

“Interaction of Agency for Quality Assurance in the Galician University System (ACSUG) with government, HEIs, experts and other stakeholders”

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- **ACSUG presentation**
- **Galician University System (SUG). Main characteristics**
- **Interaction of ACSUG with stakeholders:**
 - ❑ **Government**
 - ❑ **HEIs**
 - ❑ **Experts (Scientific, academic and business field)**
 - ❑ **Students**
 - ❑ **Employers**
 - ❑ **ACSUG staff**
- **Conclusions**



- The Agency for Quality Assurance in the Galician University System (ACSUG) was legally established on 30 January 2001 as a consortium between the Regional Government of Galicia and the three Galician universities.

ACSUG Mission

- The fundamental mission of ACSUG is to contribute in the quality improvement of the Galician University System (SUG). To do so, it takes actions in the area of drafting reports, evaluation, certification and accreditation for the activities conducted by Galician universities, especially related to teaching, research, knowledge, transfer and management.

ACSUG Vision

- ACSUG aims to be a point of reference in guaranteeing the quality of the SUG Higher Education institutions, recognized in Galicia, Spain and internationally for its independence, transparency and credibility.

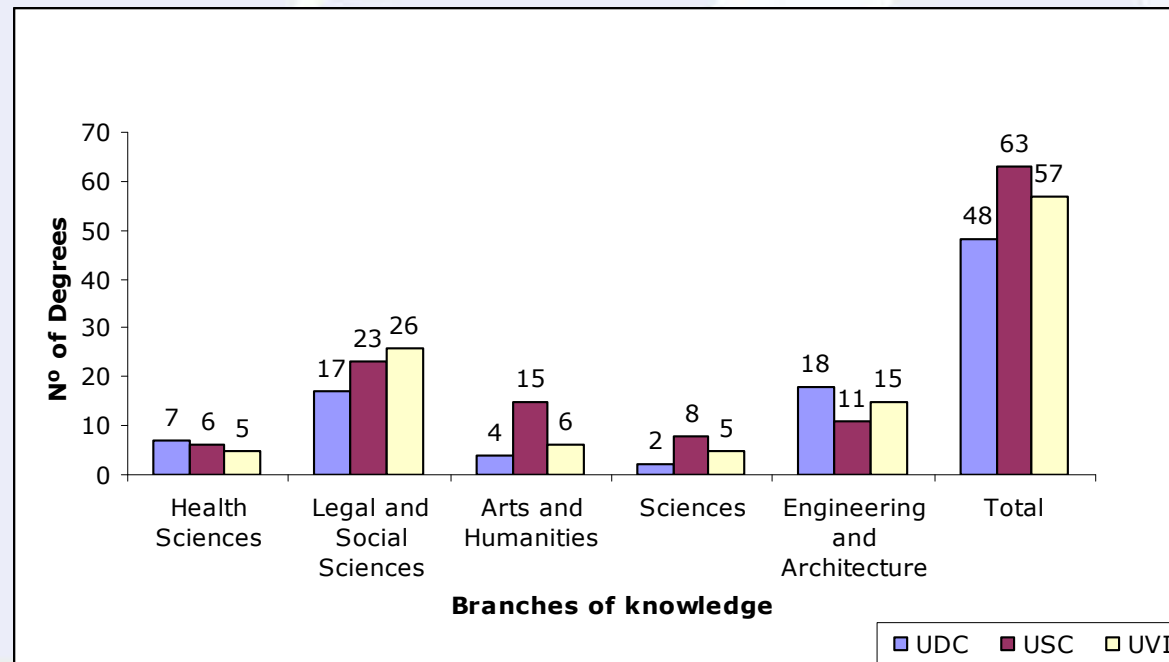
ACSUG main activities:

- Activities related to adopting EHEA requirements**
- Setting up internal quality assurance systems for degree programmes (FIDES and AUDIT programmes).**
- Verification, follow-up and accreditation of officially recognised programmes (VERIFICA programme).**
- University services evaluation.**
- Assessment of teaching staff (DOCENTIA programme).**
- Accreditation prior to teaching staff recruitment.**
- Teaching staff complementary compensation.**
- Labour market insertion analysis and surveys**

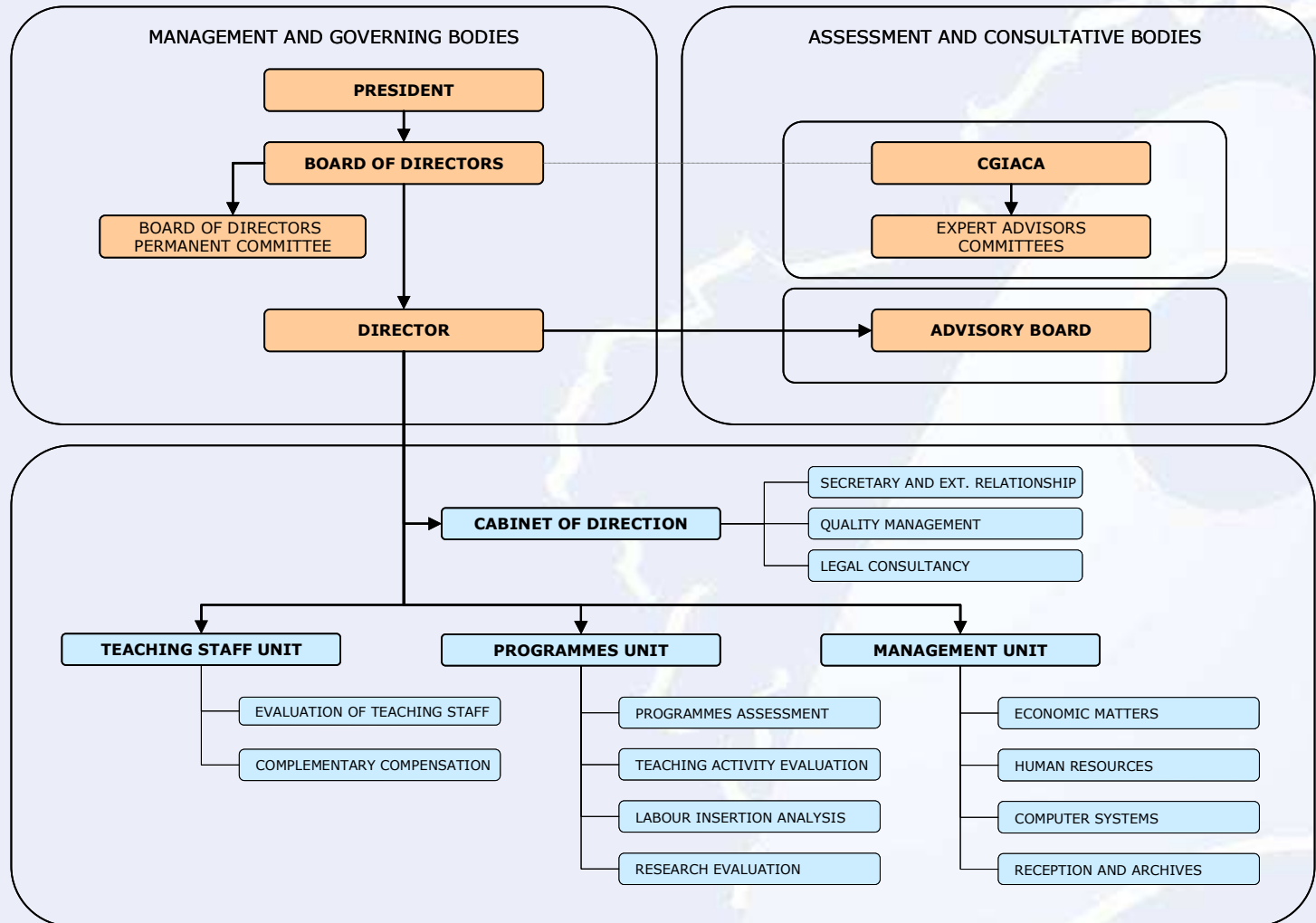
Galician University System (SUG). Main characteristics

- **3 Universities: Santiago de Compostela (USC), A Coruña (UDC) and Vigo (UVI).**
- **7 campuses:**
UDC: Campuses of A Coruña and Ferrol
USC: Campuses of Santiago de Compostela and Lugo
UVI: Campuses of Vigo, Ourense and Pontevedra
- **About 75000 students last academic year.**

Degree courses offered in the Galician University System (SUG) by branches of knowledge



ACSUG Organizational Chart



Interaction of ACSUG with Government and HEIs

- **The Galician government and HEIs have representation only in the ACSUG Board of Directors, which is the main governing body of ACSUG.**
 - The head of the department responsible for university administration.
 - The heads of each of the departments responsible for the areas of Higher Education and Research, Development and Innovation.
 - The Rectors of the universities that belong to the Galician University System.
 - The chairmen or chairwoman of the Social Councils of the universities that belong to the Galician university system.
 - The head of the department responsible for quality for each of the universities in the Galician university system, who will attend the meeting with the right to speak but without the right to vote.
- **In the Assessment (CGIACA) and Consultative (Advisory Board) Bodies the Galician government and HEIs don't have participation.**
- **IMPORTANT:** The Body which decide and approve the evaluations and certifications in ACSUG (CGIACA), are not influenced by the government or HEIs

- **In all the ACSUG Bodies there are experts in their composition.**

Board of Directors.

- Two people appointed amongst important members of the academic and scientific community.
- Two people appointed, from amongst important members of the scientific or business community.

Advisory Board.

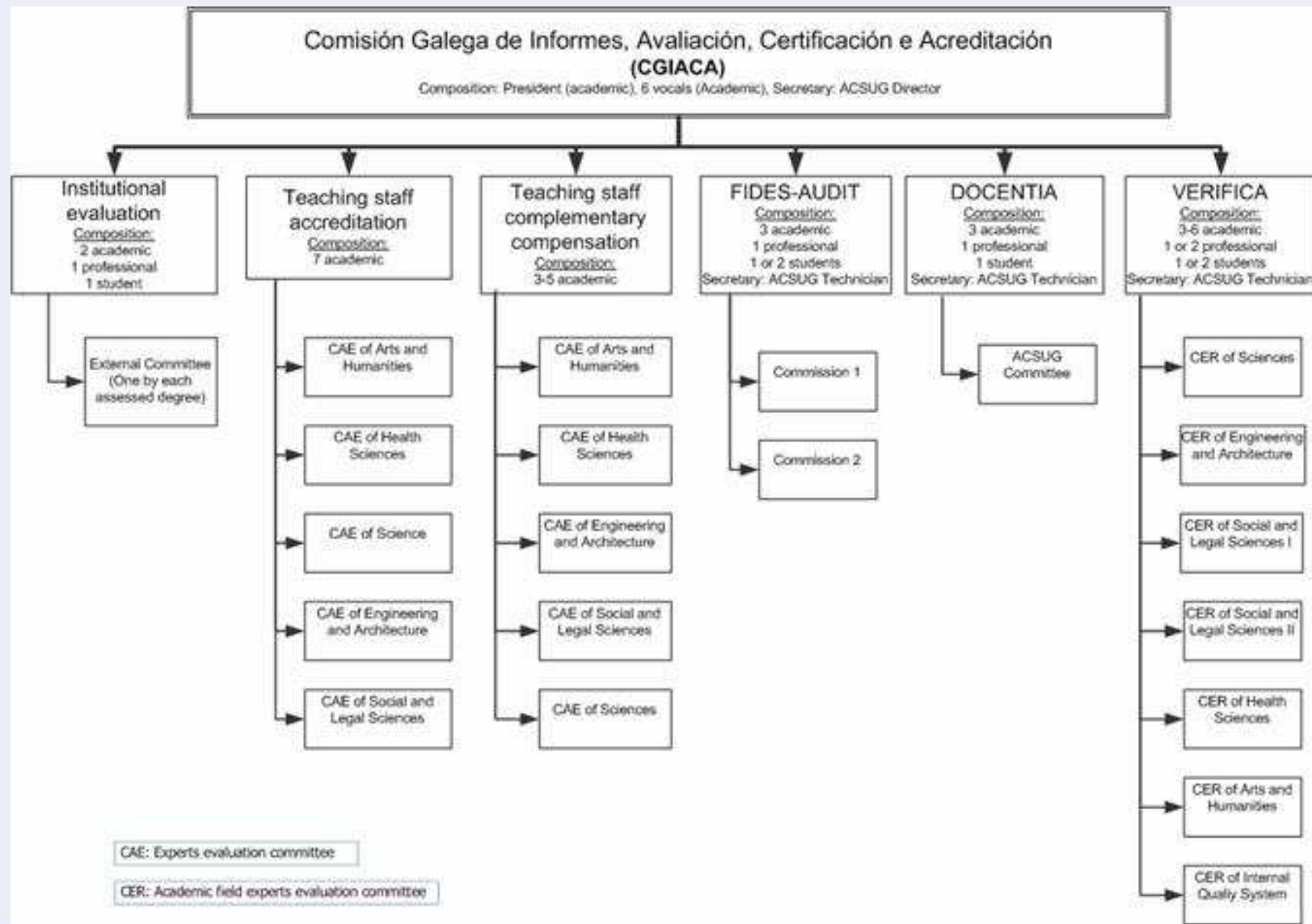
- Its members must be appointed from amongst persons of recognized prestige in the scientific, academic and professional fields, at both national and international level.

CGIACA.

- Committee members chosen from amongst outstanding members of the academic and scientific community, appointed by the Board of Directors of ACSUG based on criteria of competence, experience and international recognition.

- **ACSUG usually uses experts advisors committees for carry out the activities of evaluation, assessment and certification.**
- **ACSUG has established in all the processes the requirements of the members of the review teams.**
- **ACSUG has a database of possible evaluators and this database is constantly updating**
- **The members of the review teams accept the ACSUG code of ethics and they sign a non-disclosure agreement.**
- **The experts advisors usually fill a questionnaire about the evaluation after the evaluation process with the aim of improving the process.**

Experts advisors committees (II)



- **The implication and participation of students in the University processes is fundamental for improving the Galician University System and their point of view is very interesting. ACSUG carry out the following activities in relation with the students**

1) Presence in the ACSUG Bodies with vote rights

Board of Directors.

- **Two representatives of the students**

Advisory Board.

- **Two representatives of the students**

2) Participation in the expert advisors committees

In all the evaluation activities undertaken by ACSUG in which the expert advisors committees are required, the students have active participation in them (as we could see before). They are considered equal as the other experts and they are not only secretaries of the review team.

3) Yearly students meeting

In March 2009, ACSUG organized a university students meeting. 100 students went to this meeting. They filled a satisfaction survey with information very interesting to establish improvements actions. ACSUG is going to organize a yearly students meeting by now.

- **In the ACSUG Bodies the business field is represented.**

Board of Directors.

- **Two people appointed, from amongst important members of the scientific or business community.**

Advisory Board.

- **The presence of the business sector is guaranteed in the advisory board.**

- **The professionals are usually included in the expert advisors committees**

- **ACSUG carried out a study in 2007 about the labour market situation from the point of view of employers**

- **The ACSUG staff is considered as an important stakeholder. The information provided by the personnel is a good source to established improvements actions.**
- **In ACSUG, a meeting of the Director and all ACSUG staff, with at least a three-month periodicity is carried out. In this meeting a list of aspects to revise is settled before and a summary of the meeting is written after.**
- **Two ACSUG workers attend the meetings of the Board of Directors and CGIACA as the secretaries of both bodies. In this way the ACSUG staff has presence in the meetings and we are better informed.**
- **ACSUG has implemented a Quality and Environmental Management System and the staff collaborate in the system (filling out indicators, in the quality objectives, etc)**

➤ **Board of Directors composition:**

- **Government, HEIs, experts of the academic, scientific and business community, students and ACSUG staff.**

➤ **CGIACA composition:**

- **Members of the academic and scientific community, appointed by the Board of Directors of ACSUG based on criteria of competence, experience and international recognition.**
- **ACSUG staff**

➤ **Advisory Board composition:**

- **persons of recognized prestige in the scientific, academic and professional fields, at both national and international level.**
- **Students, business representatives.**

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THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION

