

European Universities Alliances

Opportunities and Challenges at UAM and UC3M

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European Universities: concept, background and development

- Emmanuel Macron, [Address for a sovereign, united and democratic Europe](#)
 - Address given at the Sorbonne (Paris) on september 26, 2017: *Je propose la création d'universités européennes qui seront un réseau d'universités de plusieurs pays d'Europe [...] aussi des lieux d'innovation pédagogique, de recherche d'excellence. Nous devons nous fixer, d'ici à 2024, en construire au moins une vingtaine.*
- [European Universities Initiative](#)

European Council meeting (14 December 2017) – Conclusions : *“strengthening strategic partnerships across the EU between higher education institutions and encouraging the emergence by 2024 of some twenty ‘European Universities’, consisting in bottom-up networks of universities across the EU which will enable students to obtain a degree by combining studies in several EU countries and contribute to the international competitiveness of European universities”;*

Conclusions 2021 may: *“European Universities’ will contribute decisively towards achieving the ambitious vision of an innovative, globally competitive and attractive EEA and ERA, in full synergy with the EHEA, by helping to boost the excellence dimension of higher education, research and innovation, while promoting gender equality, inclusiveness, and equity, allowing for seamless and ambitious transnational cooperation between higher education institutions in Europe, and inspiring the transformation of higher education”.*

Erasmus+ Program: calls 2019-2023

- **Keys-issues**
 - Transnational cooperation afflicted through geographic diversity
 - Long term strategy based on sustainability, excellence and European Union values
 - Student-oriented curriculum from an interuniversity perspective at all levels
 - Learning from an interdisciplinary approach aimed to face challenges
- Current situation: +50 European University Alliances / +400 institutions / +30 countries



CIVIS - RIS4CIVIS

CIVIS is a **European Civic University formed by the alliance of 11 leading research higher education institutions**: Aix-Marseille Université, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Université libre de Bruxelles, University of Bucharest, University of Glasgow, University of Lausanne, **Universidad Autónoma de Madrid**, Sapienza Università di Roma, Paris Lodron University of Salzburg, Stockholm University and Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen.

Together, they make up a community of more than 470,000 students and 58,000 employees, including 35,000 teaching staff and researchers.

RIS4CIVIS: Research and Innovation Strategy for CIVIS, a 3-year project (2021-2023) funded by the European Union within the framework of H2020, SwfS.



Opportunities and challenges for libraries: **UAM**

UAM is integrated into CIVIS and RIS4CIVIS in all areas and levels of management. The process was perceived by the Library from the outset as a unique opportunity for the implementation of the concept of **OPEN SCIENCE**.

Previous situation at UAM

- Lack of knowledge about OS.
- Open Access infrastructures available thanks to the Library in the collaborative environment of the Madroño Consortia: publications, data, CRIS, but...
- ... absolute lack of institutional and normative support.

Opportunities and challenges for libraries: UAM



CIVIS

- *Task Force on OS (2019):* different starting situations. Transformed into *Expert Group on OS (2022 december)*.
- Open Science Strategy (2021 february): first step, Open Science Statement (CIVIS Board of Rectors, 2021 march 11);
- RIS4CIVIS: *WP 2, Module 5: Mainstreaming of Open Science (2021 february)*



Opportunities and challenges for libraries: **UAM**

Institutionals advances at UAM: CIVIS as an essential lever

- June of 2021: new Government Team. As suggested by the Library, Open Science appears for first time as a matter to be managed by the Vice-rectorate for Research in conjunction with the Central Library.
- Starting Open Science at UAM; Government Councils of:
 - December 17, 2021: creation of Technical Commision of Open Science.
 - March 18, 2022: approval of CIVIS Open Science Statement, as cornerstone of UAM's OS policy.



Opportunities and challenges for libraries: UAM

Current situation

- CIVIS: OS Expert Group
- RIS4CIVIS: ended (February of 2024) after working on:
 - CIVIS training programmes on Open Science
 - CIVIS Open Science Award
 - Pilot case study on research assessment
 - Common CIVIS OS Knowledge base
- UAM integrated in COARA (Coalition for Advanced Research Assessment).
- UAM, HRS4R: OS working line.
- UAM, portal OER launched (2024 march).
- April of 2024: conversations with UAM Publications Unit and Doctoral School in order to implement OS principles.

YUFE - YUFERING

YUFE Alliance (Young Universities for the Future of Europe) is based on the common vision of 10 research focused universities: Maastricht University (The Netherlands), Nicolaus Copernicus University (Poland), **Universidad Carlos III De Madrid (Spain)**, University of Antwerp (Belgium), University of Bremen (Germany), University of Cyprus (Cyprus), University of Eastern Finland (Finland), University of Essex (United Kingdom), University of Rijeka (Croatia), Université Sorbonne Nouvelle (France); **and 2 partners:** ETS Global, The Adecco Group.

YUFERING: YUFE Transforming R&I Through Europe-Wide Knowledge Transfer, a 3-year project (2021-2024) funded by the European Union within the framework of H2020, SwfS.

Other projects: DIOSI (Developing and Implementing hands-on training on Open Science and Open Innovation for Early Career Researchers), Inno4YUFE (Working towards a pioneering European University that trains a new generation of student entrepreneurs and innovators)

Opportunities and challenges for libraries: UC3M

UC3M is integrated into YUFE and also in the YUFERING project (until its end in February 2024) in all areas and levels of management. The process was perceived by the Library Service from the outset as a unique opportunity to drive and lead Open Science initiatives.

Previous situation at UC3M

- Better known *Open Access* than *Open Science*: [Strategic Plan 2016-2022](#) proposed an institutional mandate focus on research and fostered also open education.
- Open Access infrastructures available thanks to the Library in collaboration with the Madroño Consortium: publications, data, CRIS, but...
 - ...growing institutional support:
 - Deputy Vice President of Scientific Policy - Open Science (Eva Méndez) [2018-2023]
 - Initiatives in [HRS4R \(HR Excellence in Research\)](#) within action plans 2017-2018 / 2020-2022 / 2022-2024
 - ...recent organizational advances: [UniOS](#) (cross-cutting unit for OS) [2018-]
 - ...dispersed regulatory support: TFG/TFM in the Engineering School (2016-)
 - ...emerging incentives: pilot on [Full Open Science \(FOS\) \(2019-2020\)](#)

Opportunities and challenges for libraries: UC3M

Current situation or recent developments

- YUFERING (2022-2024):
 - Coordination of WP5 - Open Science (OS): establishing the New Normal (**UC3M**)
 - Task 5.1 - Open Science Practice and Policy Commons for YUFE partners (coordinated by University of Essex)
 - Task 5.2 - Testing indicators for Open Science performance/evaluation. (coordinated by University of Eastern Finland)]
 - Task 5.3 - Open Science bottom-up implementation: Full Open Science (FOS) Pilot (coordinated by **UC3M Library Service**) (carried out in 2021-2023)
 - Task 5.4 - *Co-create a training and engaging scheme for YUFE researchers about Open Science* (Coordinated by Università Tor Vergata, Rome)
- UC3M, signatory of COARA (Coalition for Advanced Research Assessment) [moreover, Eva Méndez is currently member of the Steering Committee]
- UC3M: RED project (UAM, UAH, UC3M, UCM, UPM, URJC, UCO) funded by the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities
 - Development of a OER portal

Opportunities and challenges for libraries: UC3M

YUFE Framework

- *Project Proposal (2021):*
 - Visión: *We are united in our commitment to build an education system that is open, accessible and inclusive, based on the principles of **open science**, social responsibility, and, above all, student-centred.*
 - YUFE Staff Journey (WP4): *YUFE partners will create YUFE Tenure Track Academic Positions that, after an initial appointment of 5 years and positive tenure evaluation, will result in YUFE Chairs, preferably in the context of the YUFE challenges. Excellence will be a condition sine qua non, however, evaluation criteria will include alternative academic output **indicators like engagement in open science and proven societal impact**.*
 - Sustainability and dissemination: **Openness is a central value to our endeavours and therefore, YUFE fully supports Open Science.** *As soon as possible, YUFE will preferably use the European Open Science Cloud as its platform for Open Science. All research output, whether it is a publication, a data-set, or software, is always stored according to the FAIR principles and shared openly where applicable. It may not always be possible to share data gathered in YUFE context, for instance in relation to GDPR, but YUFE will strive to be 100% FAIR, and as Open as possible.*

Opportunities and challenges for libraries: UC3M

YUFERING context: WP5 - Open Science (OS): establishing the New Normal (2021-2024)

- Task 5.3 - *Open Science bottom-up implementation: Full Open Science Pilot* (coordinated by: **Biblioteca UC3M**) (carried out in 2021-2023)
 - Open call to research groups ables to demonstrate their commitment to Open Science in:
 - 2 mandatory criteria (ORCID & + 60% open access publications)
 - Out of 10, 3 optionals (open licences, open thesis, open research data, FAIR principles, open peer review, OER, research pre-register, notebooks/software/open source, dissemination activities, citizen science activities).
 - Some universities most successful, some others were not able to advance
 - Connections with
 - Task 5.2 - *Testing indicators for Open Science performance/evaluation* (UEF)
 - More information: Pietilä, M.; Rintamäki, K.; Aguilera, R.; Fernández del Pino, B.; Méndez, E; Bautista-Puig, N. (2022). [Open Science Assessment and Incentives at the YUFE Alliance](#). 26th International Conference on Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (STI 2022), Granada, Spain, 7-9 September 2022.
 - Task 5.4 - *Co-create a training and engaging scheme for YUFE researchers about Open Science* (UNITOV)

Opportunities and challenges for libraries: UC3M

Institutional advances at UC3M: YUFE-YUFERING as an essential lever

- Boosting institutional support:
 - Actions in [HRS4R \(HR Excellence in Research\)](#) within action plans 2020-2022 / 2022-2024
 - [Open Science Web](#) (2022). Including principles and institutional policies with the support of the Vice-rectorate for Teaching Staff and the Vice-rectorate for Scientific Research.
- Boosting regulatory support and incentives:
 - [Remuneration supplements](#): regulation (2020-2021) and calls (2022 and Fall 2024)
- New Full Open Science call launched internally in March 2024
 - Text of the call available [here](#)
 - Alignment with ANECA (Spanish National Agency for Quality Assessment and Accreditation)



New Scenarios for Collaboration

Within the Alliances

- CIVIS Libraries
 - Periodic meetings on a specific topic (last one, “Classification“, April 2th 2024)
 - Annual Staff training week (next one in Marseille from June 17th to June 21st 2024)
- YUFE Libraries
 - Periodic meetings on a specific topic (last one, “YUFE Virtual Campus“, March 6th 2024)
 - Trying to organize annual in-presence meetings (maybe in September in Poland)

Between Alliances

- FOR-EU LIB Group
 - Coordination: Sophie Forcadell (Sciences Po, Paris) [CIVICA] / Ignasi Labastida (Universitat de Barcelona) [CHARM-EU]
 - +20 alliances (1-2 representatives per Alliance)
 - Interested in best practices, training, internships
 - Strong focus on OS: new working group already launched
 - Exploring potential areas for common strategies and collaboration
 - Meetings every 1-2 months
 - Communication (open to any partner)
 - Distribution list
 - Collaborative work space