health	18,061.2	01/04/2024 01/04/2026
32/39/2022-0923131539	Regional Government	Research	496,633.8	01/04/2023 31/04/2024
CABILDO20-04	Regional Government	Animal Health	11,400	01/06/2022 31/10/2022
CABINFR2019-05	Regional Government	Biology	29,540.08	01/01/2019 31/12/2023
CABINFR2019-08	Regional Government	Chemistry	33,053.8	01/01/2020 31/12/2023

CABINFR2019-12	Regional Government	Animal Health	56,819.62	01/01/2020 31/12/2023
CABINFR2019-13	Regional Government	Animal Health	47,136.79	01/01/2020 31/12/2023
CEI2019-04	Regional Government	Animal Health	13,347	01/01/2020 30/04/2021
CEI2019-11	Regional Government	Chemistry	9,557	01/01/2020 30/04/2021
CEI2020-02	Regional Government	Animal Health	9,084.2	01/06/2022 31/10/2022
CEI2020-05	Regional Government	Animal Health	7,500	01/06/2022 31/10/2022
CEI2020-06	Regional Government	Animal Health	9,834.5	01/06/2022 31/10/2022
CEI2020-12	Regional Government	Animal Health	4,296	01/06/2022 16/11/2022
CEI2021-03	Regional Government	Animal Health	28,083.4	17/04/2023 30/04/2024
CEI2022-03	Regional Government	Animal Health	30,000	01/07/2024 30/09/2025
CEI2022-06	Regional Government	Biology	30,000	01/07/2024 30/09/2025
CEI2022-07	Regional Government	Animal Health	20,076	01/07/2024 30/09/2025
FCC FC 2019 03	Banking Foundation	Animal Health	41,870	01/09/2020 31/12/2022
GOB-ESP2021-01	ULPGC	Animal Health	26,511.3	17/04/2023 30/11/2023
GOB-ESP2021-03	ULPGC	Animal Health	30,000	17/04/2023 30/11/2023
MAC2/1.1A/282	Regional Government	Animal Health	284,045.39	11/11/2019 31/10/2022
MAC2/1.1A/299	Regional Government	Biology	754,265.61	16/06/2019 31/10/2022
MAC2/1.1A/305	Regional Government	Animal Health	315,408.84	16/06/2019 31/10/2022
MAC2/1.1B/269	Regional Government	Biology	110,479.34	16/06/2019 31/10/2022
MAC2/4.6C/392	Regional Government	Animal Health	627,755.82	16/06/2019 30/09/2022
MAC2/4.6D/230	Regional Government	Biology	208,221.89	16/06/2019 31/10/2022
MAC2/4.6D/249	Regional Government	Animal Health	210,724.84	16/06/2019 31/10/2022
MDG-23-11592	Regional Government	Research	84,999.9	01/01/2024 30/06/2025
PROID2017010109	Regional Government	Animal Health	69,980	30/12/2017 30/07/2021
PROID2020010006	Regional Government	Animal Health	16,085	20/01/2020 30/04/2023
PROID2020010047	Regional Government	Animal Health	63,316.35	10/01/2020 30/04/2023
PROID2021010035	Regional Government	Animal Health	39,258	18/02/2021 30/04/2023
PROID2021010047	Regional Government	Biology	70,000	01/03/2021 30/04/2023
PROID2024010004	Regional Government	Animal Health	69,000	01/01/2024 30/09/2026
PROID2024010013	Regional Government	Biology	116,066.11	01/01/2024 30/09/2026
TOTAL			4,116,117.80	

Standard 10.2: All students must be trained in scientific methods and research techniques relevant to evidence based veterinary medicine and must have opportunities to participate in research programmes.

Description of how (undergraduate) students:

Are made aware of the importance of evidence-based medicine, scientific research and lifelong learning

Throughout their training, FVULPGC students have many opportunities to learn about and use scientific methods and the basis of evidence-based medicine starting from basic and pre-clinical subjects. In summary, it can be specified in:

- Directly from the teaching staff. Teachers directly communicate the importance of evidence-based medicine, scientific research, and lifelong learning to students. Their experience shapes the subject content and provides opportunities to share their research activities, motivating students to adopt a scientific approach to learning. During the first years, the practical activity is based on observation, deductive thinking, experimentation –by learning different research techniques- and analysis of results. The teaching of clinical subjects applies evidence-based medicine by introducing students to using high-quality science to make good decisions about their patients for the benefit of their health and welfare.
- All students are required to complete a case presentation in several subjects, basically during the last year. Usually, the evaluation criteria includes a rubric for the assessment of this activity including close references to scientific rigor (evidence-based medicine)
- Final Degree Project: In preparing and defending their FDP, students apply the research skills and knowledge gained throughout their studies. This subject introduces them to bibliographic research, scientific methods, research techniques, and the writing of scientific papers. Also, the evaluation rubric designed for the assessment of the FDP includes references to results from research activities (item 5. updated bibliographical revision, with scientific rigor and based on evidence), both in the tutor rubric and in the rubric for the evaluation board
- Scientific dissemination activities: the FVULPGC is actively involved in outreach initiatives such as Regional Science and Innovation Week, the [European Researchers' Night-Macaronight](#) and others. FVULPGC also disseminates scientific content through social media (Instagram: [@vet.ulpgc](#)) and collaborates closely with ULPGC's [Scientific Dissemination and Publications](#) to promote the transfer of research-generated knowledge and emphasise the importance of science and lifelong learning.

Are initiated into bibliographic search, scientific methods and research techniques, and the writing of scientific papers

From the first year throughout the development of the whole veterinary degree at the FVULPGC, academic staff train students to search and critically analyse the content of lectures, textbooks and scientific articles since they regularly use this material to study and prepare different oral and written reports and seminars, case report, etc.

The ULPGCL provides specific training courses on bibliographic search and management, databases and scientific writing for the entire university community, as previously described in standard 6.1. Also, during the academic year and periodically, the library organises a free course on bibliographic search methods, electronic resources and bibliographic managers for students, with the aim of increasing students' confidence in the bibliographic search and writing of scientific papers. In addition, during the last year of their degree, students are encouraged to complete a bibliographical searching course developed by the ULPGCL ([link](#)) in order to be able to prepare and write the FDP more effectively.

Description of how undergraduate students are offered to participate in research programmes on a non-compulsory or compulsory basis

- Departmental Collaboration Grants. The aim is to make students (final year degree/first year Master's degree) interested in a research career offered by the ULPGC in various fields and to introduce to the knowledge of current scientific problems and the methods used to solve them.
- Each year, students, on a voluntary basis, have the opportunity to participate in research in different departments. Different departments/subject offer places for internal students that can be integrated into the lines of research developed by academic staff. Also, most students are offered the opportunity to participate in research activities during their FDP.
- Internships at research centres are also available during undergraduate studies, either in the 5th year or as extracurricular placements at any stage of their degree as part of the [ERASMUS+ Traineeship programme](#).

Description of the minimum requirements for the graduation thesis (Master dissertation), its supervision and its assessment

Since 2014, according to legal regulations ([Orden ECI/333/2008](#)), all students are required to prepare and present an FDP (6 ECTS). This autonomous work aims to integrate the contents and skills acquired throughout the study plan, although it is developed under the supervision of specific academic tutors. The FDP follows, usually, the structure of a scientific article, including a bibliographic review, introduction, hypothesis and objectives, materials and methods, results, discussion, conclusions, bibliography, and summary. There are different types of FDP: experimental research, research on unpublished clinical cases, review on a selected topic, preparation of reports of different nature (health, production and well-being, expert report, preventive medicine) or projects related to the areas of FSQ and animal nutrition. The FDP can only be defended once it has been verified that the student has passed all the credits necessary to obtain the degree, except those corresponding to the FDP

The public oral defense of the final project in front of an evaluation committee represents the final step to become a Veterinary Graduate. The evaluation boards are made up of three professors; at least one member of the tribunal must be expert in the area where the FDP has been assigned. The criteria and proportions for the evaluation of the FDP (Degree in Veterinary Medicine) are defined as follows:

- Tutor's report on the development of the work (40%). This percentage will be distributed between the assessment of the written document (20%) and the presentation and defense of the FDP (20%).
- Presentation and public defense of the FDP (60%), the evaluation committee assigns 30% to the evaluation of the written report and the remaining 30% to the oral presentation and defense of the work.

Each of the above criteria will be scored from 0 to 10 points. In order to pass the subject, it will be necessary for the student to obtain a minimum of 5 points in the weighted sum of the previous criteria.

To facilitate and standardize the FDP requirements, a rubric has been defined for both the academic tutor and the members of the evaluation board. In this rubric, different criteria are established, both for the evaluation of the written document (organization and structure of the document, originality, evidence-based medicine aims, conclusions, etc.), and for the evaluation of the presentation and defense (organization and quality of the presentation, communicative capacity of the student, time management...).

Standar 10.3. The VEE must provide advanced postgraduate degree programmes, e.g. PhD, internships, residencies and continuing education programmes that complement and strengthen the study programme and are relevant to the needs of the profession and society.

Spanish national regulations governing Doctoral (PhD) studies were updated in 2011 to align them with the European Higher Education Area, following the procedures set out in RD 99/2011. The ULPGC has its own Doctoral School. The Doctoral School of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria is responsible for overseeing both the academic and administrative organisation of the doctoral programmes offered at ULPGC. Its main goal is to ensure the highest standards of quality in doctoral training, while coordinating and fostering excellence across the different PhD programmes available.

At present, the primary PhD programme delivered at the FVULPGC is the [PhD Programme in Animal Health and Food Security](#). Within this programme, alongside their research work, PhD candidates participate in a range of transversal and subject-specific training activities that enhance their scientific and technical development. These include:

1. **Doctoral School Days (mandatory):** Annual sessions in which students present and discuss aspects of their research (literature review, planning, experimental results obtained during the period) in front of a panel of PhD holders from the research group(s) involved in their PhD thesis. These sessions aim to strengthen students' skills in presenting and debating scientific objectives and data, following standard academic practices.
2. **Participation in conferences, seminars, and congresses (mandatory):** These activities familiarise PhD students with scientific dissemination in different forums and encourage them to present their own findings, while establishing collaborations with other researchers or groups in their field. Attendance can occur at any time during the PhD training period and may involve national or international events, held in either Spanish or English.
3. **Research stays in other centres (mandatory):** To reinforce specific competencies, PhD thesis supervisors may facilitate research stays in external universities or research institutions. These stays are highly recommended as they allow students to broaden their training and experience the methodologies and environment of research groups different from their own, at any stage of the PhD programme.

Additionally, the Doctoral School offers a specific programme for PhD students: the [Transversal Training for PhD Students Programme](#). PhD students at FVULPGC are required to carry out research projects under the guidance of academic staff. Therefore, all PhD postgraduate students must be enrolled in an officially recognised postgraduate research training programme.

Other relevant PhD programmes directly linked to FVULPGC staff, where member of our VEE act as mentors, coordinators, supervisors and lecturers include the [PhD programme in Sustainable Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems](#), [PhD programme in Research in Biomedicine](#) and [PhD programme in Research Applied to the Health Sciences](#).

Since the 2009–2010 academic year, the VEE had also offered the [Master of Research in Animal Health and Food Security](#), an official one-year master's programme organized by the IUSA with an annual enrolment of 15-20 students. The interest for this master has increased during last years, not only among postgraduate veterinarians but also among students who have completed other biomedical and health studies.

FVULPGC also maintains strong collaborations with various public and private institutions and organisations linked to the veterinary field, including cultural associations, the Army, professional associations, such COLVET-LPA, and the National Health Service. These collaborations aim, among other objectives, to promote the organisation of postgraduate courses and continuing education activities (Tables 10.3.3 and 10.3.4).

The majority of the continuing education courses offered are organized in cooperation with the COLVET-LPA. Also highlight the fact that every year, the Spanish Agency for Medicine (AEMPS, member of the EMA) organizes an activity for the promotion of the Best Good Practice with Veterinary Medicines and Pharmacovigilance, provided to all 5th year students enrolled at the FVULPGC. Every two years the Official Colleges of Veterinarians from the Canary Islands (SC Tenerife and Las Palmas (COLVET-LPA) organize the [Canary Islands Companion Animal Veterinary Congress](#) and the [Canary Islands Food Safety Congress](#). The FVULPGC participates actively on its organisation with both members of academic staff and students. Most of the continuing education activities organized or co-organized by the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine are published on the Website. Therefore, the proposals for these activities come from the profession itself. Indeed, the COLVET-LPA asks their associates about their preferences and then the most demanded areas of interest are included.

Table 10.3.1. Number of students registered at postgraduate clinical training

Clinical training	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	Mean
Interns:				
<i>Companion animals</i>	3	3	3	3
Residents, EBVS disciplines (specify):				
<i>European Specialists in Laboratory Animal Medicine</i>	1	1	1	1
<i>Diagnostic Imaging</i>	1	1	1	1
<i>Cardiology</i>	1	1	1	1
Others (specify)				
<i>Pre-doctoral contracts (clinics)</i>	4	5	4	4.3
<i>Post-doctoral contracts (clinics)</i>	1	-	-	0,3

Table 10.3.2. Number of students registered at postgraduate research training

Degrees	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	Mean
PhD students				
<i>Animal Health and Food Safety</i>	50	45	46	47
<i>Sustainable Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems</i>	28	30	41	33
<i>Research in Biomedicine</i>	113	112	110	111.7
<i>Research Applied to the Health Sciences</i>	88	82	87	85.7
Total	279	269	284	
Master's students				
<i>Animal Health and Food Safety</i>	11	14	18	14.3
<i>Aquaculture</i>	50	45	46	47
Total	61	59	64	

Table 10.3.3. Number of students registered at other postgraduate programmes in the VEE but not related to either clinical or research work

	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	Mean
Number of students				

Regarding Table 10.3.3., at present, the FVULPGC does not offer postgraduate programmes beyond those focused on clinical training or research activities.

Table 10.3.4. Number of attendees to continuing education courses provided by the VEE

	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22
--	---------	---------	---------

<i>Total</i>	401	485	406
--------------	-----	-----	-----

A detailed list of continuing education courses provided by the VEE and number of attendees per course can be found on Appendix 10.3.

Prospected number of students registered at post-graduate programmes for the next 3 academic years

As in the Veterinary Degree, in the Masters' and PhD Programs, the number of students admitted per year is limited. In the master's and PhD programs, given that the data is maintained over time (Tables 10.3.2), it is expected to remain stable by maintaining the maximum number of expected of new student per year, both in Master's (Animal Health and Food Security, n=25; Aquaculture, n=20), and in PhD Programs (PhD Program in Animal Health and Food Security, n=10; PhD Program Research in Medicine, n=30; Doctorate in Sustainable Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems, n=10; PhD Program Research Applied to the Health Sciences, n=20).

Description of how the postgraduate clinical trainings of the VEE contribute to undergraduate veterinary education and how potential conflicts in relation to case management between post- and undergraduate students are avoided

No conflict is produced between post-undergraduate students concerning clinical cases management since postgraduates, under the supervision of the teaching staff, collaborate in the practical training of undergraduate students. PhD students are required to conduct supervised research and must be enrolled in postgraduate research training at the FVULPGC. Only in emergency cases, the assignment is decided in real time based on student experience and safety, while ensuring that all students have the opportunity to perform a variety of procedures.

Description of how the continuing education programmes provided by the VEE are matched to the needs of the profession and the community

The FVULPGC ensures that its continuing education programmes address the needs of the veterinary profession and the community, particularly in the Canary Islands. These programmes are developed in collaboration with key partners such as the Official College of Veterinarians of Las Palmas (COLVET-LPA), local animal health authorities, and professional associations, ensuring that contents are relevant to current challenges in veterinary practice, food safety, animal health, and welfare. The involvement of specialists and practitioners in close contact with veterinarians, farmers, and public institutions provides direct insight into professional needs, which is then reflected in the training of our students. Furthermore, all activities are subject to continuous evaluation and improvement, reinforcing the FVULPGC commitment to lifelong learning and professional development.

Standard 10.4: The VEE must have a system of QA to evaluate how research activities provide opportunities for student training and staff promotion, and how research approaches, methods and results are integrated into the study programme.

Description of the mechanism used by the VEE to ensure that its research activities contribute to research-based education

As outlined in standard 10.2, the FVULPGC guarantees that undergraduate students receive a research-based education. Moreover, most academic staff positions require a PhD degree and active research activity as part of the ANECA accreditation process (see standard 9.2). In this context, the FDP is conducted under the supervision of academic staff and is enriched by the VEE's strong research activity.

Description of how (procedures) and by whom (description of the committee structure) research, continuing and postgraduate education programmes organised by the VEE are decided, communicated to staff, students and stakeholders, implemented, assessed and revised

For the official postgraduate offer (Master Degree and PhD), the proposal must be described and drawn up using the ULPGC Regulation for the Official Offer of Degrees ([link](#)). Master's degrees are linked to the faculties or the university institutes with the Master Academic Committee responsible for the defining and updating of the Master programme. This committee annually manages the student admission process, the course coordination, and the application of the QAS. PhD programs are managed by the Doctorate Schools assuming the organization, planning, management, supervision and monitoring of all the PhD programs offered at the ULPGC. Within each doctoral program, the PhD Program Academic Committee is defined ([Regulation 2/2023](#), internal regime and good practices from the doctoral school of the ULPGC), whose basic mission is to evaluate the research plan and the activities of its doctoral students. and to carry out an integral follow-up of the students' performance throughout their doctoral training. On an annual basis, it is responsible for the admission of students, the coordination of the activities and the application of the QAS. The QAS includes the provision of several continuous assessment procedures for the official offer, including the extinction of the degree in the case of low demand. The procedure for the Official Offer is an institutional QAS procedure ([PI14](#))

Concerning the non-official course on offer, the ULPGC offers different training categories every year, including its own degrees, microcredentials, university extension courses and experts, among others. [Own degrees and microcredentials](#) are courses offered and certified by the ULPGC in order to meet social and training needs not included in the official catalog of university degrees. The basic objectives of [university extension courses](#) are to complement the curricular training of students and update the training of professionals. For most of the courses indicated, the procedure is similar to the official postgraduate courses on offer, although the project in question is not sent externally to the Canary Islands Government or to the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities. After its approval by the University Government Council, the course is communicated to the students and stakeholders. For the nonofficial courses on offer, the ULPGC has approved an specific Regulation ([link](#)). The procedure for the Non-Official Offer is an institutional QAS procedure ([PI15](#)).

For the continuing education program offered by the COLVET-LPA and scientific and professional associations, the FVULPGC contributes to these activities by means of communication to stakeholders. Since 2022, there is an agreement between the COLVET-LPA so that a good number of courses (aimed at veterinary professionals) are developed in the VEE that collaborates in providing the facilities (classrooms, VTH, other facilities) and it has been defined that between 5-10% of the total places are allocated to students in the final years of the degree. The Dean's Office uses the e-mail database, the VEE's website and social networks to communicate it to the students and stakeholders.

Comments on Standard 10

Research at the FVULPGC is a consolidated and highly productive activity, as evidenced by its international visibility and its ranking among Spanish veterinary faculties. The structure of RRGs, formally evaluated and classified annually by the Vice-Rectorate of Research, ensures both accountability and quality in scientific production. The research output in recent years, with more than 200 JCR publications (over 60% in Q1 journals), highlights the VEE's competitiveness and strengthens its international profile. Moreover, research activities cover a broad spectrum, from basic and clinical veterinary sciences to aquaculture, food safety and One Health, which directly enrich undergraduate and postgraduate education. The integration of research into teaching is evident in the FDP and in student participation in seminars, scientific events, and dissemination activities. The FVULPGC also benefits from strong collaborations with public institutions (regional and national agencies, WOAHC collaborating centre, COLVET-LPA) and private stakeholders, ensuring that postgraduate and continuing education activities are closely connected with the needs of the profession and society.

Suggestions for improvement on Standard 10

Although the FVULPGC shows solid research performance, efforts should continue to ensure balanced development across all research areas, avoiding potential asymmetries between highly competitive groups and those with fewer resources. Additional institutional mechanisms to support emerging or smaller groups would further strengthen the overall research profile. Expanding the range of postgraduate and continuing education programmes, in coordination with professional bodies such as COLVET-LPA and other Canarian institutions, could further address specific training demands of veterinarians in the region and reinforce its role as a reference centre in the Canary Islands and internationally. This expansion could also be projected to neighbouring territories such as Africa, thereby strengthening the VEE's strategic position as a hub for veterinary education and cooperation in the Atlantic area. Furthermore, the development of microcredentials aligned with current professional needs would provide flexible, targeted training opportunities for graduates and practitioners. Likewise, increasing the number of interns and residents, particularly in areas of high clinical demand, would not only strengthen advanced postgraduate training but also enrich undergraduate clinical education through supervised collaboration.



Photographs of the FVULPGC used in the SER were kindly provided by our undergraduate students
Marina Rosa Velázquez Mendoza and Samuel Santana Pérez

 **ULPGC** | **vet**