COMPOSTELA GROUP OF UNIVERSITIES
II RESEARCH PITCHES CONTEST

EDITION 2018

1. Objectives

The aim of this contest is to promote and recognise the research work carried out in the Compostela Group of Universities’ member Universities.

Researchers are invited to present their investigation through Research Pitches. A pitch is a short presentation that aims to convince someone of the value of something, usually with the aim of selling a product or getting financing for a project. The idea is that CGU researchers have the opportunity to disseminate their research work at their university and beyond, to find funding, to contact other research groups that carry out similar research works, to attract researchers and doctoral students who wish to carry out the same type of research, and to disseminate research results to the academic community and society in general.

This competition will reward the research field presented by a researcher from one of its member universities that best reaches the general public and transmits the reasons why the research project is important, as well as the contribution to society through this project.

2. Participants

Researchers from the GCU member universities can participate in the contest. For this purpose, such researchers are understood to be those who form part of a group, those who are enrolled in a doctoral programme, and those who have a university research scholarship during this edition.

Researchers wishing to participate must obtain a letter of support from their home university signed by the representative of the university or his/her delegate.

3. Prizes

Three prizes will be awarded in this edition:

- **1st prize**: 1000 euros gross and a diploma of recognition.
- **2nd prize**: 600 euros gross and a diploma of recognition.
- **3rd prize**: 300 euros gross and a diploma of recognition.

The monetary prize will be transferred directly to the corresponding winning researcher in a single and indivisible payment.
Prizes might be subject to withholding taxes. The CGU reserves the right to apply those withholding taxes in accordance to Spanish law.

Diplomas of recognition will be awarded to the winning researchers through the representative of their CGU home University, during the official presentation ceremony of the competition at the annual CGU General Assembly.

4. Submission of candidacies

The researchers will send the following documents to grupo.compostela@usc.es:

a. Signed scanned application form;
b. Motivation letter of up to 100 words, indicating why the researcher participates in the contest and the content and objectives of the pitch s/he presents;
c. Pitch submitted to the contest, in digital format by any of the following means: Dropbox, WeTransfer, or private YouTube;
d. Letter of support validated by the representative of his/her home university or delegated person.

5. Timeline and deadlines

November 2017: Launching of edition;
31 March 2018: Deadline for submission of candidacies;
April 2018: Jury deliberation;
May 2018: Announcement of winner;
September 2018: Official presentation of the winning pitches during the annual CGU General Assembly.

6. Pitches features

UNITS:
- Each researcher (individual) may present a maximum of 1 research pitch;

CREATION:
- The research work and pitch must be original and self-created;

DEVICES:
- The pitch must be recorded. The researcher must present the subject of his/her research, the problem s/he has identified, how his/her research contributes to finding solutions to that problem, and the impact of his/her research on society in general and on the academic community in particular;
- The pitch can be recorded with any kind of device (e.g. phone, webcam, etc.) and be edited later;

FORMAT:
- The background of the video must be neutral so as not to distract the viewer. The picture and audio quality will be in high definition;

- The pitch must be a monologue of a single researcher who must be focused at all times;

LENGTH:
- The maximum length of the video should be 3 minutes;

AUDIOVISUAL SUPPORT:
- Only 3 image slides may be used as a support element for the pitch. The use of any other elements (video or audio) or physical objects during recording is not permitted. The slides should occupy only one corner of the screen, and never cover the researcher's image;

LANGUAGE:
- The pitch presentation must be in correct English. If using another language, the pitch must be subtitled in correct English;

TITLE:
- The pitch title, the name of the researcher, the logo of his/her home University and the GCU logo should be shown at the beginning of the recording with a black background of 3 to 5 seconds;

CGU LOGO:
- The GCU logo and the researcher home University logo must be present throughout the entire recording, for example by inserting them on a small scale in one of the corners of the screen.

7. Jury

The jury is composed of 5 members whose members will be published on the GCU website:

- CGU President;
- CGU Vice-president;
- 3 members from CGU member Universities: 1 representative per University.

The CGU Executive Secretary will act as Secretary of the Jury (with voice but without vote).

8. Selection process and criteria for voting

To select the winners, the jury will consider the following criteria:

- **Clarity of the presentation**: Whether it helps the general public understand the research work and follows a logical argument;

- **Nature, objectives and relevance** of the research;
Enthusiasm of the presenter for his/her research and ability to capture and maintain public attention;

Technical features: Sound and image quality and fulfilment of times and formatting rules.

The CGU Secretariat will make all pitches submitted for the competition available to the jury on a private GCU YouTube channel.

The jury will vote the pitches online. Each member will evaluate each pitch from 1 to 5 points and will issue a reasoned report on the score awarded. The pitch with the highest total score will receive the first prize; and so on, up to a maximum of three winners.

In the event of a tie, a second ballot will be held among the tied videos.

The jury may declare the competition void if it deems it appropriate.

The jury and the organization of the competition reserves the right to exclude any content of obscene, violent, sexist, racist or other works that violate any of the fundamental rights established in the Spanish Constitution and, in particular, the articles contained in Title I "Of the fundamental rights and duties".

9. Acceptance of prize and publication of winners

9.1 Acceptance of prize

Winning researchers will be formally notified of the award by e-mail. Winners will have 15 working days for:
   a) Accept the prize, by e-mail to grupo.compostela@usc.es
   b) Send a thank-you video.

In case of not receiving confirmation of acceptance (a. and b.) from the winners within the indicated period, it will be understood that the award is declined.

9.2 Publication

Upon acceptance of the award, the winning pitches will be published on the GCU’s YouTube channel and on www.gcompostela.org

10. Acceptance of the contest rules

Participation in this competition implies acceptance of all its terms and conditions. Participants are solely responsible for any copyright/image claims of people appearing on recordings or materials used.

In accordance with Organic Law 15/1999 on the protection of personal data, the participants,
by signing the application form, will give their consent to the processing of their personal data for the purposes indicated in the contest's rules.

All videos submitted to the competition will become the property of the GCU, and they may be used for promotion of the network, broadcast in meetings and events of the network, and publication at the website, social networks or other channels of dissemination of the network.

Participants will be allowed to use their videos for other purposes as long as permission is granted by the GCU.

11. Responsibility

The CGU is not responsible for any technical, hardware, software or other problems, of any kind, nor for any loss, electronic failure, or incorrect, incomplete, inaccurate or delayed communications caused by the user or by any associated or used equipment or programming, or by any human error, or other, that may occur during this contest.

*Note: Rules for this contest have been edited in English and Spanish. In case of any discrepancy or misunderstanding in their interpretation, the Spanish version shall always take precedence over the English version.*