

Cruce de caminos, de personas y de ideas, ámbito de mestizaje cultural y racial, auténtico precedente de globalización, Canarias se abre al mundo desde una estratégica posición entre tres continentes.

Región ultraperiférica, con unos indicadores económicos por debajo de la media europea, aunque en ascenso durante los últimos años, fundamenta su desarrollo en el turismo, representando éste la aportación más importante al P.I.B. de la región.

Dos universidades, la de La Laguna en Tenerife, universidad de las históricas a nivel nacional, y la de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, joven, de 11 años de antigüedad tan solo, son las que componen el entramado de la enseñanza superior en las islas.

UNIVERSIDAD DE LAS PALMAS DE GRAN CANARIA

En la actualidad, la Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (ULPGC) se distribuye en los siguientes campus:

- **Campus de Tafira**, situado a 8 Kms. del centro de la ciudad, acoge los estudios de enseñanzas técnicas, económicas, jurídicas, de ciencias del mar, y de la actividad física y del deporte.
- **Campus del Obelisco**, en el centro de la ciudad, en donde se concentran los estudios relacionados con las Humanidades y Formación del Profesorado.
- **Campus de San Cristóbal**, en el sur de la ciudad, que concentra los estudios del área médica, y que se encuentra en conexión con una zona hospitalaria.
- **Campus de Montaña Cardones (Arucas)**, a 8 kms. de la ciudad y que alberga los estudios de Veterinaria.
- **Campus de Lanzarote**: pequeño campus en el que se imparten titulaciones de enfermería y turismo.

En total, la ULPGC cuenta con 18 centros, en los cuales se encuadran un total de 35 departamentos. Con esta estructura, oferta un total de 42 titulaciones, de las cuales 24 son de grado medio y una de 2º ciclo.

FACULTAD DE VETERINARIA

La Facultad de Veterinaria inició su andadura en enero de 1987, siendo 10 las promociones que hasta la fecha se han graduado.

El edificio de la Facultad de Veterinaria se estructura en los siguientes módulos:

Clínica de Grandes Animales. Clínica de Pequeños Animales. Anatomía y Embriología. Granja Departamental. Aulario. Aulario-Biblioteca-Administración.

Quedando todavía por construir un módulo para servicio de cafetería-comedor, residencia y laboratorios.

Los departamentos que imparten docencia en Veterinaria son:

- **Departamento de Patología Animal, Producción Animal, Bromatología y Tecnología de los Alimentos**: 21 asignaturas troncales (167,5 créditos, nuevo plan de estudios).
- **Departamento de Morfología**: 6 asignaturas troncales (43,5 créditos, nuevo plan de estudios)
- **Departamento de Bioquímica, Biología Molecular, Fisiología**: 4 asignaturas troncales (36 créditos, nuevo plan de estudios).
- **Departamento de Ciencias Clínicas**: 5 asignaturas troncales (31,5 créditos, nuevo plan de estudios).
- **Departamento de Biología**: 1 asignatura troncal (6 créditos, nuevo plan de estudios).
- **Departamento de Física**: 1 asignatura troncal (5 créditos, nuevo plan de estudios).
- **Departamento de Matemáticas**: 1 asignatura troncal (5 créditos, nuevo plan de estudios).
- **Departamento de Química**: 1 asignatura troncal (5 créditos, nuevo plan de estudios).

PUNTOS FUERTES Y PUNTOS DÉBILES.

Podríamos decir que los puntos fuertes de esta Facultad son:

- Personal joven.
- Facultad nueva.
- Proximidad a instalaciones agropecuarias del Cabildo Insular.
- Situación geográfica estratégica entre los continentes europeo, africano y americano.
- Única Facultad de Veterinaria en Canarias.
- Buenas relaciones con el sector profesional y ganadero de la región.
- Número moderado de alumnos.
- Incentivo económico para el profesorado, exclusivo de las Universidades Canarias.
- La cualificación docente e investigadora del profesorado esta avalada por los buenos resultados de valoración de los complementos retributivos.
- Alta estima y consideración hacia la Facultad por parte de las instituciones locales, así como del conjunto de la sociedad canaria.
- La Facultad dispone del único hospital clínico de grandes animales que existe en la provincia de Las Palmas.
- Implicación del Centro en áreas específicas: mamíferos marinos, piscicultura marina, camellos.

LOS PUNTOS DÉBILES SON:

- Pocos especialistas en clínica de grandes animales.
- Falta de planta piloto de tecnología de los alimentos.
- Falta de instalaciones adecuadas para el mantenimiento de animales que no sean pequeños rumiantes.
- Carácter insular, lo cual acarrea problemas en la provisión de material y equipamiento, así como en la movilidad de profesorado y estudiantes.
- Todavía no se ha llegado a la optimización con fines docentes en la utilización de las instalaciones del Hospital y Granja.
- Plantilla de profesorado escasa para atender las necesidades derivadas del nuevo plan de estudios.
- Escasez de personal de administración y servicios.

PERSPECTIVAS

De la consideración de nuestra realidad, de lo que tenemos y de lo que nos falta, de lo que queremos y de lo que somos, a medio y largo plazo imaginamos una Facultad

- con un nuevo plan de estudios instaurado en los cinco cursos, que conlleva un incremento en la carga práctica, y que su aplicación eficaz no se puede hacer sin reconsiderar los métodos pedagógicos actuales,
- formando parte de un complejo agropecuario que incluiría las instalaciones de la Granja Agrícola del Cabildo Insular, de la Escuela de Capacitación Agraria del Gobierno Autónomo, además de las propias de la Facultad,
- con un Hospital-Clínico que, gracias a la incorporación definitiva de un sistema de veterinarios internos residentes, un plan específico de formación y al desarrollo de una gestión independiente del ámbito académico, pero puesta al servicio de la docencia, pueda cumplir sus objetivos con autonomía y fluidez,
- con acuerdos consolidados con Cabildo Insular y Gobierno Autónomo para articular de modo definitivo la docencia en el matadero,
- con una planta piloto de tecnología de los alimentos, que a través del acceso a ayudas de infraestructura y de convenios con empresas, se puede ir constituyendo, y cubrir, así, una laguna importante en la formación práctica de los estudiantes,
- con una amplia implicación en programas de formación continuada, una demanda que cada vez es mayor, teniendo en cuenta la lógica dificultad que tienen los profesionales veterinarios de las islas para acceder a cursos nacionales o internacionales,
- con una mayor presencia social, lo cual será una consecuencia lógica de la optimización de sus posibilidades creativas.

Con nuestras debilidades y fortalezas, con la ilusión puesta en el futuro, ante ustedes se presenta una Facultad que desde sus inicios no ha dejado de crecer y de cubrir objetivos, que partiendo de unas condiciones pésimas en sus primeras instalaciones del Barrio de Zárate, hoy se ubica en unas instalaciones ya definitivas, todavía inacabadas, pero que permiten albergar a la totalidad de los cursos de la licenciatura y que posibilitan el desarrollo de una cada vez mejor investigación y docencia.

Sean ustedes bienvenidos. Reconocemos la importancia de su trabajo. La opinión autorizada y objetiva de una comisión externa de evaluadores debe ser asumida por nosotros como un compromiso para mejorar.

Muchas gracias.

Chapter 1 OBJETIVES

1. FACTUAL INFORMATION

The objectives that we consider for the Faculty of Veterinary of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria are found in the Real Ordinance 1384/1991 of August 30, published in the Official Bulletin of the State, no. 234, (Boletín Oficial del Estado) of September 30, 1991, in which the official qualification of Graduate in Veterinary Science and Medicine is established as well as the general guidelines characteristic to conducive study plans for the achievement of same. The Real Decree mentions textually, in annex dedicated to the same general guidelines, that the teaching leading to attainment of the official qualification of Graduate in Veterinary Science and Medicine within the framework outlined in Article 1,1 of Directive 78/1027/EEC 18 December must provide:

- a) Appropriate knowledge of those sciences on which veterinarian's activities are based.
- b) Appropriate knowledge of the structure and functions of healthy animals, of their breeding and reproduction, of their general hygiene and of their feeding, including technology corresponding to the production and conservation of their feeding.
- c) Knowledge adapted in the field of the behavior and protection of the animals.
- d) Appropriate knowledge of the causes, nature, development, effect, diagnosis and treatment of animal illnesses, considered individually or in group, among them, particularly those illnesses contagious to man.
- e) Appropriate knowledge of preventive medicine.
- f) Appropriate knowledge of corresponding hygiene and technology for obtaining, production and marketing of animal feeding products or of the origin of animal products destined for human consumption.
- g) Adequate knowledge of what concerns legislative, regulative and administrative requirements relative to the matters enumerated above.
- h) Clinical experience and adequate practice under appropriate supervision.

These requirements, together with the structuring of each and every subject to be imparted, also regulated in the normative of study plans for the Degree course of Veterinary Science and Medicine, constitute the base on which any plan leading to the attainment of this official Degree must be based.

Besides the main objective of our Centre that consists in giving the student a basic theoretical and practical formation of quality, specifically orienting him/her towards Animal Health and Medicine, Animal Production and Food Hygiene, we cover other objectives such the specialisation of the postgraduates by means of access to the Third Cycle, in Programs of Doctorate that specifically contemplate their training as specialists and future doctors in different departments and areas of knowledge on which these Doctorate Programs depend.

Another of the objectives of the Centre consists on promoting the professionals' continuous formation by means of graduate degree courses, training courses in technical and specific methods of application in the professional exercise.

The Faculty also considers as an objective giving a greater response each time to the social needs that can require the participation of educational and investigation units that are integrated in it. In this sense, the participation of the different members of the Faculty in external environments to the University itself (seminars, media, development of technical reports...) shows a clear increasing tendency, so that the Centre has more and more influence in those social aspects related to Animal Health, the Environment, Veterinary Medicine, Zoonosis, Food Control and Safety, Rural Development, Animal Production, and in general, on all those relative aspects to the Veterinary Sciences. This every time greater social presence has gone evolving parallel to the maturing and experience that the different groups and units of the Faculty have acquired, at the same time as the Faculty has become a solid centre of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.

As for the follow up of the objectives, a control of theoretical and practical classes is carried out by means of filing in corresponding record sheets, on the part of the professor in the case of theoretical classes, and on the part of the professor and the student in the case of practical classes. This system allows us to find out:

- Theoretical classes imparted.
- Practices received by student in each one of the subjects
- Practices imparted in each subject
- Practices imparted by each teaching staff member.
- Type of practices imparted in each subject

- Degree of execution of Plan of Studies for each subject

The corresponding forms on practical classes are required from the teaching staff three times during the academic year and once processed, the information is published.

The records of control of theoretical classes are picked up weekly and the opportune confirmations are made.

At national level, a personal valuation of the tracts of research made by teaching staff is carried out every six years of investigation, to which each teaching staff member opts freely and without previous reports from the Centre. The subjected contributions for valuation of these six year investigation periods are analysed, approving them or rejecting them in a centralised way by specific commissions under the Ministry of Education.

Also national level and every 5 years individual assessment of each teaching staff member's educational activity is carried out, requested at ones own will, which he/she takes as base those surveys carried out on pupils.

At regional level, every 4 years, assessments on dedication and educational merit, the instigation of specialisations, creative contributions to university teaching, postgraduate degree teaching and merits attained associated with investigation and development activities are carried out on behalf of the Canarian Government.

From an investigation point of view, one can say that the Centre has achieved great development in a short time, and that its different groups participate actively in international congresses and publish articles in impacting journals. From an educational point of view, the teaching staff is, in general, highly esteemed, appreciating a positive evolution in recent years.

The established system of records for this academic course allows us, for the first time ever, to have a global view of the teaching imparted, especially through practical classes, permitting us to know if the student receives enough practical level to cover each one of the necessary objectives.

In the near future, and with a view to assessing the execution of the objectives in a more efficient way, it is necessary to perfect the established system of control of classes in use this academic year and to approach a system of assessment through the opinion of the graduates for this Faculty.

2. COMMENTS

From a concrete point of view shortcomings in training can be appreciated as regards clinics for big animals, food technology units and practical training in pig, cattle and bird production.

We could say that the strong points of this Faculty are:

- Young personnel
- New Faculty: facilities and equipment under good use conditions.
- Vicinity of the Experimental Agricultural Farm of the Island Council of Gran Canaria.
- Strategic geographical situation among the European, African and American continents.
- Only Faculty of Veterinary Science and Medicine in Canarias.
- Good relationships with the professional sector and cattleman of the region.
- Students' moderate number.
- Economic incentive for the teaching staff, exclusive to the Universities of Canary Islands.
- The quality of the teacher as educator and investigator is endorsed by the good results of valuation obtained in order to have access to the economic incentives referred to in the previous point.
- The esteem and consideration towards the Faculty on the part of the local and provincial institutions as well as on the part of the Canarian society as a whole, is evident.
- The Faculty has the only clinical hospital of big animals that exists in the province of Las Palmas.
- Implication of the Centre, through certain investigation lines and in the orientation of the new plan of studies, in areas that are specific of this Faculty: Marine mammals, marine fish farming, and camels.

The weak points are:

- It lacks sufficient clinical specialists of big animals.
- It lacks a pilot plant of food technology.
- Lack of appropriate facilities for the maintenance of animals that are non small ruminant.
- Insular character, which carries difficulties in providing materials and equipment, as well as in the mobility of teaching staff and students.
- The optimum level as regards educational ends in the use of the facilities of the Hospital and Farm has still not been reached.
- Scarce teaching staff to respond to the derived necessities of the new plan of studies being introduced.
- Shortage of administration and service staff.

3. SUGGESTIONS

- Creation of pilot plant on Food Technology.
- Creation of agricultural complex, taking advantage of the facilities and infrastructure of the Experimental Agricultural Farm of the Island Council of Gran Canaria, which would especially promote training in animal production.
- Establishment of a system of veterinarian interns or residents in the framework of the Faculty Clinical Hospital.
- Specific formation plan for the educational and non educational personnel of the Faculty Clinical Hospital.

Chapter 2 ORGANIZATION

1. FACTUAL INFORMATION

Details of the establishment

Name of Centre: Faculty of Veterinary Science / Medicine.
Address: Trasmontaña. 35416. Arucas. Las Palmas
Telephone: 928 45 43 33 928 45 10 89
Fax: 928 45 10 89 928 45 11 30
Email: universidad@ulpgc.es.
Dean: Anselmo Gracia Molina
University: Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.
Address: Juan de Quesada, 30. 35001. Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.
Telephone: 928 451023
Fax: 928 451022.
Email: universidad@ulpgc.es.
Address web: <http://www.ulpgc.es>
Rector: Manuel Lobo Cabrera

FLOWCHART

Canarian Government (Local)
 Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports.
 General Management Board of Universities
 Las Palmas University, Gran Canaria
 Faculty of Veterinary Science

INTERNAL FLOW CHART

In accordance with departments and areas of knowledge involved in imparting different subjects in Veterinary Science / Medicine Degree studies. (Year 1999/2000):

Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria	Department	Area of knowledge	Subjects
	Mathematics	Statistics and Investigation	Mathematics
	Chemistry	Physical Chemistry	Chemistry
	Physics	Applied Physics	Physics
	Biology	Animal Biology	Biology
		Vegetal Biology	
	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Physiology, Genetics and Immunology	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	Biochemistry
		Physiology	Physiology
		Genetics	Immunology
		Genetics	Genetics

Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria	Department	Area of knowledge	Subject	
	Clinical Sciences		Microbiology	Microbiology and Immunology
			Pharmacology	Pharmacology, Pharmacy y Therapies
			Toxicology and Health Legislation	Toxicology, Deontology, Medical Law and Veterinary Legislation.
	Morphology	Anatomy and Pathological Anatomy Compared		Anatomy
			Veterinary Legislation.	
			Citology and Histology	
			Pathological Anatomy	

Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria	Department	Area of knowledge	Subject	
	Pathology Animal, Production Animal, Bromatology and Food Technology	Animal Production		Ethology and Animal Protection and Ethnology
				Agronomy
				Nutrition
				Ethnology, Ethology y Animal Protection
				Animal Production and Veterinary Hygiene
				Breeding and Improvement in Breed
				Agricultural Economics
	Pathology Animal, Production Animal, Bromatology and Food Technology	Animal Medicine and Surgery		Pathology in General
				Preparatory Clinical Studies.
				Surgical Pathology and Anaesthesia
				Surgical Pathology and Radiology
				Reproduction y Obstetrics
	Pathology Animal, Production Animal, Bromatology and Food Technology	Animal Health		Medical Pathology and Nutrition
				Infectious Illnesses and Epizootiology, Preventative Medicine and Health Policy
				Parasitology y Parasitic Illnesses
				Parasitology
	Pathology Animal, Production Animal, Bromatology and Food Technology	Food Technology		Food Technology
				Nutrition and Bromatology
				Food Hygiene, Inspection and Control.

MANAGEMENT ORGANS

Faculty:

Specific functions of the Faculty of Veterinary Science and Medicine:

- a) *The development, up dating and withdrawal for substitution of Study Plans to be approved by Governing Board.*
- b) *The organisation and management of teaching services with regard to studies realised in obtaining and issuing of academic qualifications assigned.*
- c) *The control and coordination of educational activities, human resources and materials that the Departments have at their service.*
- d) *The development of their own budget, as well as management and budgeting of economic resources. services and equipment..*
- e) *The realisation of activities in all fields, including cultural and professional, that contribute to a thorough and long-lasting formation of students. Proposing agreements with public and private entities as esteemed opportune, for their later subscription by the Rector of the university.*
- f) *Know and inform on proposals for recruitment and assignment of teaching personnel presented by each department according to their curricular requirements.*

Veterinary Science and Medicine, University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, the Governing Board of the Faculty is in charge of Faculty Management Board, Dean, Vicedeans and Secretary, who may create

specific committees for carrying out their functions more efficiently. The Board of Veterinary Science and Medicine is the maximum organ of representation of the Centre, competent in matters of organisation, coordination and administration. The Faculty Management Board is made up of:

- a) The Dean who presides over it.
- b) The Secretary of the Faculty, who is also that of the Board, with voice but without vote, unless he/she is chosen by the body as representative of the same. The development and reform of internal rules and regulations which are to be sanctioned by the Governing Board of the University.
- c) The issuing of academic certifications and carrying out management functions concerning both personnel and students.
- d) To coordinate the participation of its members in different bodies of the Governing Board of the University, as is foreseen in Statutes.
- e) Whatever other functions attributed by present Rules and Regulations, by Statutes of the University and by current legislation.

Faculty Management Board (Junta de Facultad)

- a) In accordance with Articles 20,21,and 22 of the Rules and Regulations of the Faculty of
 - b) Representation of different bodies of the Faculty.
1. Total sum of teaching staff that figure in the Academic Program of the Faculty, among which are included assistants, one of those being the Scholarship holder. They will hold 55% of the representation on the Board of the Faculty.
 2. 40% by students, with a minimum of one from each year.
 3. 5% by personnel from the Administrative and Service staff of the Faculty.

According to Article 23 of the same mentioned Regulations, it is the responsibility of the Board of the Faculty to:

- a) Define, approve and coordinate performance policies of the Faculty both in what concerns education as well as its administrative and economic regime.
- b) Modify the present interior Regulations regime.
- c) Supervise the performance of associated or unipersonal bodies of the Faculty and their services.
- d) Develop and modify, in such a case, the proposals for the Academic Program and establish indications and orientations with respect to teaching to be imparted.
- e) Approve annual Academic Programs of the Faculty and so establish and control general guidelines of teaching in order to carry out Academic Programs accurately and efficiently.
- f) Approve the distribution of funds assigned to the Faculty with regard to the university budgets.
- g) Control the University and Cultural initiatives on Extension given in the Faculty.
- h) Select and revoke the Dean of the Faculty.
- i) Carry out the functions that are assigned by the senior bodies of the Governing Board of the University or those recognised by the current Regulations or current legal code.
- j) Approve the annual memory of the Faculty, which is to be submitted by the Dean to the Governing Board of the University for its sanction.
- k) Inform on the application for permanent teaching positions.

The dean

According to Article 29of the Regulation:

- a) The Dean acts as representative of the Faculty and engages in its management.
- b) He/She will be chosen by the Board of the Faculty from among all full-time professors and teachers with permanent positions figuring on the Academic Program Organisation of the Faculty by means of free secret vote. The proposed will be taken to the Rector of the university, who will proceed to appoint him/her for a four-year period.
- c) The election of the Dean is determined by the Electoral Regulations of the University.

According to Article 33 of the Regulations, it is the responsibility of the Dean to:

- a) Act as representative of the Faculty.
- b) Preside over associated government board organs of the same.
- c) Propose the appointment of vicedeans and other unipersonal positions of the government board.
- d) Direct and supervise all activities of the Faculty.

- e) *Propose to the rector, by previous agreement of the board of the Faculty, the creation of adequate services for the best possible functioning of the Faculty.*
- f) *Submit the Annual Memory of activities of the Board of the Faculty for their ratification and later submission to the Governing Board of the University.*
- g) *Authorise expenses and payment according to that established in the current Regulations.*
- h) *Supervise the yeild of the administrative and service personnel attributed to the Faculty.*
- i) *Submit to the Governing Board of the University those agreements taken by associated bodies to the Faculty, such as appeals, petitions and other documents by members of the Faculty.*

Secretary

Article 35 of the Regulations states that the Secretary of the Faculty of Veterinary Science and Medicine will be named by the Rector and proposed by the Dean and will carry out the functions of

- a) *Secretary of bodies associated to the Governing Board and of whose representation the Dean acts as president, to bear witness to acts and agreements guaranteeing the legality of same. Being solely responsible for the publicity they will enjoy.*
- b) *Testifying all acts they presence in the role of Secretary of the Faculty or which are referred to as their responsibility in public documentation.*
- c) *Ordering and keeping the register and file of the Faculty.*
- d) *Being responsible for protocol and the organisation of solemn acts of the Faculty.*
- e) *Carrying out all functions delegated to him/her by the respective competent bodies, those agreed on by the Board of the Faculty or resulting from the current Regulations, the Statutes of the University or current legislation.*

Vicedean.

Article 34 of the Regulations states that the vicedeans *will be appointed and their responsibilities outlined by the Rector as proposed by the Dean from among those teachers who work on a full-time basis, and who will be responsible for the coordination and administration of those sectors of university activity of the Faculty for which they were recommended under the authority of the Dean, who may delegate the following functions to them.*

Committees

According to Article 26 of the Regulations, the Board of the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Medicine may create specific commissions.

Permanent Committee.

According to Article 27 y 28 of the Regulations *the Board of the Faculty will create a Permanent Committee to which it may delegate some of its responsibilities, on specific topics and within an established period of time, in particular those referred to in section g of Article 23 of the Regulations of the Faculty and step matters. The Permanent Commission shall be made up of:*

- a) *The Dean who will preside and who will have a right to vote and the Vicedeans with a voice but without a vote, unless they have been elected by the body as representatives of the same.*
- b) *The Secretary of the Faculty who will also be that of the Commission, with voice but without vote, unless he/she has been elected by the body as representative of same.*
- c) *Representation of different bodies of the Board of the Faculty made up of:*
 1. *Five members of teaching staff, as well as the Dean among whom may include assistants and a scholarship holder.*
 2. *Four students chosen by their representatives on the Board of the Faculty, with at least one from each year.*
 3. *A member of the Administrative and Service staff of the Faculty.*

Educational Advisory Committee.

According to Article 8 of the Regulations of the Faculty of Veterinary Science and Medicine, University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, The Faculty shall create an Educational Advisory Committee, comprised of 60% teaching staff, with a minimum representation of all areas affected, and another 40% by students, with a minimum representation from each year. The Committee will be presided and convened by the corresponding Vicedean or the person whom he/she delegates.

Functions

According to Article 9 of the Regulations of the Faculty of Veterinary Science and Medicine, University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, The Educational Advisory Committee will be for obligatory consultation in all issues of educational nature which arise in the Faculty or which must be dealt with by the Board of

the Faculty. Likewise, it shall inform on modifications to the *Academic Program*. *The following specific functions may be arranged:*

- a. *Inform, as established, on Academic Plans and their modifications.*
- b. *Inform on Teaching Projects of each subject in its Degree courses submitted by Departments before June 1ST of each academic year. The Committee will ensure an accurate vertical and horizontal coordination of the subjects.*
- c. *Boost the lines of proceedings in relation to the teaching imparted in the Degree Courses.*
- d. *Inform on the proposed schedule and timetable of final exams according to the official notifications, regular and extraordinary, of each academic year.*
- e. *Propose general criteria for recognition of subjects; in particular for those who have studied and passed in other universities.*
- f. *Inform on the contracting of teaching staff which are made by the Departments in relation to the teaching activity of the Centre, such as the assignment of same to imparting the various subjects.*
- g. *Inform on dividing groups in the case of overcrowding of students in classrooms, or in other circumstances which require the same measures.*
- h. *Inform on the repercussion on teaching that leave on permission or substitutions cause. .*
- i. *Inform on subjects of free choice which Departments and other entities offer.*
- j. *Adaptation of new academic planning.*
- k. *Establishing class timetables.*
- l. *Coordination of practices/ experiences and use of laboratories.*
- m. *Establishing exam dates.*
- n. *Modification of Academic Planning.*
- o. *Establishing Academic Planning.*
- p. *Ensure that Exam Rules and Regulations are adhered to.*
- q. *Revision of Academic Plans.*
- r. *Carry out any other function conferred by the current norms or regulations.*

Library Committee.

Article 37 of the Regulations states that the library of the Faculty of Veterinary Science and Medicine is a support service to the education and investigation by members of the Faculty. It is comprised of the entire list of bibliographies and documents entrusted to the custody of the Faculty, *independent of origin and type of supporting material. Its functioning is governed by rules and regulations of the Interior regime which must be approved by the Board of the Faculty.*

Functions of the University Library:

- a) *Select, acquire, process, preserve and publish the collection of documents belonging to the University in accordance with the norms, recommendations and current protocol, both at national and international level.*
- b) *Put at the disposition of the University Community itself information available in other libraries and other information centres, with special emphasis on bibliographic information. And collections of documentaries*
- c) *Organise activities promote the edition of publications published by the services.*
- d) *Participate in programs and agreements which bear an improvement on our own service.*
- e) *Integrate in nets and systems of information*
- f) *Make the best possible use of human and material resources and ensure the development of the Autonomic Community*
- g) *Contribute to the building up, preservation and spreading of Documented Canarian Heritage*

Committee to Promote Quality Teaching.

Its functions are:

- a) *Promote debates and meetings on the improvement in the quality of teaching in veterinary studies.*
- b) *Propose new teaching methods.*
- c) *Establish preferences in material means necessary for improving teaching.*
- d) *Receive and investigate claims by students in relation to the quality of teaching and determine possible solutions*

Committee for External Practicals

Its functions are to:

- a) *Promote and supervise academically formative practicals in external centres (businesses, clinics, abattoir, accommodation...) Adjust the realisation of external practicals to the directives of the Regulations on external practicals of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.*

Committee for Computer Laboratory Functioning.

Its functions are:

- a) *Propose Regulations for its functioning.*
- b) *Coordinate activities.*
- c) *Ensure correct use of computer equipment.*
- d) *Put forward new needs.*
- e) *Disseminate the use of computers.*
- f) *Organise courses.*

Committee for the Area of Inoculation.

Its functions are:

- a) *Propose Regulation for its functioning.*
- b) *Coordinate the availability of space and experiments.*
- c) *Coordinate purchasing.*
- d) *Access control.*
- e) *Ensure that norms for animal protection are respected.*

Committee on International Relations and Agreements.

Its functions are:

- a) *Maintain an up-to-date list of official announcements.*
- b) *Maintain a catalogue of businesses who evidently may require the services of the Faculty to carry out investigations.*
- c) *Promote agreements which support investigation, and student and teacher exchange.*
- d) *Fund raising.*

Laboratory Committee.

Its functions are:

- a) *Development of Regulations to facilitate access of different lines of investigation to general equipment and avoid the unnecessary duplication of apparatus.*
- b) *Optimise the use of apparatus in general use.*
- c) *Ensure the correct use and functioning of apparatus.*

Committee on Veterinary Services.

Its functions are:

- a) *Keep an up-to-date list of all services rendered by the University, including prices, personnel, location and general conditions.*
- b) *Spread the word about these, when appropriate.*

Committee on Social Action.

Its functions are:

- a) *Instigate action for social promotion, preferably in the immediate area, in collaboration with other institutions.*

Committee on Cultural Promotion.

Its functions are:

- a) *Optimise cultural events in which students, teaching staff and administrative and service staff play a leading role, so stimulating different existing interests.*

Committee for Promoting Employment.

Its functions are:

- a) *Organise all types of activities which may allow our Graduates to have easier access to the job market.*
- b) *Claim those possibilities of work in which the participation of Veterinary body is unjustly limited.*
- c) *Promote a program of surveys to study the type of work that young Graduates have gained access to and their degree of satisfaction in same.*

Committee of Past Pupils

Its function is:

- a) *Creation of Past Pupil Association.*
- b) *Develop plans for ongoing education and training.*

Committee for Promotion of Rural Environment.

Its functions are:

- a) *Participation in programs for cultural development.*
- b) *Expose the problems of the Rural Environment within the university community.*
- c) *Contribute solutions to the rural environment.*

Committee on programs of Exchange and Recognition of Subjects. (Sócrates, Intercampus, Séneca...)

Its functions are:

- a) *Consolidate existing relations through exchange programs.*
- b) *Coordinate student and teaching staff visits.*
- c) *Facilitate student's administrative procedures.*
- d) *Reception of visitors.*
- e) *Assess to what degree visits have been taken advantage of.*
- f) *Recognition of subjects.*

Public Image Committee.

Its functions are:

- a) *Competition for Faculty logo.*
- b) *Develop up-to-date documentation on the working lines of the Faculty.*
- c) *Make the necessary publications which contribute to a greater recognition of the Faculty both wide scope (society) and reduced areas, (community, scientific, other faculties, etc.)*
- d) *Coordination of visits to the Faculty*

European Inspection Committee.

Its functions are:

- a) *Development of self-assessment document.*
- b) *Prepare the budget for the inspection visit.*
- c) *Determine the infrastructural and organisational needs which must be improved before the inspection visit.*

Farm Committee.

Its functions are:

- a) *Promote the consolidation of an agricultural campus with the Island Council experimental farm.*
- b) *Make a future planning designed to accomplish efficiently its teaching ends, investigators and services rendered.*
- c) *Develop Regulations for its functioning.*

Hospital Committee.

Its functions are:

- a) *Define a Veterinary Hospital model.*
- b) *Develop Regulations for its functioning*

Economic Committee.

Its functions are:

- a) *Control of expenses made to the budget of the Faculty.*

Departments

These are functions of each department according to Article 19 of the Statutes of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria:

- a) *Organise and develop the teaching of subjects in Degree courses which have been assigned by the corresponding Centre as belonging to Areas of Knowledge adscribed to this Department.*

- b) *The Departments shall develop areas of knowledge specific to those subjects in accordance with the general objectives of the Degree course and the training profile required for the students. .*
- c) *Develop the teaching projects of subjects which have been assigned in the different Degree courses. Those projects must be developed before each course begins. A set of norms approved by the Governing Board shall regulate everything referred to in Educational Projects.*
- d) *Organise, develop and control of teaching in postgraduate courses in areas of knowledge that are of their competence. Likewise, all set activities related to the development, coordination and presentation of Doctorate Thesis which must be done.*
- e) *Organise and develop research relative to an Area or Areas of knowledge within their competence.*
- f) *Promote and realise projects of a scientific, technical, humanistic or artistic nature, conforming with that set in Article 11 of the L.R.U. (University Reform Law) which is developed in Articles 148 and 159 of those Statutes and the basic norms established under the protection of Article 45,1 of the L.R.U*
- g) *Stimulate and boost scientific updating and the pedagogical methodological updating of teaching staff.*
- h) *Approve and budget their own financial resources, within the legal limitations established.*
- i) *Formulate the proposed needs made by teachers such as changing his/her location (transfer), taking into account the Academic Planning of each Degree course where he /she renders service and in coordination with affected Centres.*
- j) *Develop and modify its own Rules and Regulations, which must be sanctioned by the Governing Board.*
- k) *Develop and formulate proposals for the hiring and assigning of teaching staff for research needs.*
- l) *, Approve and publish Annual Report on its activities.*
- m) *Keep an up-to-date Inventory on assets including equipment, apparatus, and installations. The up-dated Inventory should be included in the Annual Report.*
- n) *Whatever other functions and tasks specifically attributed by the Statutes.*

2. COMMENTS

The management team of the Faculty is comprised of the Dean, the Secretary, the Vicedean for Educational Advice, the Vicedean for Students and University Extension, Hospital Director Vicedean and Farm Director Vicedean.

The Faculty Board includes all those teaching staff members whose teaching workload, to a greater extent, is assigned to the Faculty of Veterinary Science or Medicine. The representation of students plus Administrative and Service staff is adjusted to that number in proportion to what is stated in the Statutes of the Faculty. According to this, currently, the Faculty is comprised of 70 teachers, 50 students, 5 members of Administration and Service staff (P.A.S.) and one representative of students on research scholarship basis.

3. SUGGESTIONS

The University Reform Law, which shapes the structure of Spanish universities, gives competence to departments and to centres which on many occasions seem to overlap. In this sense a clearer definition of such competencies would be needed. It could be said that the departments fundamentally assume competence for research and postgraduate issues, while the Centres assume that of teaching, but the latter is shared by the departments also.

Chapter 3 FINANCES

FACTUAL INFORMATION

1. Expenditure

Año 1999:

Cost of training

a 1	Salaries of teaching personnel	351.276.856 ptas.	2.111.216,42 €
a 2	Salaries of support staff	84.493.892 ptas.	507.818,52 €
b 3	Expenditure relating to teaching	9.290.441 ptas.	55.836,67 €
c 1	Equipment relating to teaching	4.402.184 ptas.	26.457,66 €

Cost =	$a1+a2+b2+c1$	=	449.462.373	=	829.252 ptas.
	Number of students in undergraduate training		542		

Direct cost of training for a diploma

This cost is obtained by multiplying the direct annual cost of training a student by the average number of years of training for a student.

$$829.252 \cdot 7 = 5.804.764 \text{ ptas.}$$

Table 3.1.1: Annual expenditure of the establishment		
Calendar year 1999	National currency	Euros
a. Personnel		
a.1 teaching staff	351.276.856 ptas.	2.111.216,42 €
a.2 support staff	84.493.892 ptas.	507.818,52 €
a.3 research staff	17.160.000 ptas.	103.133,68 €
Total for a	452.530.748 ptas.	2.719.764,57 €
b. Operating costs		
b.1 utilities	6.814.265 ptas.	40.954,56 €
b.2 expenditure relating specifically to teaching	9.290.441 ptas.	55.836,67 €
b.3 “ “ “ “ research	33.984.503 ptas.	204.250,98 €
b.4 general operations (excluding the above)	1.494.074 ptas.	8.979,57 €
Total for b	51.583.283 ptas.	310.021,77 €
c. Equipment		
c.1 teaching	4.402.184 ptas.	26.457,66 €
c.2 research	9.349.634 ptas.	56.192,43 €
c.3 general (or common) equipment	1.014.346 ptas.	6.096,34 €
Total for c	14.776.164 ptas.	88.806,53 €
d. Maintenance of buildings	1.542.025 ptas.	9.267,76 €
e. Total expenditure	519.290.195 ptas.	3.120.996,93 €

Table 3.1.2: Cost of veterinary training		
	National currency	Euros
1. Annual direct cost of training a student	829.252 ptas.	4.983,90 €
2. Direct cost of training for a diploma	5.804.764 ptas.	34.887,33 €

3.2: REVENUES

Table 3.2.1: Annual revenues of the establishment		
Calendar year 1999	National currency	Euros
a. Revenue from the State or public authorities	29.498.091 ptas.	
b. Revenue from private bodies	-	-
c. Revenue from research	-	-
d. Revenue earned and retained by the establishment	-	-
d.1. Registration fees from students	-	-
d.2. Revenue from continuing education	-	-
d.3. Revenue from clinical activities	7.598.892 ptas.	45.670,26 €
d.4. Revenue from diagnostic activities	1.000.000 ptas.	6.010,12 €
e. revenue from other sources (farm)	1.429.772 ptas.	8.593,10 €
f. Total revenue from all sources	39.526.755 ptas.	

Table 3.2.2: Changes in public funding					
Year	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996
Revenue	34.535.998	29.488.091	35.883.919	35.227.710	43.138.055

The percentage of income from the following sources that the veterinary teaching establishment have to give to other bodies is:

Clinical work: 10%

Analysis for commercial clients: 10%

Analysis for veterinary practitioners: 10%

Research grants: 0%

Elaboración de informes técnicos: 10%

Los criterios de asignación al centro son distintos que los correspondientes para los departamentos. Al centro se reparte en función de horas docentes semanales, estudiantes matriculados, laboratorios dependientes únicamente del centro, estudiantes que hacen prácticas en los laboratorios, número de titulaciones, y una parte fija común para cada centro. A los departamentos se asigna en función del número de profesores, horas docentes, número de estudiantes, número de laboratorios, incentivos a la docencia (tesinas), incentivos a la investigación (número de doctores, tesis leídas) y programas de doctorado.

En la elaboración de los presupuestos nuestro centro se ve perjudicado con respecto a otros centros en los siguientes puntos:

1. A pesar de tener en cuenta el número de laboratorios, no se contempla en toda su dimensión el alto grado de experimentalidad de la licenciatura de veterinaria.
2. Por otra parte, como el número de alumnos de nuestra Facultad tampoco es elevado, por este concepto se recibe poca cantidad en comparación con otras Facultades.

3. El hecho de ser una Facultad constituida por varios módulos ocasiona una serie de gastos de mantenimiento de exteriores no contemplado a la hora de recibir la asignación presupuestaria. Otros centros, al estar en un solo bloque resultan favorecidos.

4. La Facultad de Veterinaria al verse obligada a albergar animales está sujeta a mayor desgaste de edificios que otros centros. Tampoco se tiene en cuenta este aspecto a la hora de recibir la asignación presupuestaria.

Alrededor del 80% del presupuesto se consume en gastos corrientes, y sobre un 20% en inversiones.

- Como media, cada alumno viene a ingresar aproximadamente unas 76.000 ptas./ año en función del número de créditos matriculados.
- La cantidad anterior viene determinada anualmente por el Gobierno de Canarias
- Los ingresos por matrícula se destinan a la Universidad, la cual lo redistribuye según criterios señalados anteriormente.

2 COMMENTS

El Centro y cada uno de los departamentos tienen su propio presupuesto. Los gastos de teléfono, luz, agua, seguro de vehículos, servicio de limpieza, mantenimiento de zonas ajardinadas, y seguridad corren a cuenta también de los servicios centrales de la Universidad. El hospital clínico tiene cierto grado de autonomía para reinvertir los ingresos que obtiene, al igual que la granja. En el caso de los Departamentos que imparten clases en varios centros es difícil saber la aportación exacta que un Departamento dedica específicamente cada centro. Los salarios del personal del Centro no entran a formar parte del presupuesto del Centro ni de los Departamentos, sino que corre a cargo directamente de los servicios centrales de la Universidad. Los gastos de personal (salarios fundamentalmente) son un total de 10.550.370.335 ptas. Los gastos totales de la Universidad se elevan a 15.892.616.606 ptas. (presupuesto año 2.000).

El grado de autonomía y flexibilidad del centro en materia financiera es amplio si bien el presupuesto es muy escaso por lo que permite poco margen de maniobra.

Los ingresos obtenidos por servicios externos son aplicados fundamentalmente a la propia unidad que los genera con lo cual se convierte en un incentivo para el mantenimiento de dicho servicio.

3. SUGGESTIONS

Se necesitaría más aportación económica al Centro para dedicarlo fundamentalmente al mantenimiento de las instalaciones y mejorar la calidad de la docencia.

La precariedad presupuestaria afecta fundamentalmente a la posibilidad de realizar prácticas en grupos reducidos (se necesitarían más profesores) y con infraestructura básica suficiente y adecuada para que las distintas asignaturas puedan organizar prácticas de mejor calidad. Así mismo hay grandes dificultades para acceder al grado de informatización adecuado que debe ponerse al servicio de la docencia.

Chapter 4 CURRICULUM

1. FACTUAL INFORMATION

At national level a defined curriculum exists according to the Real Ordinance 1384/1991 of August 30, published in the Official Bulletin of the State nº 234, on September 30, 1991, by which the official university title of Graduate in Veterinary Science and Medicine is set down as well as the general guidelines characteristic of study plans leading to its attainment. However, a margin is left so that each Faculty can structure a curriculum adapted to its own peculiarities, but respecting a common stem. Also at national level, there has been an agreement among all the public Faculties to make study plans for about 400 credits. The Center has the right to modify the optional subjects and of free configuration. In any event, this possibility is only limited by the guidelines of the same University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. Modifications on stem subjects (those common to all) suppose a greater difficulty, since they are of ministerial competence based on proposals of the University, and require a slower process terminating in their modification being published in the Official Bulletin of the State.

The content of the subjects is determined by the Advisory Board of corresponding Departments and forwarded to the Centre.

The theoretical and practical content comes already defined in the new plan of studies for each subject.

4. 1. CURRICULUM FOLLOWED BY ALL STUDENTS

Table 4. 1. 1 and 4. 1. 2: General table of curriculum hours taken by all students and yearly curriculum studies (academic year 1999-2000).

	Subject	Hours of training				Total
		Lectures	Supervised work	Practical work	Clinical work	
First year	Biochemical	60	4	36		100
	Anatomy I	60		60		120
	Mathematics	30	20			50
	Chemistry	30	10	10		50
	Biology	30		30		60
	Agronomy and Agrarian Economy	45	20	5		70
	Physics	30	10	10		50
	Immunology	30		15		45
	Ethology and Animal Protection and Ethnology	30	20			50
	Veterinary Cytology	15		30		45
	Total first year	360	84	196	0	640
Second year	Cytology and Histology	60		15		75
	Agronomy	30	10	5		45
	Physiology	120	9	11		140
	Microbiology and Immunology	90		20		110
	Biochemistry	60	4	32		96
	Total second year	360	23	83	0	466

	Subject	Hours of training				Total
		Lectures	Supervised work	Practical work	Clinical work	
Third year	Pharmacology, Pharmacy and Therapy	90	1	19		110
	Pathological Anatomy	90		30		120
	General Pathology	60		15		75
	Nutrition	60	2	18		80
	Genetics	45	10			55
	Ethnology, Ethology and Animal Protection	30	20			50
	Total third year	375	33	82	0	490
Fourth year	Preparatory Clinic Studies	60			40	100
	Surgical pathology and Anaesthesiology	60			30	90
	Parasitology and Parasitic Illnesses	90	5	16	9	120
	Infectious Illnesses and Epizootiology, Preventive Medicine and Sanitary Police	120	14	20	6	160
	Toxicology, Deontology Legal Medicine and Veterinary Legislation	90	7,5	17,5		115
	Technology of the Foods	60	18	2		80
	Total fourth year	480	44,5	55,5	85	665
Fifth year	Surgical Pathology and Radiology	60			40	100
	Reproduction and Obstetrics	90		5	15	110
	Medical and Nutritional Pathology	90			30	120
	Animal production and Veterinary Hygiene	90	10	10		110
	Hygiene, Inspection and Alimentary Control	90	15	15		120
	Animal Breeding and Improvement	45	5	20		70
	Agrarian Economy	15	15			30
	Total fifth year	480	45	50	85	660
	Total licenciature	2055	229,5	466,5	170	2921

Table 4. 1. 3: Curriculum hours in EU-listed subjects taken by every student

	Subject	Hours in course				Total
		Lectures	Supervised work	Practical work	Clinical work	
Basic subjects	Anatomy I	60		60		120
	Veterinary Cytology	15		30		45
	Cytology and Histology	60		15		75
	Biochemistry	60	4	36		100
	Biochemistry	60	4	32		96
	Biology	30		30		60
	Physics	30	10	10		50
	Mathematics	30	20			50
	Chemistry	30	10	10		50
	Infectious illnesses and Epizootiology Preventive Medicine and Sanitary Police (I)	24	7			31
	Genetics	45	10			55
	Immunology	30		15		45
	Microbiology and Immunology	90		20		110
	Parasitology and Parasitic Illnesses	36	5	6		47
	Pathological Anatomy	90		30		120
	Pharmacology, Pharmacy and Therapy	90	1	19		110
	Physiology	120	9	11		140
	Toxicology, Deontology, Legal Medicine and Veterinary Legislation	58		11		69
	Total of basic subjects	958	80	335	0	1446

		Hours in course				Total
		Lectures	Supervised work	Practical work	Clinical work	
	Subject					
Animal production subjects	Agronomy and Agrarian Economics	45	20	5		70
	Agronomy	30	10	5		45
	Ethology and Animal Protection and Ethnology	30	20			50
	Ethnology, Ethology and Animal Protection	30	20			50
	Animal Production and Veterinary Hygiene	90	10	10		110
	Reproduction and Obstetrics (I)	60		4		64
	Agrarian Economics	15	15			30
	Animal Breeding and Improvement	45	5	20		70
	Nutrition	60	2	18		80
	Toxicology, Deontology, Legal Medicine and Veterinary Legislation (II) (animal and environmental protection)	4		5		9
	Infectious Illnesses and Epizootiology, Preventive Medicine and Sanitary Policy (II)	36	7			43
	Total of animal production subjects	445	109	67	0	589

	Subject	Hours in course				Total
		Lectures	Supervised work	Practical work	Clinical work	
Clinical Subjects	Surgical Pathology and Anesthesiology	60			30	90
	General Pathology	60		15		75
	Preparatory Clinical Studies	60			40	100
	Medical and Nutritional Pathology	90			30	120
	Reproduction and Obstetrics (II)	30		1	15	46
	Surgical Pathology and Radiology	60			40	100
	Parasitology and Parasitic Illnesses	54		10	9	73
	Toxicology, Deontology, Legal Medicine and Veterinary Legislation III	13	1,5	1,5		16
	Infectious Illnesses and Epizootiology, Preventive Medicine and Sanitary Policy (III)	60		20	6	86
	Total of clinical subjects	487	1,5	47,5	170	706
Food hygiene	Food Technology	60	18	2		80
	Hygiene, Inspection and Food Control	90	15	15		120
	Total of food hygiene subjects	150	33	17	0	200
Professional knowledge	Toxicology, Deontology, Legal Medicine and Veterinary Legislation II (professional Ethics, Veterinary Certification, and Legislation)	15	6			21
	Total professional knowledge subjects	15	6	0	0	21
	Total licenciature	2055	229,5	466,5	170	2921

4.5: RATIOS

<i>Theoretical training</i>	=	2055	=	1
<i>Practical and clinical</i>		866		0,42

<i>Clinical training</i>	=	170	=	1
<i>Theoretical and practical training</i>		2751		16

4.6: FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE CURRICULUM

Observing the distribution of credits of the different contents of the curriculum, an important component of basic subjects is appreciated (50%), the rest being distributed among the three classic specialities of the Degree course in Veterinary Science and Medicine, clinical matters (24%) animal production (20%), and food hygiene (6%).

The ratio of practical to theoretical in all the different areas is very similar, being between 25% and 30%.

The attendance of students to practical classes is controlled, this control not being the norm in the case of theoretical classes.

4.7: SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON THE PRACTICAL CLINICAL TRAINING

There are ruled clinical practices and practical training in consultation and hospitalisation. They are organised according to the subject, for students of fourth and fifth year. A proper rotational program has not been established. In the clinical subjects each group carries out a shift of practical classes over several successive days. The practical classes are usually carried out in the morning schedule, and during the school year, working with about 3-6 students per group. From this year, a system of hospital practice training has been established that allows hospitalisation practice in two-student groups, with on-call shifts, maintaining the service 24 hours a day and in holiday periods, although this year it has been applied on a voluntary basis for the students of third, fourth and fifth years.

The student participates in activities of the mobile clinic. The subjects that this type of practice offered are those of Preparatory Clinical Studies, Reproduction and Obstetrics, Infectious Illnesses and Parasitic Illnesses.

4.8: SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON THE PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR FOOD HYGIENE

All students carry out practical classes in slaughterhouses in 4-5 student groups, each group dedicating a whole morning to this activity. They also carry out practical classes related to the quality and inspection of food in a hospital of human medicine, lasting several days.

The distance to the slaughterhouse is about 15 kilometres, working with all livestock species.

2. COMMENTS

In this region, everything related to the quality of food is important. On the other hand there are also wide development perspectives in animal production. The clinic for small animals is equally of great importance, although this market is nearing its saturation point. The clinic for big animals is not greatly developed, and that would require more specialists. Therefore, the veterinary curriculum cannot overlook any of these facets, since in all of them there are development possibilities and necessities that can be appreciated, indeed some of these being urgent. The job market is apparently small, however many needs and shortcomings can be appreciated in the areas in which the veterinarian can practice, for which it is thought to provide the vet with the enough capacity as to be able to offer solutions to such necessities, and in this way, generate new work.

Once a curriculum is established, it is difficult to modify it, since it demands some complicated legal requirements. In any event, what is revised is the content of each subject and the pedagogical methods used, but it is almost always the teaching staff member him/herself who contemplates and proposes these changes, and only in extreme cases are such changes required by the Governing Boards of the Centre, the Department or the University.

In the future, with the new plan of studies, the proportion of basic subjects remain the same (almost 50%) and clinical formation acquires a greater presence without there being an excessive increase.

With the new plan of studies, all the areas increase their practical content substantially, with regard to their theoretical content. Being at the moment in the range of 25-30%, it will increase the range of 30-50% of practical content in relation to that of theoretical. It highlights a great proportion of practical content with regard to theoretical in clinical subjects (50%), as well as in basic subjects (>40%). In food hygiene training the proportion of practice is around 40%, and 30% in that of animal production.

There is a group of obligatory subjects with an agricultural profile that is composed of a total of 13.5 credits.

A total of 99 credits are offered for optional subjects, of which 40.5 must be chosen by the student. The student must also attain 41.5 credits of free choice of subjects not included in the Plan of Studies.

The traditional formation of the veterinary curriculum is largely theoretical. The different plans of studies have always required a certain number of theoretical hours, while that of practical hours has not been fixed. On the other hand, the practical aspect has not been valued sufficiently nor has it had decisive importance in the student's final mark. So we are still dragging a certain inertia reflected in the deep and abundant theoretical content of the veterinary curriculum. In recent years, the practical content has been increasing, and this has been so in accordance with limitations put on the number of students accepted to the studies of Veterinary Science and Medicine.

The insufficient clinical work is owed fundamentally to the fact that there are few teaching staff, these type of practical classes requiring reduced groups, a high number of cases, and therefore a high number of specialists among the teaching staff. These circumstances have made it difficult to give more weight to clinical practice.

3 SUGGESTIONS

The increase of the practical content will be achieved once the new plan of studies is established in its entirety, nevertheless the satisfactory level set out by the European guidelines will not be reached. For this it would be necessary to convert part of the theoretical content in supervised work.

As for the clinical training, the attainment of satisfactory level is difficult, since in the new plan of studies the theoretical and practical contents of the different subjects is clearly defined and it is a curriculum where a considerable specific weight is given to the different areas of the veterinary sciences, and not only the clinical subjects. To get a satisfactory clinical training it would be necessary that of the 15 stay credits, all students study a high proportion of these credits as clinical practice, for which the practices in hospitalisation in the clinical hospital of the Faculty could suppose a remedy for this situation. Even so, the satisfactory level would neither be reached, and we think that it would be necessary to decrease some theoretical content of clinical subjects by more than 50%, in preference of clinical work. This would demand greater educational needs. These modifications need to be debated within the Faculty which would lead to the corresponding modification of the plan of studies.

Chapter 5 TEACHING: QUALITY AND EVALUATION

1. FACTUAL INFORMATION

5.1: The Teaching Programme

There is an Educational Advisory Committee whose functions are described in chapter 2, and which co-ordinates the whole educational activity of the center.

The pedagogical philosophy of the Center is shaped by the activities of the Committee on Promotion of Quality of Teaching whose functions have also been described in the chapter 2.

The class notes play an important part in the studying of the different subjects that the Degree course entails.

There are agreements with businesses to carry out practical experiences in summer of which about 200 students take advantage annually with an average of a 15 day period per student. Private clinics, agricultural industries, zoos, farms of official institutions, slaughterhouses, etc. constitute the offer of practices as much at regional as at national level. In the year 2000, four specific agreements of collaboration have been signed with private clinics, and the tendency is to develop the whole external practical activity through agreements, which is required by the new Regulation on External Practical experiences of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria approved in 1999.

5.2: The Teaching Environment

The University arranges courses for pedagogical ongoing training in educational development of the teaching personnel.

Some supplementary payments granted by the Canarian Government to reward the quality of teaching have been arranged:

- Supplementary payment in recognition of educational dedication: Based on favourable reports issued by the Board of the Centre, by the Department Advisory Board and by the General Secretary of the University. The positive valuation of the educational dedication through the surveys carried out on the pupils is also taken into account.
- Supplementary payment for educational merit: according to the positive valuation of the educational merit through the surveys of pupils, complemented with the reasoned memory, drawn up by the applicant which outlines the conditions in which the teaching has been developed.
- Supplementary payment rewarding and so stimulating specialisation, restricted to teaching staff members with lower degree studies and contracted teaching staff of the university.
- Supplementary payment for creative contributions to university teaching: valuing publications and educational contributions of interest.
- Supplementary payment for graduation teaching, postgraduate degree and job placement. Participation in postgraduate degree programs is valued.
-

5.3: The Examination System

Each subject has its own valuation methodology proposed which is assessed, and if it corresponds, approved by the Department Advisory Board. Once approved, the verdict is submitted to Centre

The subjects of the first quarter have a period of 3 weeks without class during the month of February for sitting exams corresponding to the ordinary exam period, 6 weeks in June-July for the extraordinary exam period of June, 2 weeks for the extraordinary exam period of September, and 3 weeks without interruption of classes for the special exam period of December of the following academic year.

The subjects of the second quarter have some 5 weeks without class during June-July for sitting exams corresponding to the ordinary exam period of June, 2 weeks for the extraordinary exam period of September, and 3 weeks without interruption of classes for the special exam period of December of the following academic year.

The subjects have a period of 6 weeks without class during June-July for taking exams corresponding to the exam period of June, 2 weeks for the extraordinary exam period, and 3 weeks without interruption of classes for the special exam period of December of the following academic year.

Most of the exams are written, although according to the subject the case can arise that on some occasions the realisation of an oral or clinical exam is required. External examiners are not used.

A student has the opportunity to present him/herself at two exam periods per subject per year. (ordinary or extraordinary indistinctly) with a total of 6 during his/her degree studies period, without time limit.

There is not any subject in the plan of studies that is considered obligatory to have passed in order to study another

5.4: Evaluation of Teaching

The method to control the quality of teaching in the Center is based on some surveys carried out on the pupils and organised from the central services of the University, and a registration of practices carried out by the students in the different subjects, where the content of these practices can be found, negotiated by the Dean and his staff.

Once the results have been issued, they are remitted to the professors and students.

5.5: Student Welfare

The Faculty has a cafeteria, a study area, and a recreational or rest area.. There is also collaboration with the School of Agricultural Training under the auspices of the Advisory Board for Education, Culture and Sports of the Canarian Government, just a few meters from the Faculty, where the personnel of the Center have access to the courts and to play sports such as indoor football, tennis, etc.

The Faculty has the support of the Illustrious School of Veterinarians of Las Palmas to inform the students through chats and other means, about the professional practices with greater future in the sector.

2 COMMENTS

It is necessary to promote greater activity by the Committee to Promote Quality of Teaching, acting in a complementary way to the Educational Advisory Committee, and to achieve that the competence of both committees can be developed to its maximum .

Co ordination between the teaching programs of the different subjects and the program of practical experiences is becoming more necessary, as well as that of establishing more homogeneous exam systems among the different subjects.

At the moment, the Faculty does not have enough areas of rest and study available for the quantity of students and teaching staff members that it has .

The external assessment of the Centre supposes a revision and a previous self-evaluation that it is of great interest for the Faculty itself. The objective exposure of the defects of the Center on the part of the impartial examiners must suppose a stimulus for improvement in its teaching.

The students have the opportunity to participate in the different committees that exist in the Faculty, and therefore in those related to teaching also. The participation of students is usually active, although it lacks certain continuity when the exam periods arrive.

3. SUGGESTIONS

4.

It is necessary to open a debate within Faculty itself, keeping in mind the demands of the new plan of studies. It is necessary to reconsider the methods followed so far, and to agree on certain reforms, in relation to the way in which the teaching staff members should face a class, perhaps abandoning the masterful style, advance in their role as tutor, achieve better use of the new technologies in teaching, deepen the use of seminars, and encourage the student's active participation in practical experiences. All this must also lead to the renovation of the type of evaluation or assessment of choice.

A general reflection has not been made on the evaluation methods and the effectiveness of same, so that presently each teaching staff member outlines and develops his/her own type of exam , and nobody else assesses the suitability of this exam. It would be necessary to achieve some type of co ordination in this sense.

Chapter 6 FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

1. FACTUAL INFORMATION

6.1. PREMISES IN GENERAL

The Faculty is located about 8 kms. outside the city of Las Palmas, to the north of the island of Great Canaria, at 100 m of altitude, 28 °N and 15 °W, a few meters from the coast, in the municipality of Arucas, in an area shared with the Experimental Farm of the Excmo. Insular Town Council of Gran Canaria and the School of Agricultural Training of the Advisory Board of Education, Culture and Sports of the Government of Canarias. In it is necessary to highlight:

- Module 1: Hospital for Big Animals
- Module 2: Hospital for Small Animals
- Module 3: Anatomy and Pathological Anatomy
- Module 4: Building of Lecture hall 1
- Module 5: Farm
- Module 6: Building of Lecture hall 2
- Module 7: Departmental building
- Module 8: Project for development.

6.2: PREMISES USED FOR CLINICS AND HOSPITALISATION

Table 6.2.1: **Places available for clinics and hospitalisation**

- 4 hospitalisation places for cattle
 - 3 hospitalisation places for horses
 - 8 hospitalisation places for small ruminants
 - 0 hospitalisation places for pigs
 - 16 hospitalisation places for dogs
 - 4 hospitalisation places for cats
- Number of animals that can be accommodated in isolation facilities:
- 2 small animals
 - 2 small ruminants

6.3: PREMISES FOR ANIMALS

The Faculty has a farm for the maintenance of healthy animals, with capacity for 100 goats and 2 cows.

6.4: PREMISES USED FOR THEORETICAL, PRACTICAL AND SUPERVISED TEACHING

Table 6.4.1: Premises for lecturing										
Number of lecture halls:										
Number of places per lecture hall										
Hall	no. 1	no. 2	no. 3	no. 4	no. 5	no. 6	no. 7	no. 8	No. 9	
Places	75	75	100	50	150	200	100	100	30	
Total number of places in lecture halls									880	

Table 6.4.2: Premises for group work

Number of rooms that can be used for group work (supervised work):		4		
Number of places in the rooms for group work:				
Room	no. 1	no. 2	no. 3	No. 4
Places	8	8	10	21
Total number of places in rooms for group work:		49		

Table 6.4.3: Premises for practical work

Number of laboratories for practical work by students										
Number of places per laboratory										
Room	no. 1	no. 2	no. 3	no. 4	no. 5	no. 6	no. 7	no. 8	no. 9	no. 10
Places	8	6	6	6	8	6	30	30	6	15
Number of places per laboratory (continued)										
Room	no. 11	no. 12	no. 13	no. 14	no. 15	no. 16	no. 17	no. 18		
Places	15	15	15	15	4	15	15	15		
Number of places per laboratory (continued)										
Room	no. 19	no. 20	no. 21	no. 22	no. 23	no. 24				
Places	15	15	15	8	8	8				
Total number of places in laboratories;							295			

6.5: DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORIES AND CLINICAL SUPPORT SERVICES

In general the laboratories of the Faculty have first-aid kit and fire extinguishers and some have mechanisms for quick showers.

A laboratory exists for doing analysis in the hospital area, 3 laboratories for microbiological diagnosis, 2 for parasitic diagnosis, 2 for histopathology analysis and 1 room of autopsies.

There are two radiology rooms (one for big and another for small animals), a room for diagnosis by image, a unit for anaesthesia and another for pharmacy.

6.6: SLAUGHTERHOUSE FACILITIES

The Faculty has the facility, at institutional level, of access to the Island Council Slaughterhouse in order to realise practical classes and to take samples. Some internal problems on the part Slaughterhouse have hindered, on some occasions, that the willingness shown could materialise in good relations between us; however, both personal and institutional relations are presently satisfactory, and it is foreseeable that the possibilities of collaboration indeed improve.

6.7: FOODSTUFF PROCESSING UNIT

The Faculty maintains good relations with some businesses in foodstuff industry fundamentally through the teaching personnel on subjects contained in Food Technology, Animal Nutrition as well as through the organisation of practical experiences in summer.

6.8: WASTE MANAGEMENT

Deceased animals, carcasses and visceral tissues are frozen immediately after the necropsy and kept in the freezer room. Once a week, the local administration services collect them.

6.9: FUTURE CHANGES

In module 8, still without building, there is a project for the location of new laboratories for practical classes, a cafeteria and a residence.

The elimination of dead animals and organic remains will be made by means of the corresponding agreement with the Insular Council of Gran Canaria, since they are going to build a plant for elimination of waste which will lend its services to the whole Island.

2. COMMENTS

In general all the buildings are well designed and equipped to cover their educational function, although practically all present important obstacles for access to the same by disabled people. In this sense, the University has taken charge of a project for the removal of the corresponding architectural obstacles.

As the Faculty does not have specific maintenance of its own and depends on a centralised service, scarcely budgeted and with not many personnel, the upkeep of the buildings and their equipment frequently presents problems.

3. SUGGESTIONS

Important needs that should be covered as soon as possible are:

- Sufficiently well prepared maintenance service specifically for the Faculty.
- Elimination of residuals and organic waste
- Provision of areas of rest: cafeteria, canteen, sport area, residence...
- Pilot plant for food technology
- Area for housing pigs
- Places for hospitalising big animals
- Improvements in security measures of the laboratories

Chapter 7 ANIMALS AND TEACHING MATERIAL OF ANIMAL ORIGIN

1. FACTUAL INFORMATION

7.1: BASIC SUBJECTS

Anatomy

Material used in the practices of the discipline

- a. In the area of the Embryology the most important are:
- Histologic preparations and slides with ovules and sperm.
 - Hen eggs with embryo in different stages of incubation (conserved in a fixed solution).
 - Pregnant uteruses and embryonic sacks of the different domestic species (fresh or fixed).
 - Embryos and/or isolated foetus (fresh or fixed)
 - Histologic cut of embryos and/or foetus of different age, subjected to different tint techniques.
- b. In the area of Anatomy, the source which offers the greatest didactic resources is that represented by the cadaver of domestic animals (herbivores and carnivorous), should it be fixed or fresh, since it gives us very direct and precise information of the discipline. The fixation by different procedures facilitates the conservation of the cadaver for a long period of time, and consequently there is the advantage of being able to carry out successive studies on it. The use of cadavers not conserved by fixation (fresh or frozen), although it allows one to study the anatomical structures in a more real form, without loss of their aspect and natural colour, and with their original dimensions, it presents the inconvenience of quick decomposition.

As with anatomical preparations, indispensable as much in the bone collection hall as in the same dissection room, we should highlight:

Bone and Joint preparations

- Mounted skeletons of the species to be studied (horse, cow, pig, goat, dog, cat, dromedary).
- Isolated bony pieces or bony blocks of some complex anatomical regions (carpus, tarsus)
- Skulls of the different domestic species and sections of the same according to different plans.
- Isolated articulations in fresh and fixed solution.
- Entire locomotive apparatus (for example thoracic and pelvic members) with all their joint systems.

The group of this material facilitates the relative analysis of comparative aspects of Osteology and Arthrology, such as the study of the bone details and its functional significance, of joint surfaces, of ligament nexuses and of some tendon formations. In connection with anatomical structures referred to, some data of clinical interest can also be evaluated.

Muscular and Joint preparations

- Dissection plans corresponding to different anatomical regions (head, members, etc.) fixed or fresh (freezing) that complement the arranged dissection of the cadavers.

Preparations of organs

- Isolated viscera or functional organic blocks in fresh, fixed, dehydrated or plastified.
- Body sections of the cadaver at different levels, previous freezing, to interpret the visceral topography better.
- Vascular and cavitory moulds by means of coloured elastic resins.
- Fixed encephalon and arranged in series cut from the same sample, according to the different plans and critical levels..

The data of practical interest that Applied Anatomy provides us with has its strength of knowledge by means of the application of specific techniques such as radiology.

Pathology

Table 7.1: **Number of necropsies over the past 5 years**

Species	Number of necropsies				
	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995
Cattle	9	4	6	7	1
Horses	5	4	4	4	1
Small Ruminants	140	53	61	118	97
Pigs	6	8	17	11	9
Rabbits and rodents	28	37	32	74	23
Bird species	89	156	127	225	76

Dogs	92	95	130	130	94
Cats	28	37	30	38	16
Reptiles	103	82	31	60	37
Monkeys	5	4	3	10	13
Cetaceans	23	10	11	20	5
Fish	2	8	18	29	7
Total	530	498	470	726	379

Relationship of biopsies:

Species	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995
Bird	23	21	29	66	74
Bovine	3	8	7	3	4
Camel	1	2	5	2	1
Canine	840	730	741	558	651
Caprine	14	14	16	13	27
Rabbits	5	2	2	4	1
Cetaceans	1		1	3	1
Crocodiles	2		2	1	1
Equine	10	10	14	19	11
Feline	94	100	87	76	93
Gallinaceous	3	4	3	1	1
Ovine	3	2	1	2	1
Fish	8	3	35	101	25
Swinish	4	5	3	6	2
Primates	1	2	1	6	8
Reptiles	3	5	5	4	5
Other *	3	4	5	10	4
Total	1018	912	957	875	910

* Rat, Reindeer, Penguin, Deer, Hamster, Chinchilla, Kangaroo, Call, Ostrich, Ferret.

7.2 ANIMAL PRODUCTION

In the facilities of the Experimental Farm the Unit possesses a herd of goats made up of 100 individuals approx. At the present time, in two small areas also located in the farm, the production of rabbits is functioning.

In relation to other places that are not facilities of the center, the theoretical program on Animal Production is completed with visits to exploitations of reduced groups to understand in situ the functioning of each type of productive speculation: poultry keeping (egg-laying commercial and broilers production), cuniculture, porciculture, bovineculture and aquiculture.

7.3 FOOD HYGEINE

7.4: CONSULTATIONS

The clinic has a service of hospital reception 24 hours of the day, every day of the year, and specialised consultation according to the following schedule during the whole year except the month of August when the only consultations that remain are those of oncology and ophthalmology:

	Monday				Tuesday		Wednesday					Thursday			Friday		
9:00-10:00																	
10:00-11:00	Medicine Internal	Dermatology and Endocrinology	Cardiology		Medicine Internal	Ophthalmology	Medicine Internal	Dermatology and Endocrinology	Haematology	Oncology	Orthopaedics	Ophthalmology	Medicine Internal	Reproduction and Obstetrics	Ophthalmology	Medicine Internal	Cardiology

11:00-12:00																				
12:00-13:00																				
13:00-14:00																				
16:00-17:00																				
17:00-18:00		Oncology		Oncology															Ophthalmology	Oncology
18:00-19:00																				

Table 7.4: Number of animals received for consultation in the past three years.

Species		Number of patients		
		2000	1999	1998
Farm/large animals	Cattle			
	Horses			
	Small ruminants			
	Pigs			
	Other farm animals*			
Small/pets;	Dogs	280	380	486
	Cats	19	59	46
	Other pets		6	9

*Indicate species

7.5: HOSPITALISATION

Table 7.5: Patients hospitalised in the clinics in the past three years

Species		Number of hospitalisations		
		2000	1999	1998
Farm/large animals;	Cattle		3	2
	Equines			
	Small ruminants	33	42	9
	Pigs			
	Other farm animals*			
Small/pets;	Dogs	15		
	Cats	3		
	Other pets			

*Indicate species

7.6: VEHICLES FOR ANIMAL TRANSPORT

There is a truck with crane, a four wheel drive vehicle, trailer for horses and trailer for goods.

To enhance the contribution of cases for the Faculty, the transport is not usually charged.

7.7: EMERGENCY SERVICE

There is no service for emergency home calls.

7.8: MOBILE CLINIC

State the number of hours of operation per week: 20 hours a week

There is no emergency service outside the established schedules for mobile clinic.

The Faculty has a four wheel drive vehicle with capacity for 8 students.

State the approximate number of sick animals (specify cattle, swine, equine, poultry or small ruminants, others) seen by the mobile clinic in a year.

Species	2000	1999	1998
Equines	45	225	101
small ruminants	614	1331	116

Species

Cattle	1
small ruminants	18
Equine	10
Camel	2

Surgical interventions carried out in the Insular Housing of GC (sterilisation):

	Dogs & cats
1998	72
1999	80
2000	84

7.9: OTHER INFORMATION

An external source of animals to obtain means for clinical training purposes is the Island Council Housing for abandoned animals that is located in the vicinity of the Faculty, also the slaughterhouse and some private owners.

The assistance service only accepts cases referred by other veterinary clinics. For this reason, each specialisation has got a different number of days per week when they receive patients, depending on the casualties they receive

Cases are referred by clinics to be attended by the service. Given that the person responsible for each service dedicates him/herself almost exclusively to his/her speciality, the most adequate treatment for the patient is achieved.

The equipment available in the clinic is adequate for the correct treatment for each speciality. Moreover, each unit continually invests in buying new instruments depending on the need required according to external demand.

Currently, the clinic only admits referred cases, likewise patients for second opinions.

The teaching staff members who attend cases only attend those of their speciality. The areas of specialisation covered at the moment are:

Cardiology

General Surgery

Dermatology

Endocrinology

Haematology

General Medicine

Neurology

Ophthalmology

Oncology

Reproduction and Obstetrics.

Orthopaedics

The charges for the services are stipulated according to fees recommended by the Illustre Colegio Oficial de Veterinarios de Las Palmas, i.e. The Veterinary Association of Las Palmas.

Relations with the private clinics could be considered cordial, bearing in mind that only referred cases are treated.

Apart from the cases that are referred, many clinics make consultations by phone or send X-rays, electrocardiograms, or analysis asking for advice on same.

During the summer holidays, practical experiences in clinics both among the islands and in the Peninsula are organised by the Faculty. In this way, the student sees the most common casualties dealt

with in Veterinary Clinics, cases which, given that only referred cases are admitted, are not usually attended in the Hospital

7.10: RATIOS

7. 10. 1 Animals available for clinical work

Ratio: Students / production animals

$$\frac{\text{Number of students graduated in the last year}}{\text{Number of production animals}} = \frac{72}{1700} = \frac{1}{23,61}$$

Ratio: Student / companion animals

$$\frac{\text{Number of students graduated in the last year}}{\text{Number of companion animals}} = \frac{72}{425} = \frac{1}{5,90}$$

7.10.2: Animals available for necropsy:

Ratio: students/post-mortem examinations

$$\frac{\text{Number of students graduated in the last year}}{\text{Number of cadavers necropsied}} = \frac{72}{530} = \frac{1}{7,4}$$

2 COMMENTS

At the present time we have introduced the hospital scholarship holder figure that has allowed to prolong the schedule of the clinical services and to give support to the different clinical activities. In the near future the number of hospital scholarship holders is to continue in this line of increase and so improve the clinical services. We also want to count on the contribution of visiting professors, so that they work in those clinical areas which currently have a shortage of specialised personnel. This would allow us to enlarge the offer of clinical services and to form a specialist team in such deficit areas.

It is necessary to continue in the line of collaboration with external entities, especially the Insular Housing of Animals, private clinics, farms and the Insular Slaughterhouse, since they are very important sources of animals for carrying clinical practices. The guaranteeing of sufficient, good quality practical experiences depends on maintaining stable relationships with these entities.

3. SUGGESTIONS

The ratio students/animal production has reached a satisfactory level, but it is necessary to bear in mind that its calculation includes animals available on the farm of the Faculty, of which practically all of them are used at least once a year, as well as all the animals of mobile clinic, on which clinical procedures are practised such as ultrasound scan in the diagnosis of pregnancy, artificial insemination, ... which are not justifiable as possible pathological processes..

As for the ratio students/companion animals, we find that in order to reach a satisfactory level it would be necessary to multiply the current number of cases at least by eight. In the measure that plan of hospitalisation and of amplification of the schedule of consultations is being consolidated, cases will be gained. On the other hand, the intensifying of collaboration with the Island Council Housing for abandoned animals is another very important point with a view to increasing the number of cases.

We believe that we can increase the number of cases, as much of big animals as of companion animals but it is necessary to keep in mind that the insular nature of our location seriously limits the possibilities to overcome certain thresholds, since the only animals that you can arrive to are those of the same island, not even to those of the whole region, an island of about 1,500 Km². Moreover, the island does not specially lend itself to livestock, and one can easily come into contact with competitors in private clinics, since it is an island where veterinary surgeons are trained and the density of these in the island is every time greater.

To achieve more and more cases for the Faculty, without entering in competition with the veterinarians in free practice, we must aim to be able to offer a service that contributes technical innovations to which those the private sector is less likely to gain access, or a specially laborious service, such as that of hospitalisation. This way, the clinical activity of the Faculty is complemented by private clinics and we offer support to these. This obliges us to always maintain an excellent standard that supposes a continuous challenge of formation

The ratio of student / post mortem examinations is stabilised at a satisfactory level, and the next objective to be covered is that of guaranteeing the evacuation of the dead bodies. Up to now, this has been carried out with the collaboration of the Arucas and Las Palmas Town Halls, but the definitive solution will come when the Island Council puts the planned incineration plant into operation.

Chapter 8 LIBRARY AND LEARNING RESOURCES

FACTUAL INFORMATION

8.1: LIBRARY

The library of the Faculty of Veterinary of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria has two reading rooms of 80 and 90 m², with 43 and 50 reading seats respectively, the latter also serving as a projection room. The Library also has an area of 98 m² without possibility of continuing where the said library or bookshelves can be found, the newspaper and periodicals section and 2 computers for database consultation. The book shelving area constitutes an area of a surface of 60 m² with capacity for 7.557 copies and 96 videotapes. The newspaper and periodical section consists of 6 stands and it occupies a surface of 20 m² with space for 226 periodic publications of which 119 are no longer received. The area of database consultation is included in the newspaper and periodical section and it consists of 3 databases for consultation.

The registered students, as much in this as in other facilities of the University, have free access to the books, periodic publications, videotapes and databases of this library, access that limits their use of these facilities to within the same library in the case of videotapes, periodic publications and databases.

The students of the Faculty have equal access to the other libraries of the University, to the service of photo documentation of the same library, as well as to consult the catalogue of the Library and the rest of the libraries of the University, which is carried out by the librarian or the consultation screen.

Main library

The library of the Faculty of Veterinary Science is an independent entity, specific of the Faculty, but extending its loan service and its facility for consulting library material to all students of the University, just as all students of the Faculty can have the same access to the libraries of other centres of the same Faculty.

The library of the Faculty of Veterinary of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria had a budget of 6,848,837 ptas. (41,162.3 €) during 1997, 5,250,000 ptas. (31,553.1 €) during 1998 and 7,595,053 ptas. (45,647.2 €) during 1999, 7,667,559 ptas. (46,083 €) during the year 2000.

The library of the Faculty of Veterinary of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria has 3 full-time staff members (35 weekly hours for employee), of which one is responsible for running the library, and the others cover the schedules of morning and evening.

The Library receives an average of 360 books and 117 scientific magazines annually.

The Library has a schedule of 11 hours opening daily (from 9:00 o'clock to 20:00 hours) on working days during the academic year, as well as 5 hours daily (from 09:00 hours to the 14:00 hours) in July and August. The Library does not have schedule of opening the weekends.

The Library handles about 8000 loans per academic year.

The Library has only got 3 computerised databases for student access: One of them on Veterinary Medicine, another on Animal Production, and another on Food Technology. These databases can be consulted in the two positions of multimedia consultation available in the same Library or on intranet consultation which is available to the university.

Subsidiary libraries of the establishment

No other libraries exist in the Faculty.

8.2: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

The Library offers the possibility of restricted loan of videotapes. It has a small video library of 96 videotapes. In the last 5 years the Library has not produced any videocassette.

The Library has two modernised computers for database consultation of data of the Library itself, this service together with the deposit of books and the newspaper and periodical section being attended by the same employees of the Library. The established schedule of consultation is the same as for the rest of the Library. The Library itself doesn't have a teaching service on the use of the computer or the databases that it offers. The personnel of the library take charge of teaching each user personally on the use of the databases and consultation screens.

2. COMMENTS

Library:

The policy of the Library is orientated to provide the books and necessary periodic publications to maintain certain level of updating information, within the budgetary possibilities of the same, which are considered insufficient.

The schedule of opening is adapted the times that a student usually attends the centre, so that he/she can take advantage of the different services that the Library offers.

The reading space is considered reduced, as well as that of the newspaper and periodical section and of the database consultation. A new space of 600 m² has already been approved in a new building, where a room with 150 reading positions, book shelves, work area, room of OPACs (consultation screen), newspaper and periodical section with 14 consultation positions, area for multimedia with 9 work positions, photo documentation service, etc.. it only needs to be fitted with adequate computer equipment and furnishings .

The personnel is considered scarce, and an increase in same has been requested to be able to carry out effective improvement on existent services and the new ones that are to be established.

3. SUGGESTIONS

It is necessary to increase the budget allocated to the Library in order to modernise the deposit of books and videotapes, to have access to a greater number of periodic publications, to acquire a bigger number of consultation databases or programs of multimedia of great benefit to the development of the profession and the investigating activity, to provide the Library with a greater number of positions of multimedia consultation and under better conditions, etc.

Likewise it is necessary to increase the number of personnel in order to offer all those services proposed, as to guaranteeing the opening of the library when staff of same are on sick leave.

Chapter 9 ADMISSION AND ENROLMENT

1. FACTUAL INFORMATION

9.1: STUDENT NUMBERS

Table 9.1.1: *Undergraduate student composition*

Course 1999 / 2000

a.	Total number of undergraduate students	542
b.	Male students	239
c.	Female students	303
d.	Nationals	536
e.	Foreign students	6
	- from EU countries	4
	- from non-EU countries	2
f.	1st year students	87
g.	2nd year students	79
h.	3rd year students	116
i.	4th year students	73
j.	5th year students	187

Table 9.1.2: *Postgraduate student composition*

n.	Total number of postgraduate students	
o.	Male students	
p.	Female students	
q.	Nationals	
r.	Foreign students	
	- from EU countries	
	- from non-EU countries	
s.	1st year students	
t.	2nd year students	
u.	3rd year students	
v.	4th year students	
w.	5th, or subsequent, year students	

9.2 Student admission

We suggest to the students of secondary education that seek to study the Degree course of Veterinary Science and Medicine that they choose the biosanitary speciality or of health science subjects. Nevertheless, nothing impedes a student who has chosen another speciality from entering the Faculty provided he/she reaches the average mark required in the exams for access to the university, regulated by Real Ordinance 1640/1999 of October 22. This average final mark (basic mark) is established by the last student admitted to the Centre during the academic year in vigour based on the agreement taken by the Council of Universities at national level with regard to the number of places offered for the licentiate of Veterinary Science and Medicine of Las Palmas de Great Canaria that is approved annually by this Council, being later published in the Official Bulletin of the State.

The Real Ordinance 704/1999 of April 30, regulates the selection procedures for the entrance of students that have the necessary requirements for access to university..

The limit number of students admitted every year in first year is 70.

The government decides on the number of places on offer every year according to political criteria, if indeed the University is listened to at all. During the last years the same limit on number of students entering has been maintained.

Students coming from other universities are admitted, going through the official procedure of transfer, in function of the number of students that have dropped out of the studies, and requiring that they have passed all subjects of first year. Another form of entrance to the Faculty is through the access to university for those over 25 years. The maximum number of these who can enter is 5% of the limit number that is accepted in the first place, and they should pass a series of tests organised by the university. In the academic year 1999/2000 no student finally entered by means of this via but in previous years about 2-3 pupils have entered a year.

Table 9.2: Intake of veterinary students

Year	Number Applying for admission	Number admitted	
		'standard' intake	official procedure of transfer
1999 / 2000	82	70	12
1998 / 1999	77	70	7
1997 / 1998	75	70	5
1996 / 1997	81	76	5
1995 / 1996	86	76	10
1994 / 1995	85	76	9
1993 / 1994	80	76	4
1992 / 1993	85	79	6
1991 / 1992	84	79	5
1990 / 1991	80	71	9

9.3: STUDENT FLOW

Table 9.3.1: Student flow

Of the students whose admission year was N-5 (number a. in Table 9.2) how many are at present (five years later) in the:

b.	1st year	1
c.	2nd year	1
d.	3rd year	4
e.	4th year	10
f.	5th year	31
g.	how many have graduated	12
h.	how many have dropped out or been asked to leave.	17

Table 9.3.2: Number of students graduating annually (from undergraduate training) over the past five years:

	Year	Number graduating
j.	N - 1998 / 1999	63 + 9*
	N - 1997 / 1998	61
	N - 1996 / 1997	44
	N - 1995 / 1996	31
	N - 1994 / 1995	15

Table 9.3.3: Average duration of studies

	Duration of attendance	number
k.	4 years	
l.	5 years	12
m.	6 years	21
n.	7 years	12
o.	8 years	6
p.	9 years	9
q.	10 - 13 years	3
r.	more than 13 years	0
Average duration of studies of the students who graduated in year N:		6,88

No requirement is demanded to be able to opt for subjects of higher years.

The student must abandon the Degree studies once he/she has sat exams on a given subject on six occasions.

2. COMMENTS

The number of students that graduate annually has increased considerably from the academic year 1994 / 1995 until the present time.

* official procedure of transfer

The demand to study Veterinary Science and Medicine is very high. Around 400 candidates present their matriculation for Veterinary Studies, of which only the 70 with the best prepared application requirements are accepted. The demand has been increasing progressively with which the basic marks required has increased, being located at 6.5; which can be theoretically interpreted as that we are receiving better prepared students each time. Nevertheless, it is also frequent to appreciate important lagoons of basic education.

The Centre has very little choice but to reduce the current number of students admitted. We would like to reduce somewhat more the number of students to improve the quality of teaching; but we know that now we meet with insurmountable obstacles at political level. Nevertheless, the number that we maintain is not bad for the current capacities of the Centre.

In the first years there were more educational problems on the part of students than in current ones, theoretically because of the low access marks required, although we also believe that it is due to the fact that, as the Faculty has been consolidating it has improved the quality of its teaching.

The tendency is for the percentage of students who graduate in relation to those who matriculate to be each time greater.

3. SUGGESTIONS

The fundamental concern is the long number of years that the students need to finish these studies that theoretically take 5 years. This is a circumstance that requires close study, and with the establishment of a plan of studies with a greater number of credits, we do not know well in which direction it will go. Therefore, deep reflection is required at general level, in relation to that commented in the chapter 5.

Chapter 10 ACADEMIC AND SUPPORT STAFF

1. FACTUAL INFORMATION

Table10.1: Personnel in the establishment

	Budgeted posts (FTE)	Non-budgeted posts (FTE)	Total (FTE)
1. Academic staff			
a) Teaching and research staff	61		61
b) Research staff	12		12
c) Others (support scholarship holders)	5		5
d) Total academic staff	78		78
2. Support staff			
e) Responsible for the care and treatment of animals	4		4
f) Responsible for the preparation of practical and clinical teaching.	7		7
g) Responsible for administration, general services, maintenance, etc.	17		17
h) Engaged in research work	1.5		1.5
i) Others (European inspections, service cleaning, security)	7		7
j) Total support staff	36,5		36,5
3. Total staff (d + j)	114,5		114,5

Table 10.2: Allocation of personnel to the various departments

Department	Academic staff			Support staff			
	Full professor	Assistant professor	Associate professors	Technical/ animal carers		Admin. / General	Others
				Teaching	Research		
Animal Pathology...	2	20	14.5	4		2	
Morphology	1	6	4.5	1			
Clinical Sciences	1.5	2	3.5		0.5		
Biochemistry...	0.5	1	2				
Mathematics	0.5						
Physics		0.5					
Biology		1					
Chemistry		0,5					
Faculty				6	1	15	7
Total	5.5	31	24.5	11	1.5	17	7

Table 10.3: Personnel responsible for undergraduate teaching

A.	Number of budgeted and non-budgeted teaching staff involved in undergraduate teaching	61
B.	Number of research staff involved in undergraduate teaching (see explanation to this table above)	12
C.	Total number of personnel responsible for undergraduate teaching (A + B)	73

Ratios

Ratio: teaching staff/undergraduate students

$$\frac{\text{Number of teaching staff}}{\text{Number of undergraduate students}} = \frac{61}{542} = \frac{1}{8,89}$$

Ratio: teaching staff/support staff

$$\frac{\text{Number of teaching staff}}{\text{Number of support staff}} = \frac{61}{36,5} = \frac{1}{0,6}$$

The number of teaching staff is established in the light of teaching needs, which in turn depends on the number of students, and on the number of theoretical and practice groups. The departments make their application for teaching staff members to the Rector. The Rector decides in function of the budgetary possibilities and the reality of the necessities, also taking into account the report of the Centre on same. This work is very laborious, since it is not easy to obtain new positions due to the restrictions on the budget of the university in this aspect. The attainment of places for supporting personnell is equally laborious.

Once granted a place or post there are usually many candidates and with good curriculum. The concession of hired professor's position is decided by means of competition of merits.

It is legal to be able to hire additional personnel with the benefits obtained by services rendered to the Faculty, provided the process is carried out through the University Foundation of Las Palmas.

The full-time teaching staff members of the Faculty cannot carry out work elsewhere practising the veterinary profession, neither can they manage nor own any business related to same. A possibility exists of participating in work, provided it is done according to articles 11 and 45.1 of the Organic Law 11/1983, August 25, on University Reform, conforming with that stated in the Real Ordinance 1930/1984, October 10. In no case, must the work infringe on that specified in the articles 11 and 12 of the Law 53/1984, of December 26, on incompatibilities in the service of public administration personnel, and that stated in the Real Ordinance 598/1985, April 30, on incompatibilities of the personnel in the service of administration of the state, of social security and of dependent organisms and dependent companies, referring to the exercise of private activities on the part of this personnel. The compatibility for which participation in external activities is granted, must have the signature of the legal representative of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, and it is the special circumstance in article 45 of Organic Law 11/1983, August 25, on University Reform that has special character for the development of specific work and never for the carrying out of activities of a general nature and, in no case, the granting of this compatibility will be understood specified in the article 14 of the Law 53/1984, of December 26, on incompatibilities of personnel in the service of public administration for the development of private activities.

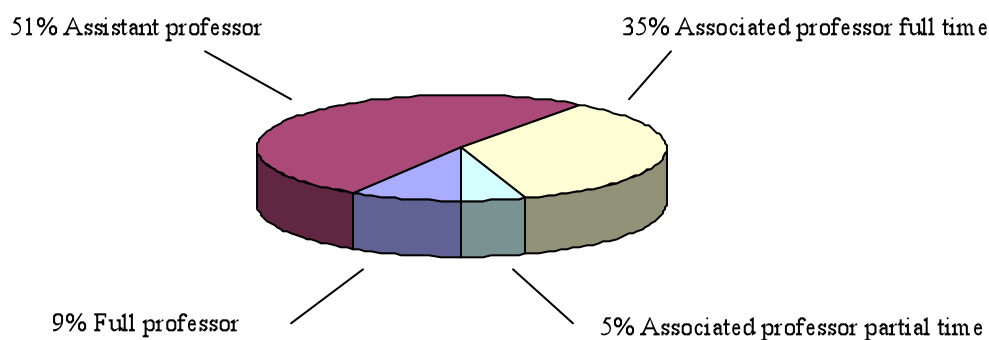
The Faculty teaching personnel participation in scientific congresses is encouraged by the University, supporting them economically by collaborating with the trip expense, lodging and expenses incurred. For the realisation of prolonged stays, the teaching staff member should refer to the public agreements and the University does not usually finance these stays, although it does not usually put any obstacles to the teaching staff member being absent the necessary time, provided the teaching to be imparted is covered.

2. COMMENTS

In the beginnings of the Faculty there was a massive percentage of associated professors. With time they have been consolidating and as a result, the proportion of assistant professors has increased. At the moment 9% of the educational capacity of the Faculty is integrated by Full time professors, 51% by assistant professors and 35% for associated professors FT, and 5% for Associated professors PT, comparable with the levels observed in the rest of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, except in the level of this last one, being less than for the rest of the University.

The level of revenues in the University is greater in general than in the exercise of the profession in the private sector.

There is usually no difficulty in recruiting educational personnel, and once hired they usually stay in the



University.

71% of the teaching in the Faculty is imparted by veterinarians.

3. SUGGESTIONS

To reach acceptable levels it would be necessary to hire more educational personnel and support staff.

The new Plan of Studies that has come into effect this academic year, has introduced an abundant practical component, significantly superior to the one existent up to now.

Comparing the educational content according to the Educational Plan of the present academic year 1999/00 (tables 4.1.1. and 4.1.2), in which one already bears in mind the coming into effect of the new Plan of Studies in first year, with the educational content required for when the new Plan of Studies comes into effect in all years of the Graduate studies, without taking into account the educational content of the optional subjects and of free choice, it emerges that we go from the present teaching plan of 292 credits (205.5 theoretical and 86.5 practical) to one that includes 318 credits of stem subjects and obligatory subjects (184,5 theoretical and 133,5 practical), without counting the 41,5 credits of free configuration, the 40.5 of optional subjects and the 15 of visits.

Taking into account only the obligatory subjects and stem subjects, what happens is we change to a plan of studies:

- *That increases its teaching content by 9%*
- *Diminishing very little the theoretical teaching content (in 10%)*
- *And increasing the practical content by 54%*

Given the consideration of this data, the necessity to increase the number of teaching staff emerges. This number should run parallel to an increase in support staff, so as not to worsen an already existing imbalance between teaching staff and support staff.

CHAPTER 11 CONTINUING EDUCATION

1. FACTUAL INFORMATION

1.1. Continuing education courses held at the establishment

Table 11.1.1 Courses organised by the establishment itself in the most recent year (State year)

<i>Title of course</i>	<i>Number of participants</i>	Total number of hours of the course
Course Theoretical-Practical on Chromatography. Liquid gases	18	40
Course Theoretical-Practical on Chromatography.	15	40
Technical Instrumental in a Clinical Laboratory and of Investigation	25	40

Table 11.1.2 Courses organised by the establishment itself in the preceding year

<i>Title of course</i>	<i>Number of participants</i>	Total number of hours of the course
Course on Clinic of Ave Predators	70	15
Course Theoretical-Practical on Chromatography.	18	40
I National Course on Pathology of Reptiles	300	20
Course Theoretical-Practical on Chromatography.	15	40
Technical Instrumental in a Clinical Laboratory and of Investigation	25	40
Technical Instrumental in a Clinical Laboratory and of Investigation	20	40

Table 11.1.3: Courses organised at the establishment by outside bodies in the most recent year (state year)

<i>Title of course</i>	<i>Number of participants</i>	Total number of hours of the course
Days of Paediatrics of Small Animals	150	15
Days of Medicine and Feline Clinic	150	15
Courses on Clinic of Psitacidas and Reptiles	100	15
Days of Neurosurgery in Small Animals	30	15
Days of Haematology and Clinical oncology of Small Animals	30	15

Teaching staff of the Department of Morphology and of Animal Pathology, have been participating in courses of continuous education aimed as much at undergraduates as at qualified practising veterinarians. In this sense, numerous teaching staff members participate actively in courses organised by the remaining Faculties of Veterinary Science and Medicine in Spain as well as for institutions involved with the profession: veterinary schools, clinical associations, medical schools, pharmacological centres etc.

Distance learning (including via internet)

2. COMMENTS

The programs of continuous education organised by this Faculty have as general topics education and training in specific fields of medicine and surgery as well as the deepening of knowledge in pathologies, also domestic animal and marine animal species characteristic of the environment in which the veterinary professionals of our area move. In this sense, the quality of the programs carried out comes not only endorsed by the participation of teaching staff and professionals (veterinarians, doctors, biologists,) of the islands but by the presence of teaching staff and professionals from other areas of Spain, Europe and United States.

The participation in these courses comes represented essentially by students in the last stages of their Degree courses and by veterinarian practitioners that, in this way, come into contact with the most novel techniques in diagnosis and treatment.

3 SUGGESTIONS

. The Faculty should tend to improve the offer of continuing education programs in co-operation with other professional organisations and official institutions

Chapter 12 POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION

1. FACTUAL INFORMATION

1.1. Postgraduate clinical training (interns and residents)

Table 12.1.1: *Postgraduate clinical training courses*

Clinical Discipline	Duration of training	Number enrolled		Diploma or title anticipated
		Full time	Part time	
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

12.2: TAUGHT POSTGRADUATE COURSES

Table 12.2.1: *Taught postgraduate courses*

	Duration of training	Number enrolled	
		Full time	Part time
(a) Diploma level (discipline)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
(b) Masters level (discipline)			
1.			
2.			
3.			

12.3: POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

Table 12.3. *Postgraduate research training programmes*

a) Masters Level	Number enrolled
------------------	-----------------

b) PhD level		Number enrolled	
Discipline	Duration of training	Full time	Part time
1. Hygiene and Food Technology	1998 / 2000	3	11
2. Animal Medicine and Surgery	1998 / 2000	4	10
3. Animal Production and Reproduction	1998 / 2000	1	8
4. Animal Clinic and Therapy	1999 / 2001	3	11
5. Public Health and Health Administration	1999 / 2001		18
6. Hygiene and Food Technology	1999 / 2001		07
7. Animal Medicine and Surgery	1999 / 2001		01

c) Other doctoral level	Number enrolled
-------------------------	-----------------

In order to carry out the doctorate courses it is not required that the student be granted a scholarship.

The proportion of students that enrol in doctorate courses is approximately 50%, incorporating in a two year period once concluded the Degree Course.

2. COMMENTS

The doctorate program grants researcher sufficiency and doctorate title once the thesis has been presented Normally it is scholarship students who end up attaining these titles.

Students that have obtained the investigating sufficiency in 1999: 4

Students that have obtained doctor's title in 1999: 4

Most of the students that study the doctorate programs organised by the Faculty are Veterinary Science and Medicine Graduates as is reflected in the following breakdown:

Hygiene and Food Technology	Two year period 1998/ 2000
12 graduates in Veterinary Science and Med.	
1 graduate in Pharmacy	
1 graduate in Applied Clinical Microbiology	
Animal Medicine and Surgery	Biennium1998 / 2000
14 graduates in Veterinary Science and Med.	
Animal Production and Reproduction	Biennium1998 / 2000
8 graduates in Veterinary and Med.	
1 graduate in Marine Sciences	
Animal Clinic and Therapy	Biennium1999 / 2001
13 graduates in Veterinary Science and Med.	
1 graduate in Pharmacy	
Public Health and Health Administration	Biennium1999 / 2001
5 graduates in Veterinary Science and Med.	
13 graduates in other Bachelor Degree courses	
<i>Free election</i>	
Hygiene and Food Technology	Biennium1999 / 2001
3 graduates in Veterinary	
3 graduate in Pharmacy	
1 graduate in Chemistry	
Animal Medicine and Surgery	Biennium1999 / 2001
1 graduate in Veterinary	

The read Thesis until the moment in the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences are:

1992

- *Compression of the Diaphysary Fractures of the Femur by means of an intremedullary screw*
- *Contributions to the Cranio encephalic Topography of the Goat by means of Computerised Axial Topography*

1993

- *A study of the Organic response of the Goat (Capra Hircus) to the Infestation by Trichinella Spiralis*

1994

- *Seroprevalency of Toxoplasmosis in the Human, Caprine and Bovine species in Gran Canaria*
- *Contributions to the Diagnosis of Subclinic Mastitis in the Canary Caprine Group*
- *Intermediate filaments in Feline Tissues*
- *Immunohistopathological Study of the Experimental African Swinish Pest*

1995

- *Physical-chemical components, Microbiological and Sensorial Evaluation o f Canarian cheeses: I study Singular and Compared*
- *Characterization of the Sexual Cycle and of the Follicular Growth in the Canary Caprine Group (Type Majorero)*
- *Contribution to the Diagnosis of the Infection for Mycobacterium Bovis in the Caprine Flock.*
- *Histological, Immunohistological and Microbiological Study of a Flock with Antecedents of Caprine Pleuroneumonia*
- *Clinical and Biopathological Study of the Experimental Infection in Caprine by Micoplasmas of the Group M. Mycoides (Isolated in Gran Canaria)*
- *Evolution of the Bony Mass in the Subjected Canine Femur to Internal Fixation with plates of Dynamic Compression and Closed screws.*

1996

- *Characterisation of the Sexual Cycle and of the Terminal Follicular Growth in Canarian Sheep breed*
- *Study of the Caprine Agalaxia in Canary Islands*
- *Nutritious value for the Caprine of By-products of the Banana Plant*

1997

- *Anatomopathological and Pathogenical Study of the Lesions in skin Induced by the Virus of the Experimental African Swinish Pest (Republic Of the Dominican Republic `78)*

1998

- *Contribution to the Study of the Aggregate Blood Platelet in Dogs with Cancer*
- *Comparative electrocardiograph Studies among some Species of Macaws*
- *Glial Cells implied in the ontogeny and the regeneration of the telencephalic bark of the reptilian *Gallotia galloti**
- *Study for the characterization of the handmade honeys of Gran Canaria.*

1999

- *Effect of the frequency of milking in the morfological, productive and of easiness of milking characteristics from goats of the Canarian Caprine Group.*
- *Clinical study of the canine extensive cardiomiopathology in the Canary Prey Dog.*
- *Production and seminal freezing in the majorera type of the Canarian Caprine Group.*
- *Relationship among the physical, chemical and sensorial characteristics of the Mahón cheese.*

2000

- *Contribution to the installation of a self-control system hygienic-sanitarium in establishments of collective food.*
- *Develop of two cultivation means for the replicación of microorganisms of the mollicutes class.*
- *Diagnosis and prevalencia of the tripanosomiasis for *T.evansi* in the canarian dromedary.*
- *Artificial nursing of kids: importance of the colostrum taking, growth, of the channel and of the meat.*

-

3. SUGGESTIONS

The organisation of Master Degree courses should be promoted with professional organisations and official institutions.

Chapter 13 RESEARCH

1. FACTUAL INFORMATION

To the students that want to initiate investigation before obtaining their graduation are suggested the possibility of developing a minor thesis that consists in an investigation study guided by a teaching staff member of the Faculty.

The minor thesis read so far in the Faculty are:

1999

- *Study of the Seminal Parameters in the Ovis musimon during the Optimum Reproductive Time.*

- *Microbiological and Pathological Aspects of the Hafnia Alvei in Veterinary Medicine.*

- *Study of Nitrogenous Chemical Components and of Stability in Preserves of Tuna in Oil.*

2000

- *Study of the Production of "Gofio" (a typical cereal preparation) in the Island of Gran Canaria. Application of a System for the Self-control*

- *Etiopathology and Treatment of the Hydrometra in the Caprine Species of the Canarian Group in the Island of Gran Canaria*

- *Pathologies and Causes of Mortality in Beached Marine Turtles in the Canary Island*

- *Effect of the Vasectomy on Functionality of Testicle in the Male Goat of the Canary Caprine Group*

- *Study of the Main Factors of Variation in the Quality of the Colostrum in the Canarian Caprine Group.*

- *Study of the Physical, Chemical and Histologic -Characteristics of the Meat of Kid of the Canary Caprine Group*

On the other hand, in the measure that is possible, we try to have the students involved in the investigations that are carried out within the different lines, although only in a determined way and at certain phases of the investigation. This occurs, provided it does not suppose modifications in the foreseen protocol of investigation.

In the discipline of Reproduction and Obstetrics, the implication of the students in the investigation has been in the following lines:

- *Collection and seminal valuation in the male goat of Majorera race*

- *Seminal freezing and insemination in the Majorera goat*

- *Study of the sexual cycle in Majorera goat.*

- *Repercussion of the vasectomy on the functioning of testicle in the male goat of Majorera race*

- *Physiology of the gestation in the goat*

- *Hydrometra in the goat*

- *Superovulation in the Majorera goat*

- *Pathology of canine reproduction*

- *Endometritis in the mare*

- *Valuation and freezing of semen of bull of Creole race*

The participation of the students in the case of Reproduction and Obstetrics in practical classes related to investigation is of 100%, it supposes 35% of the practical content of the subject approximately, and the student attendance and active participation is required.

Another form of integrating the student in the activity of investigation is offering him/her the possibility to incorporate in a work group as an internal student during the last years of studies in the different investigation lines that are in operation in the different departments. The time of dedication is partial, also adapted to the dates in which the exams are more concentrated. On average, a student participates as maximum 12 hours per week. The number of students depends on the subjects and the given charge teaching staff members. In the subjects that offer the possibility to incorporate internal students, the average number is 5 students. Although that also depends on whether there are candidates to carry out these projects. The students enter, becoming part of investigation groups that are in operation and they are assigned tasks that will be supervised daily by the responsible teaching staff members.

COMMENTS.

The participation of the students in investigation tasks, because it is necessary to respect certain protocols, is almost always carried out in reduced groups.

The minor thesis modality is dedicated to students in the last years of their studies. Many of the students enter in contact with the subjects as internal students when they are studying it; later on they are interested in the investigation that is being carried out in those moments and in last years they request admission to be able to elaborate their minor thesis. The possibility that the student can carry out minor thesis, will depend on the existence of granted investigation projects, the availability of means and the time available on the part of the department or unit, etc. With the new installation of the minor thesis system, the approaching of the student to investigation work has been encouraged.

The students in the last years of their studies have the opportunity to participate in all the work lines that at that moment are in operation. To participate, they have to present an application for the subject in which they want to participate.

Given the educational content, the students have very limited time to dedicate it to the investigation.

3. SUGGESTIONS

The best formula for giving participation opportunities to the students is by offering them work/projects at the introduction stages of the investigation (minor thesis).

Dentro del plan de visita de la Comisión de Expertos de la Unión Europea, que durante la semana del 16 al 22 de Octubre próximos realizará la evaluación de la Facultad de Veterinaria de esta Universidad, está previsto una reunión con profesores de las áreas de conocimiento que imparten docencia en Veterinaria. Por este motivo, le rogamos que por parte de su Departamento, elija a 2 representantes de Medicina y Cirugía, 2 de Producción Animal, 1 de Parasitología, 1 de Sanidad Animal, 1 de Nutrición y Bromatología y 1 de Tecnología de los Alimentos.

La fecha de esta reunión es el día 17 de Octubre, a las 10.15h, teniendo prevista su finalización a las 11h., en el módulo 6 (Nuevo Decanato) de la Facultad de Veterinaria.

Asimismo también está prevista una cena de trabajo con los representantes de las áreas de conocimiento para el mismo día, a las 21h., en el lugar que en su momento se comunicará.

Ruego que a la mayor brevedad posible me comunique el nombre de los representantes para la reunión y cena. No necesariamente tiene que ser la misma persona la que asista a ambos actos. También nos debería comunicar el idioma (segunda lengua) del representante que asistirá a la cena.

Por otra parte, la Comisión de Expertos tendrá una comida de trabajo el día 19, jueves, de 13 a 14h. en el módulo 6, con los alumnos de doctorado, por ello le solicitamos, también, que elija 2 representantes de cada programa de doctorado que se imparte en el Departamento que usted dirige, y nos lo comunique a la mayor brevedad posible.

Agradeciendo su colaboración, le saluda atentamente.