



EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION OF QUALITY

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Within the context of the Andalusian Knowledge System, the Andalusian Knowledge Agency (AAC) performs the following functions related to evaluation and accreditation:

- Discharging the functions of the evaluation and accreditation of university institutions and teaching staff, as well as other related activities.
- The evaluation and accreditation of the research activities and personnel of the Andalusian Knowledge System.
- The establishment of criteria, standards, indicators and methodologies of evaluation and improvement of the quality of the Andalusian Knowledge System.
- Conducting the implementation, in an objective and independent way, of monitoring, quality control and excellence in research.
- The evaluation and monitoring of R&D&i programmes, establishing, if applicable, mechanisms of mutual recognition with accrediting entities registered with leading international organisations.

The Directorate of Evaluation and Accreditation (DEVA) is the organisation reporting to the Governing Council, which enjoys independence in discharging its functions of steering, coordination and management in the following areas:

- Area of University Evaluation and Accreditation.
- Area of Research, Development and Innovation (R&D&i) Evaluation.

1. Evaluation of University Institutions

1.1 Bachelor's and Master's Degrees at public Andalusian universities

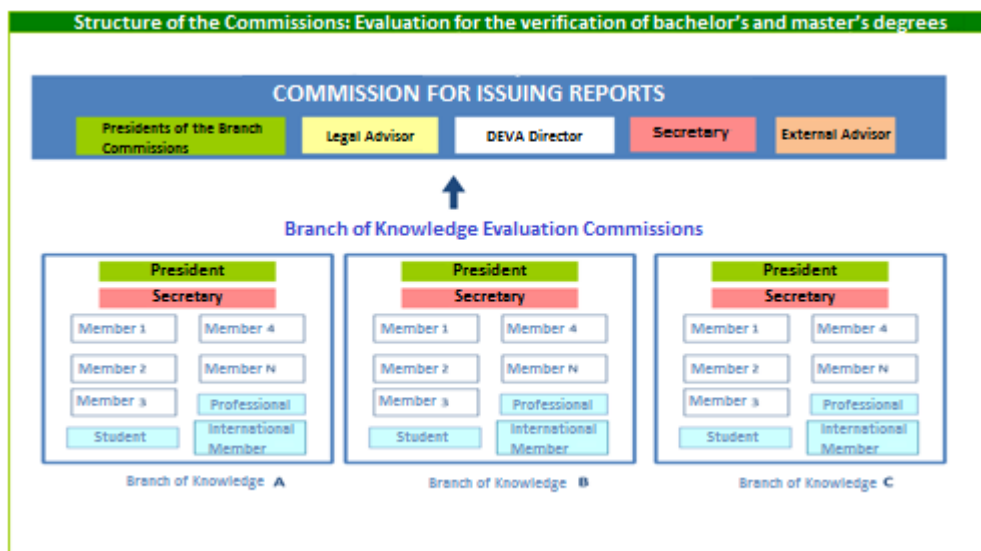
1.1.1 Verifications

The Royal Decree¹ that establishes the regulation of official university courses introduces innovations in the establishment of official university courses. Specifically, verification, monitoring and accreditation are extended to the evaluation agencies of Autonomous Communities, on condition that such agencies are members of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA).

Over the course of 2015, AAC has carried out the evaluation of bachelor's and master's degrees that Andalusian universities have submitted for verification. For this purpose it relies on Branch Commissions divided into: Arts and Humanities, Science, Health Sciences, Economic and Businesses Sciences, Juridical Sciences, Social and Educational Sciences and Engineering and Architecture.

The members of the Branch Commissions are independent evaluators, drawn from domestic or foreign academia, conducting their professional activity outside Andalusia, and with an academic or professional track record that is appropriate to the functions to be discharged. These Commissions have the task of evaluating proposals for degrees and drawing up provisional reports on such proposals so that they may subsequently be studied by the Commission for Issuing Reports.

The following chart shows the structure of the Branch of Knowledge Commissions and the Commission for Issuing Reports.



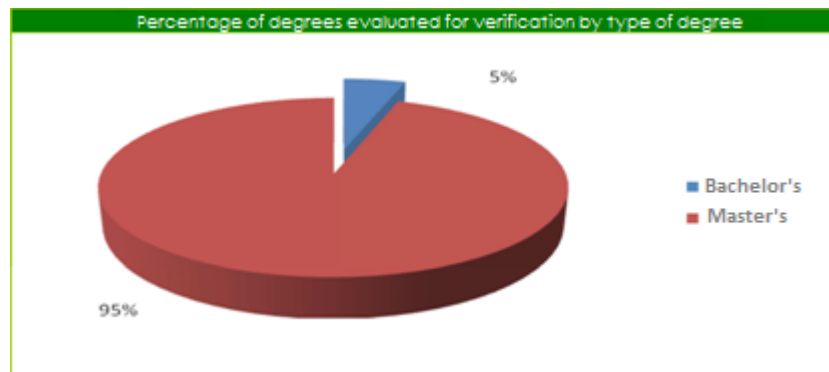
Both the Branch Commissions and the Commission for Issuing Reports intervene in the two phases that make up the process:

¹ Royal Decree 861/2010, dated 2 July, in amendment of Royal Decree 1393/2007, dated 29 October, establishing the regulation of official university courses.

- Evaluation: Evaluation of the degree proposals and the issuing of a proposal contained in a provisional evaluation report that is sent to the university.
- Appeals: Reception and evaluation of the appeals sent by the universities and the issuing of a definitive evaluation report, which is forwarded to the Council of Universities.

Once the final evaluation reports have been issued, and the Ministry's verification resolution received, the universities have the possibility of lodging an appeal against the resolution, in the event of receiving a negative evaluation report. It is worth pointing out that in 2015 the agency did not receive any appeals.

In 2015 the AAC received a total of 65 evaluation requests for the verification of degrees: three bachelor's and 62 master's degrees. Of the 65 requests 59 received their final evaluation reports (three bachelor's and 56 master's degrees), two were withdrawn by the applying university and four are pending evaluation.



The universities that have submitted the greatest number of degrees for verification are the Universities of Granada, Seville and Córdoba (15, 10 and 10 degrees respectively between bachelor's and master's degrees), followed by the University of Cádiz with seven degrees.

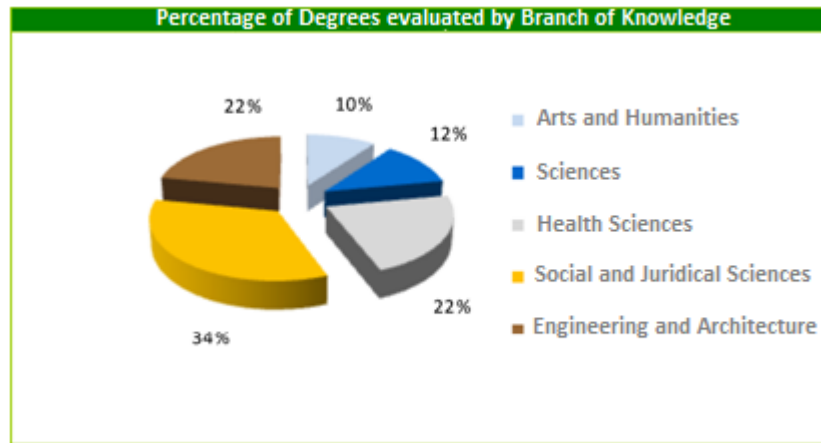
Nº of bachelor's and master's degrees evaluated for verification			
University	Bachelor's	Master's	Total
University of Almería	0	3	3
University of Cádiz	0	7	7
University of Córdoba	1	9	10
University of Granada	0	15	15
University of Huelva	0	5	5
University of Jaén	0	1	1
University of Málaga	0	4	4
University of Seville	0	10	10
Loyola Andalucía University	1	0	1
Pablo de Olavide University	1	2	3
Total	3	56	59

Turning next to the distribution of the submissions evaluated by branch of knowledge, the Social and Juridical Sciences branch accounts for the greatest number of degrees submitted and evaluated, with 22 and 20 degrees respectively. The Health Sciences and Engineering and Architecture branches both account for 13 degrees evaluated, followed by the Sciences branch with seven degrees and Arts and Humanities with six.

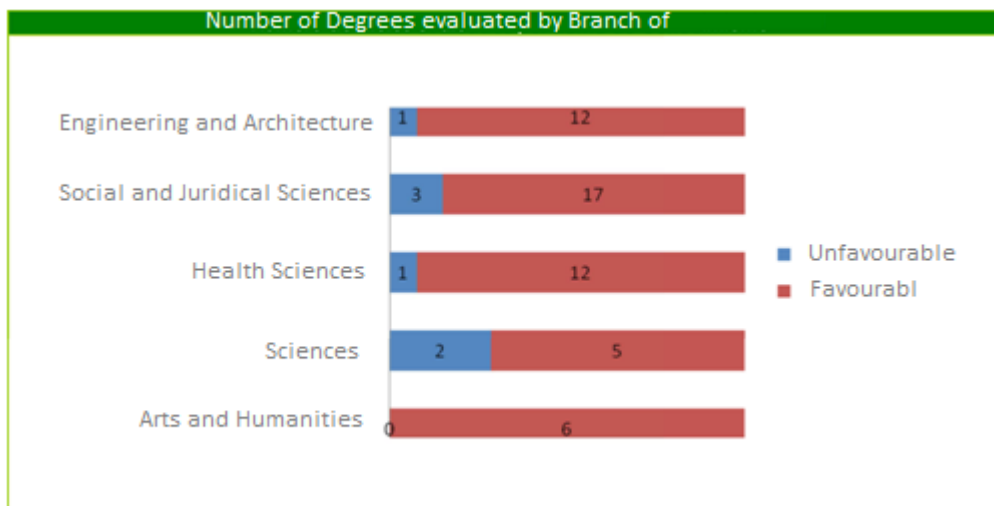
Branch of Knowledge ²	Nº submissions	Nº evaluations	Underway
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² This combines the data of the seven branch commissions, a classification used by the Andalusian Council of Universities in which the Social and Juridical Sciences branch is divided into Social and Educational Sciences, Juridical Sciences and

Arts and Humanities	7	6	1
Sciences	7	7	0
Health Sciences	13	13	0
Social and Juridical Sciences	22	20	2
Engineering and Architecture	14	13	1
Total	63 ³	59	4



By branch of knowledge, 88.13% of degrees submitted for verification received a favourable evaluation.



Economic and Business Sciences and the data are presented in five branches of knowledge.

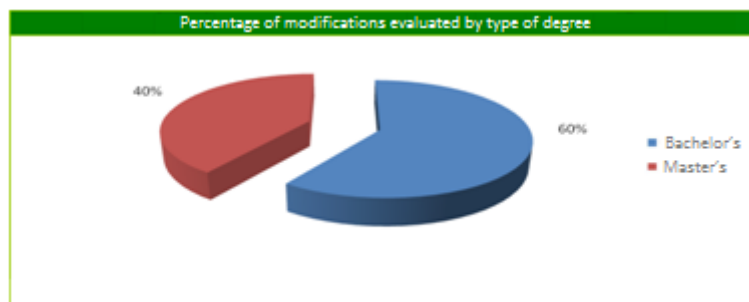
³ Two degrees withdrew from verification.

1.1.2. Modification Proposals

The Royal Decree⁴ states in article 28 that modifications approved by universities in their programmes of study leading to official degrees and affecting the content of registered entries referring to official degrees in the Register of University Centres and Degrees (RUCT) shall be subject to evaluation. Non-substantive modifications are notified by universities in the annual monitoring processes for each degree.

With regard to the first type of modification, the universities should submit a formal modification request to the Council of Universities via the computer application created for such a purpose. Once the modifications have been sent by the Council of Universities to the AAC, the latter evaluates the proposed modifications and issues a corresponding evaluation report.

Over the course of 2015 the AAC received a total of 357 submissions for proposed modifications of verified degrees, 219 for bachelor's and 138 for master's degrees. Of these 357 submissions, evaluation has been completed during the year of a total of: 156 modifications of bachelor's and 105 modifications of master's degrees. The rest of the modifications comprise: two bachelor's and five master's degrees for which the universities have withdrawn the proposed modification, with 89 master's degrees pending evaluation.

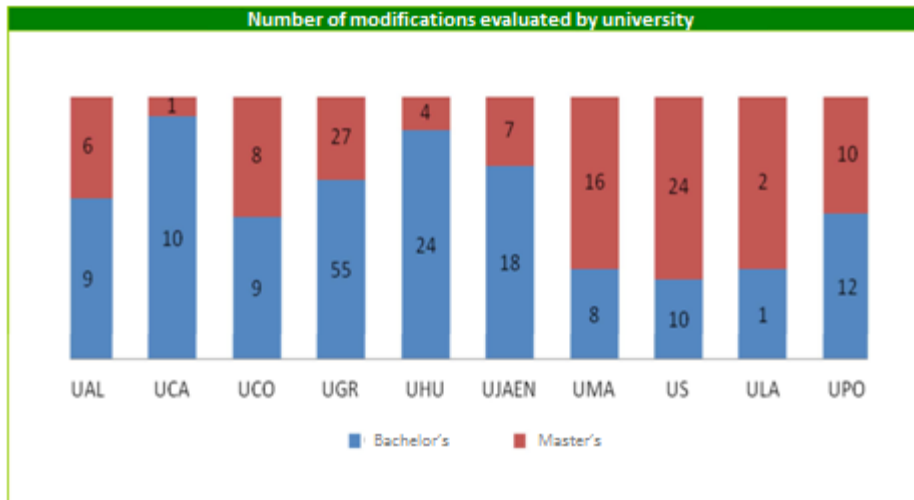


In terms of the distribution of the degree modification submissions received and evaluated by branch of knowledge, the Social and Juridical Sciences branch together with that of Engineering and Architecture accounted for most modification requests for already-verified degrees, 212 in total.

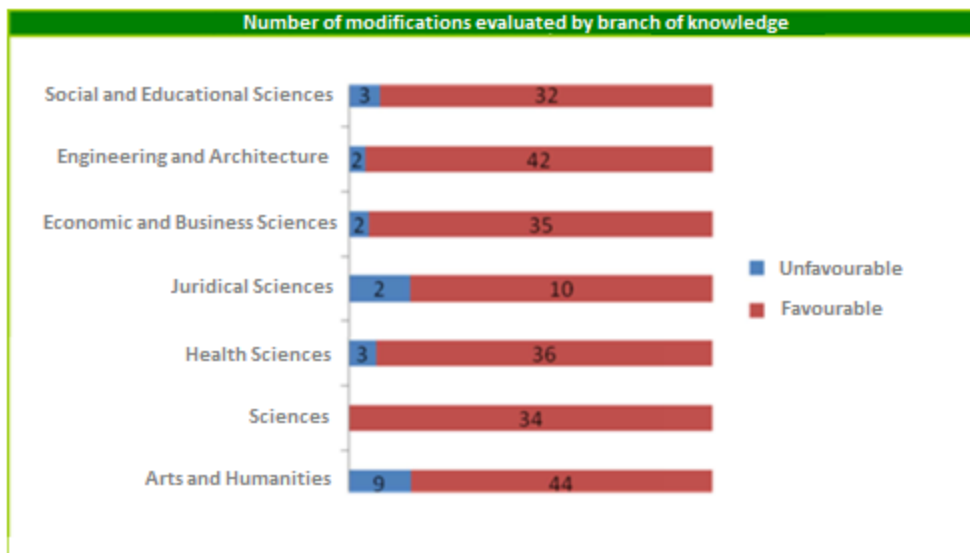
Branch of Knowledge	Nº of modifications submitted	Nº of modifications evaluated	Underway or withdrawn
Arts and Humanities	62	56	6
Sciences	39	34	5
Health Sciences	44	40	4
Social and Juridical Sciences	128	85	43
Engineering and Architecture	84	46	38
Total	357	261	96

By universities, 40% of the modification submissions received were for bachelor's degrees, with the University of Granada, following by the University of Seville, being the institutions that sent most submissions. In the case of master's degrees, the University of Granada submitted the greatest number of modification requests.

⁴ Royal Decree 861/2010, dated 2 July, amending Royal Decree 1393/2007, dated 29 October, establishing the regulation of official degrees in Spain.



As a result of the evaluations, 233 favourable and 21 unfavourable modification reports were issued in 2015, and seven were withdrawn by the university concerned.



1.1.3. Monitoring

Following the provisions of the Royal Decree⁵ and taking as its reference the "Protocol for the monitoring and accreditation renewal of official university degrees" drawn up by the University Commission for the Regulation of Monitoring and Accreditation (CURSA), the AAC-DEVA has continued with its monitoring programme of university degrees in Andalusia.

The framework of reference on which the monitoring is based rests on three basic principles that underlie the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA):

⁵ Royal Decree 861/2010, dated 2 July, amending Royal Decree 1393/2007, dated 29 October, establishing the regulation of official degrees.

- To address the interests of students as well as employers and society more generally in good quality higher education;
- To recognise the central importance of institutional autonomy and its attendant responsibilities.
- To recognise that the overriding responsibility for quality assurance rests with the university institution itself.

The process of monitoring degrees has been carried out using a computer platform that the AAC has designed to this end. The platform has a twofold purpose: first, to facilitate and streamline the processing of and access to the information needed to carry out the monitoring and the exchange of information with the universities. And secondly to serve as an internal management tool for the evaluation processes. The platform has among its functions that of storing the information needed in order to carry out the monitoring of official Andalusian degrees, with the exception of the verification statement and the modifications that are registered on the platform of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport (MECD).

DEVA has established three lines of approach in order to implement the aforementioned procedure:

- Analysis of public information available through the degrees' websites. A twofold analysis of the websites is carried out:
 - first, it is ascertained whether the information meets the needs of the university community and society at large;
 - and secondly the degree of correspondence between the information available on the website and the information submitted in the degree's most recent official statement (verification statement or statement with subsequent approved modifications) is ascertained.

It is ascertained that the degree website contains the publicly-available information, that it is up to date, that it is structured in such a way as to enable easy access and that the information set out coincides with the degree's most recent official statement.

- Analysis of self-assessed monitoring reports. The evaluators of the self-assessed reports need to check that they contain information about:
 - The results of the degree and its Quality Assurance Systems (QAS),
 - The results of indicators, both those established by CURSA and those established by the degree's QAS,
 - The improvement initiatives carried out on the basis of the evaluative analysis of the degree, making explicit mention of the treatment that has been given to both the recommendations in the verification report and any possible recommendations in the modification reports.
- Drawing up monitoring reports:
 - After evaluating the websites of newly-implemented degrees an evaluation report is drawn up on the Public Information available about the degrees by university.
 - On the basis of the information generated after analysing the self-assessed monitoring reports, the coordinator of the commission draws up the monitoring report for the degree. Taking into account the information received, the monitoring report for the degree also takes into consideration the cross-cutting information for the degree collected by the university.

Each of the sections of the self-assessed monitoring reports is evaluated as: satisfactory, improvable or insufficient; and contains an analysis of the information received from the university, potentially identifying areas for improvement. Such areas may be recommendations requiring appropriate responses for the implementation of the degree's programme of studies.

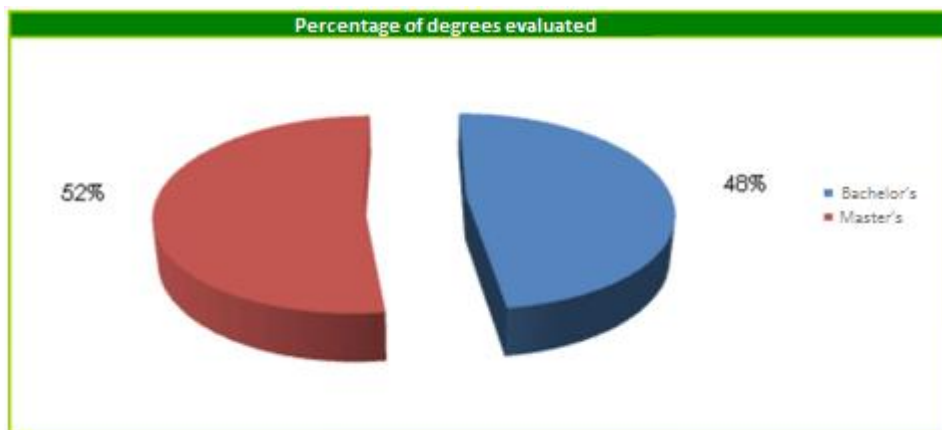
Over the course of 2015 DEVA carried out monitoring of various degrees offered by Andalusian universities.

Evaluations for the 2014/2015 monitoring programme have been carried out, accounting for a total of 625 reports encompassing both bachelor's and master's degrees. The universities provided the website addresses of their degrees for checking by DEVA. In the aforementioned programme only websites of newly-implemented degrees were checked, constituting a total of 86 reports between bachelor's and master's degrees.

The universities that submitted the greatest number of degrees for monitoring were the Universities of Granada and Seville, with 132 and 109 degrees respectively, including both bachelor's and master's, followed by the University of Cádiz with 71 degrees.

Monitoring: N° of degrees by university			
University	Bachelor's	Master's	Total
University of Almería	24	17	41
University of Cádiz	39	32	71
University of Córdoba	29	25	54
University of Granada	63	69	132
University of Huelva	22	19	41
International University of Andalucía	0	7	7
University of Jaén	28	16	44
University of Málaga	40	30	70
Loyola Andalucía University	8	9	17
Pablo de Olavide University	12	27	39
University of Seville	34	75	109
Total	299	326	625

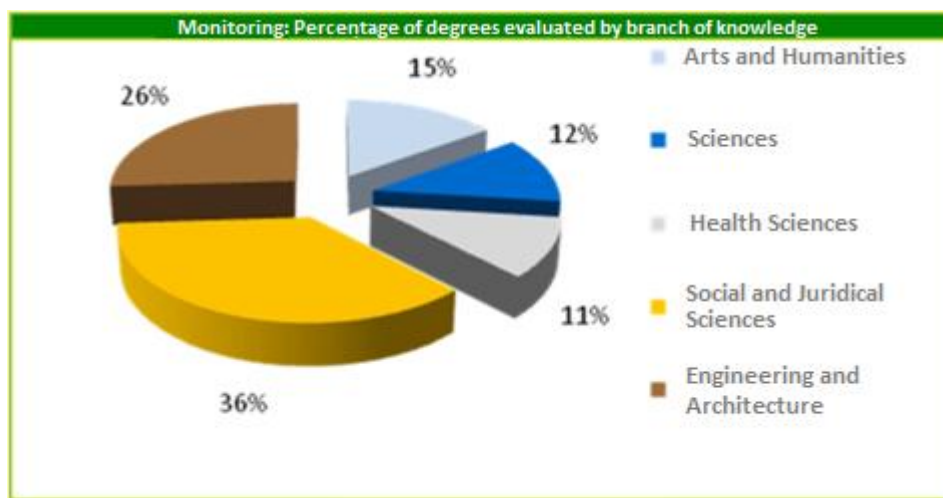
Monitoring of a total of 625 degrees was carried out, of which 299 were bachelor's and 326 were master's degrees.



Turning next to the distribution of the degrees evaluated by branch of knowledge⁶, the Social and Juridical Sciences branch is the one that accounts for most degrees evaluated, with 227, representing 36.37% of the total. The Engineering and Architecture branch of knowledge accounts for 162 degrees evaluated, followed by the Arts and Humanities, Sciences and Health Sciences branches with 94, 74 and 68 degrees respectively.

Branch of Knowledge	Nº evaluations
Arts and Humanities	94
Sciences	74
Health Sciences	68
Social and Juridical Sciences	227
Engineering and Architecture	162
Total	625

The chart below shows the percentage of degrees evaluated by branch of knowledge:



The monitoring procedure, guide and protocol for official degrees are published on the following website:
<http://deva.aac.es/?id=seguimiento>

⁶ This combines the data of the seven branch commissions, a classification used by the Andalusian Council of Universities in which the Social and Juridical Sciences branch is divided into Social and Educational Sciences, Juridical Sciences and Economic and Business Sciences and the data are presented in five branches of knowledge.

1.1.4. Accreditation Renewal

Royal Decree 1393/2007, dated 29 October, establishing the regulation of official university degrees (amended by Royal Decree 861/2010) sets out the general regulatory framework for the verification, monitoring and accreditation renewal processes for official university degrees.

Royal Decree 861/2010, specifically article 24.2, stipulates that: "Once six years have elapsed counting from the date of their initial verification or from their most recent accreditation, official university bachelor's and doctoral degrees will need to renew their accreditation in accordance with the procedure and time frames that the Autonomous Communities (CCAA) establish in relation to the universities within the scope of their power. Furthermore, master's degrees will need to be subjected to the aforementioned procedure before four years have elapsed⁷".

RD 534/2013, dated 12 July, approved a moratorium on the implementation of the accreditation renewal system for official degrees. Universities have the option of either adhering to the moratorium of submitting their degrees in accordance with the initially established timetable.

In accordance with the legislation, the following will be referred to in planning accreditation renewal:

Initial accreditation: Registration of an official title in the RUCT having obtained implementation authorisation and published in the official state gazette (BOE) by agreement with the Council of Ministers thereby establishing its official character (REACU definition).

Accreditation renewal: Evaluation, at the request of each university, which must be carried out before six years, in the case of bachelor's and doctoral degrees, or four years, in the case of master's degrees, have elapsed from the date of their initial verification or most recent accreditation.

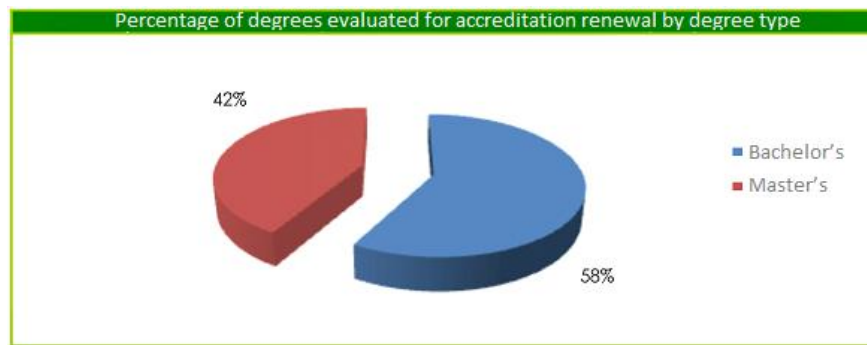
In order to participate in the process degrees must:

- Have at least three self-assessed monitoring reports and an overall integrated report with indicators for four academic years regarding the degree's results and progress in implementing the improvement plan.
- Have an up-to-date website in accordance with the degree monitoring standards applied by DEVA in the monitoring process.
- Not have any modification request process pending.
- Have the statement information up to date on the ministry's electronic platform, since this will be taken as a reference.

In order to carry out the Accreditation Renewal Programme for university bachelor's and master's degrees in Andalusia, DEVA relies on evaluators of various backgrounds distributed among commissions covering the various branches of knowledge.

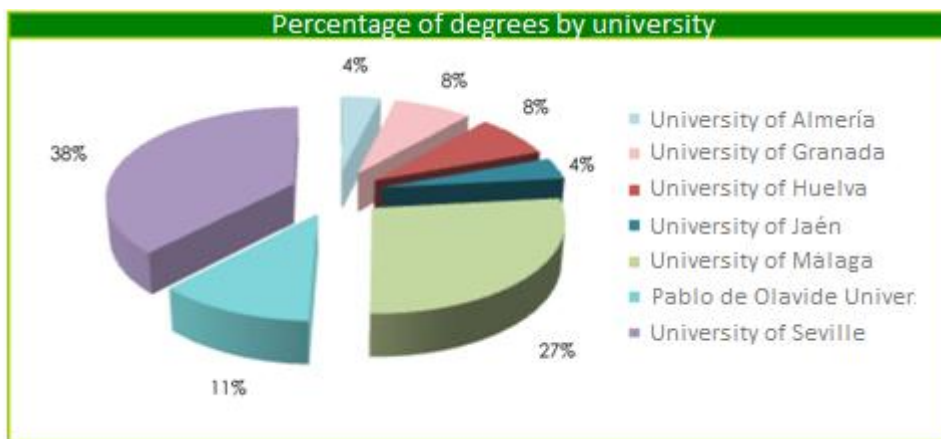
Andalusian universities submitted a total of 103 degrees, 60 bachelor's and 43 master's degrees, for accreditation renewal in the 2014/2015 programme.

⁷ With the exception of the master's degrees regulated in accordance with Royal Decree 775/2011, dated 3 June, approving the regulation of Law 34/2006, dated 30 October, on access to the professions of Lawyer and Attorney, accreditation renewal for which, in accordance with the provisions of article 6, must be carried out every six years.



The universities that submitted the greatest number of degrees were the Universities of Seville, Pablo de Olavide and Málaga with 39, 28 and 12 degrees respectively, followed by the Universities of Granada and Huelva with eight degrees each; lastly, the Universities of Almería and Jaén submitted four degrees each.

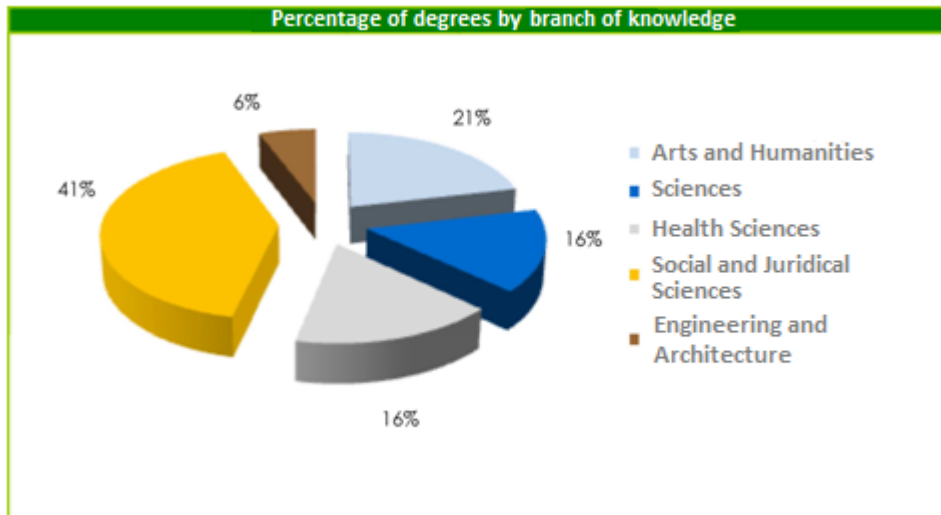
N° of evaluations for accreditation renewal			
University	Bachelor's	Master's	Total
University of Almería	4	0	4
University of Granada	0	8	8
University of Huelva	7	1	8
University of Jaén	3	1	4
University of Málaga	12	16	28
Pablo de Olavide University	7	5	12
University of Seville	27	12	39
Totals	60	43	103



In terms of the accreditation renewal submissions evaluated by branch of knowledge⁸, the Social and Juridical Sciences branch accounted for the most degrees evaluated, with 42. The Arts and Humanities branch accounted for a total of 22 degrees, Health Sciences for 17 degrees, Sciences for 16 degrees and Engineering and Architecture for six degrees.

⁸ This combines the data of the seven branch commissions, a classification used by the Andalusian Council of Universities in which the Social and Juridical Sciences branch is divided into Social and Educational Sciences, Juridical Sciences and Economic and Business Sciences and the data are presented in five branches of knowledge.

Branch of knowledge	Nº of evaluations
Arts and Humanities	22
Sciences	16
Health Sciences	17
Social and Juridical Sciences	42
Engineering and Architecture	6
Total	103



1.2. Doctoral Programmes at Andalusian Universities

1.2.1. Verifications

Royal Decree 99/2011, dated 28 January, which regulates official doctoral degrees, establishes the regulatory framework of the new structure for official doctoral degrees, adapting it to the EHEA guidelines and the recommendations contained in the revised Lisbon agenda, as well as the construction of the European Research Area (ERA) and the goals fixed for the ERA in the 2007 green paper.

AAC-DEVA has been responsible for carrying out the evaluation of official doctoral programmes in Andalusia.

For this purpose it possesses an evaluation commission of acknowledged repute in the domestic and international academic sphere, namely professionals connected to the area of knowledge corresponding to the degrees in question, experts in quality assurance systems and students, all of them drawn from outside the Autonomous Community of Andalusia, thereby ensuring their independence over the course of the process.

Over the course of 2015 DEVA undertook the evaluation of three official doctoral programmes that were submitted for verification by the Universities of Almería, Granada and Huelva respectively.

University	Nº of submissions for doctoral verification
Almería	1
Granada	1
Huelva	1
Total	3

100% of the evaluation requests submitted during 2015 for official doctoral programmes received a favourable evaluation report.

The process remains ongoing, although the data obtained during 2015 have been presented.

1.2.2. Modification Proposals

Royal Decree 861/2010, dated 2 July, amending Royal Decree 1393/2007, dated 29 October, establishing the regulation of official degrees in Spain, states in article 28 that the modifications approved by universities to their programmes of study leading to official degrees that affect the content of the registered entries relating to official degrees listed in the Register of University Centres and Degrees (RUCT)⁹ shall be subject to evaluation.

AAC-DEVA has been made responsible for managing the evaluation of modification proposals put forward by universities.

The modification procedure should be related to the monitoring that the universities conduct for their degrees. During the monitoring period for the degree, the universities analyse its implementation and results and, arising from such analysis, the universities may identify the modifications to be carried out for the smooth running of the degree.

Changes that affect the registered entry of the degree and affect neither the nature nor a significant part of the degree's structure entail the submission of a modification request.

Over the course of 2015 DEVA has undertaken the evaluation of two modification requests for official doctoral programmes, which were submitted by the Universities of Granada and Seville.

University	Nº of doctoral modification requests
Granada	1
Seville	1
Total	2

100% of the modification requests submitted in 2015 for official doctoral programmes received a favourable report.

The process remains ongoing, although only the data obtained during 2015 have been presented.

1.2.3. Monitoring

The monitoring process is based on the document approved by CURSA, which establishes that the monitoring of degrees shall take place annually. In order to implement this procedure DEVA has established two parallel lines of approach that interact with each other.

⁹ Royal Decree 1509/2008, dated 12 September, regulating the Register of Universities, Centres and Degrees. Article 15. Contents of registered entries relating to official degrees.

First the public information available via the degrees' websites is analysed and secondly the self-assessed monitoring reports are analysed. Both the website for the degree and the self-assessed monitoring reports are submitted annually by the university using the computer application developed by DEVA. This platform has a twofold purpose: first, to facilitate and streamline the processing of and access to the information needed to carry out the monitoring and the exchange of information with the universities. And secondly to serve as an internal management tool for the evaluation processes. The platform has among its functions that of storing the information needed in order to carry out the monitoring of official Andalusian doctoral programmes, with the exception of the verification statement and the modifications that are registered on the platform of the MECD.

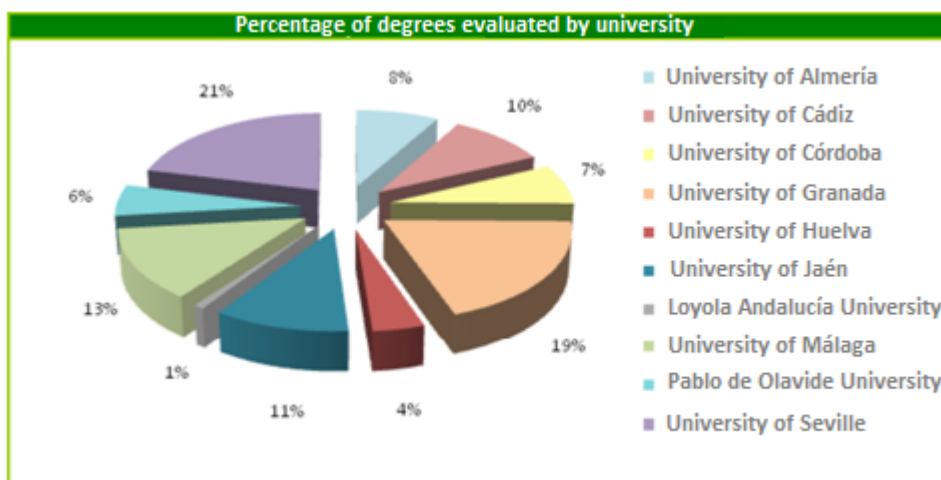
The monitoring commission appointed by DEVA in order to evaluate the information supplied by the university draws up a monitoring report for each doctoral programme. DEVA sends this report to the university via the computer platform.

In 2015 the universities sent DEVA the website addresses where the publicly-available information may be found for each of degrees in the implementation phase. DEVA carried out an initial review and issued a report containing the review. From the second year of implementation onward each university undertakes to keep the website updated in accordance with the established standards, something that is a requisite for requesting accreditation renewal for the educational programme.

123 doctoral programme websites have been evaluated.

University	Nº of degrees by university
Almería	10
Cádiz	12
Córdoba	9
Granada	24
Huelva	5
Jaén	13
Loyola Andalucía	1
Málaga	16
Pablo de Olavide	7
Seville	26
Total	123

The percentage of degrees evaluated is set out in the following chart:



1.3. Evaluation for the establishment of centres that offer foreign university degrees

The AAC has devised a procedure for evaluating centres that offer degrees in accordance with foreign educational systems. This procedure has been carried out in accordance with the provisions of article 19 of Royal Decree 557/1991, as enacted by the eighth provision of the Order of 26 May 1993, from the Ministry of Education and Science, where the authorisation of foreign university centres not attached to public universities is regulated. In 2015 AAC evaluated three cases.

1.4. Support programme for the evaluation of the teaching activity of university teaching staff (DOCENTIA)

A collaboration agreement has been signed between the AAC and the National Evaluation Agency for Quality and Accreditation (ANECA) for rolling out the DOCENTIA programme, an ANECA programme for supporting the evaluation of the teaching activity of University teaching staff.

Andalusian universities continue with the processes of implementing the DOCENTIA programme. As the programme is definitively implemented the AAC envisages putting in place the monitoring and evaluation process for such programmes for their subsequent accreditation.

Joining forces with ANECA, the agencies of the autonomous communities have drawn up documents for accrediting the DOCENTIA programme in those universities that have already implemented it and have carried out the monitoring of the implementation of its teaching staff evaluation procedure.

1.5. Accreditation of the procedure for certifying mastery of foreign languages in Andalusian universities

In accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), Andalusian universities and the AAC have drawn up a "Procedure for accrediting mastery of foreign languages in Andalusian universities", which enables universities to structure and evaluate foreign language exams using the same criteria.

On 2 July 2011 the rectors of Andalusian universities signed an agreement with the goal of establishing a collaboration framework for certifying foreign languages at the language centres of Andalusian universities.

This procedure sets out the characteristics of the mastery exam, (the exams' contents, structure and evaluation criteria), the administration and review procedure for such exams and the eligibility of the examiners.

On 18 March 2013 the AAC General Management announced the approval of the procedure and the programme was declared open on a permanent basis.

Over the course of 2015 monitoring was carried out of the accreditation of foreign language mastery at Pablo de Olavide University, the University of Málaga and the University of Jaén.

1.6 Training activities for University Evaluation and Accreditation

AAC-DEVA invited the evaluators of the accreditation renewal programme and the verification and modification programme for bachelor's and master's degrees to attend training sessions on 24 February 2015. 52 and 54 evaluators attended these training sessions respectively. Topics related to accreditation renewal and to the evaluation of verification and modification of bachelor's and master's degrees were dealt with in the sessions.

Evaluators of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees' publicly-available information were invited to attend on 22 April 2015. These sessions were attended by eight evaluators for bachelor's and master's degrees and 10 evaluators for doctoral degrees. Topics related to the evaluation of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees' publicly-available information were dealt with in the sessions.

Evaluators for the monitoring programme for bachelor's and master's degrees were invited to attend a training session on 15 July 2015. A total of 29 evaluators attended, of whom 14 attended the session in person and 15 attended virtually. The monitoring process for bachelor's and master's degrees was set out in detail in the session.

In the accreditation renewal programme, those AAC members located at the various Andalusian universities who are going to participate in the process were invited by DEVA's University Evaluation and Accreditation team to attend a training day on 18 November 2015. Eight people attended the session. The session addressed the accreditation renewal programme for bachelor's and master's degrees.

The people attending the sessions have awarded a satisfactory rating to the overall content on the grounds that they helped to improve their training and clarify aspects of their work. Analysis of the results obtained highlights the need to continue offering training sessions in order to exchange experiences.

1.7. Evaluation of University Teaching Innovation

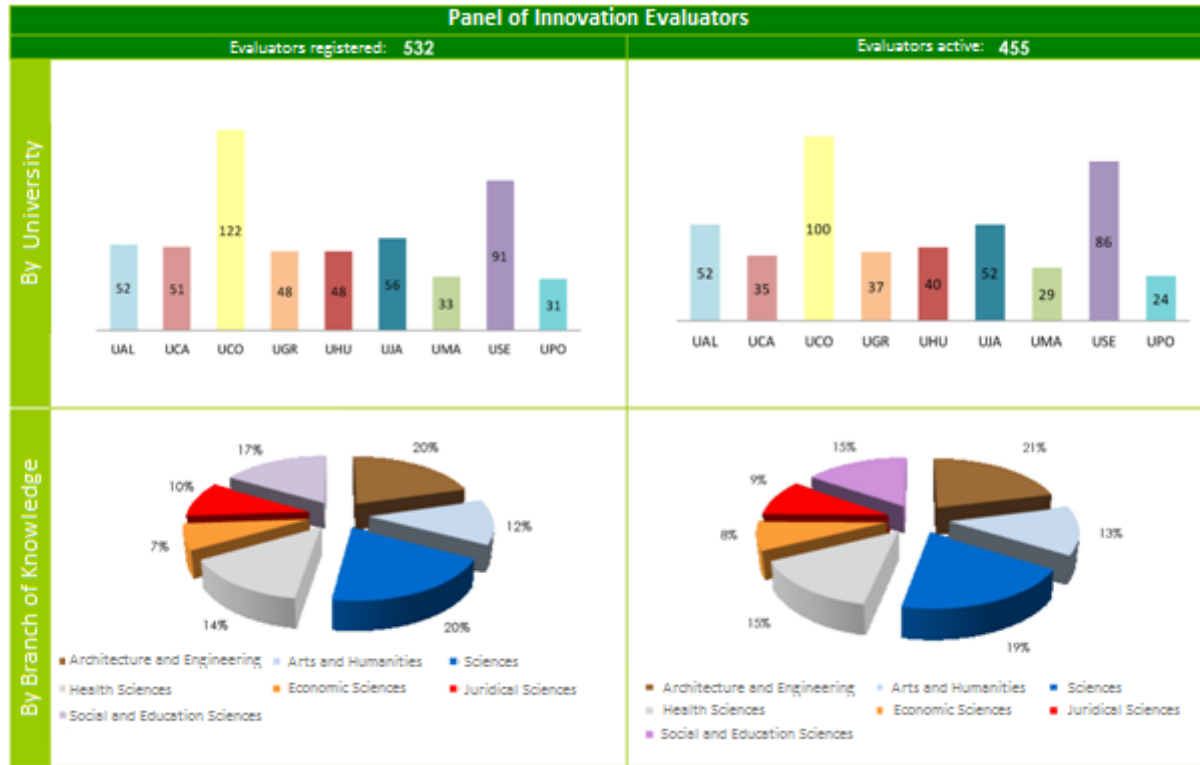
The specialist innovation commission set up by Andalusian universities, in partnership with the AAC, launched a "Panel of Innovation Evaluators". The goal of this innovation database is to lend support to the innovation evaluation processes carried out by Andalusian universities. The database gathers information about potential evaluators of Andalusia, enabling the universities to use the information in their internal evaluation projects, prizes and so on.

The users of the "Panel of Innovation Evaluators" are the people responsible for innovation at Andalusian universities.

Each university submits possible evaluators to the panel. The evaluators' CVs are validated by the AAC bearing in mind their teaching and research achievements and fundamentally their experience as participants or coordinators of teaching innovation projects.

Of 532 evaluators listed in the Panel of Innovation Evaluators, 455 are active. The reasons for not validating candidates are:

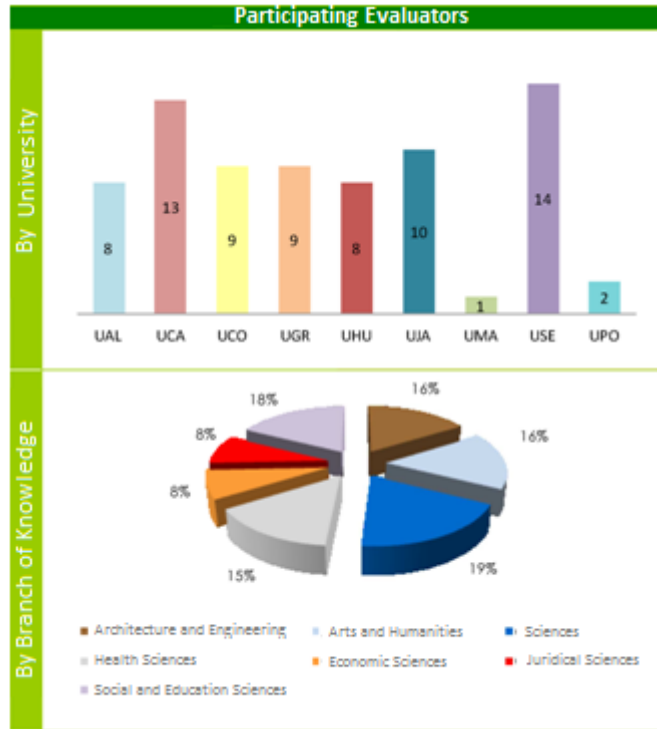
- Not being registered in the Panel of Evaluators.
- Not having provided information to the Panel of Evaluators.
- Not fulfilling the requirements.
- Not having requested renewal of their participation in the Panel.



The criteria used for validating the evaluators were approved by the specialist innovation commission. The commission decided to select those members of teaching staff who numbered among their achievements at least five of the following attainments:

- Stability: Teaching body to which they belong.
- Results of the teaching staff satisfaction survey.
- Coordination in innovation projects.
- Participation in innovation projects.
- Experience in teacher training.
- Experience in projects connected to the implementation of the EHEA.
- Experience in evaluation.
- Teaching publications.
- Research periods/six-year periods.
- Experience in management.

Those responsible for innovation at the universities access the panel of evaluators where they can select evaluators from other universities; the application enables the selection of evaluators both by university and by branch of knowledge. When it has made its selection, the university will make contact with the evaluators concerned who will need to follow the instructions and procedure established. Once the evaluation has been completed, the university needs to use the application to complete the information relating to the evaluation carried out.



74 evaluators participated in the evaluation of innovation projects at Andalusian universities in 2015.

Once the programme had ended the AAC certified the participation of all the evaluators.

2. Evaluation of Teaching Staff

2.1. Accreditation of Contractual Teaching Staff

Section V of the Andalusian Universities Law (LAU) establishes, among other functions, that of evaluating the teaching and research activity of academic staff for the purposes of issuing reports that are prerequisites for being contracted by Andalusian universities.

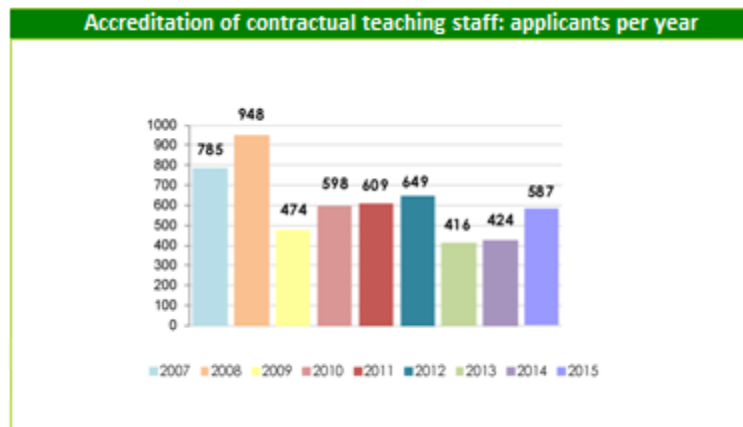
Over the course of 2015, the evaluation process for the accreditation of teaching staff continued being developed for the contractual roles set out in the aforementioned law: *Profesor Contratado Doctor* (PCD); *Profesor Ayudante Doctor* (PAD); *Profesor de Universidad Privada* (PUP) and *Profesor Contratado Doctor con Vinculación Clínica al SAS* (PCDVC)¹⁰.

Requests for accreditation received for the posts of PCD, PAD and PUP were grouped into eight branches of knowledge: Experimental Sciences, Life Sciences, Medical and Health Sciences, Engineering and Architecture, Social Sciences, Juridical Sciences, Economic and Business Sciences and Humanities. All accreditation requests for the post of PCDVC were assigned to the branch of Medical and Health Sciences.

Six evaluation commissions have been established encompassing these branches of knowledge and comprising evaluators of acknowledged repute from outside the Autonomous Community of Andalusia.

A total of 587 applicants were evaluated in 2015.

An increase has been noted in terms of the applicants who were evaluated in 2015 (587 applicants in 2015 compared to 424 in 2014), a figure that approaches that of 2010.

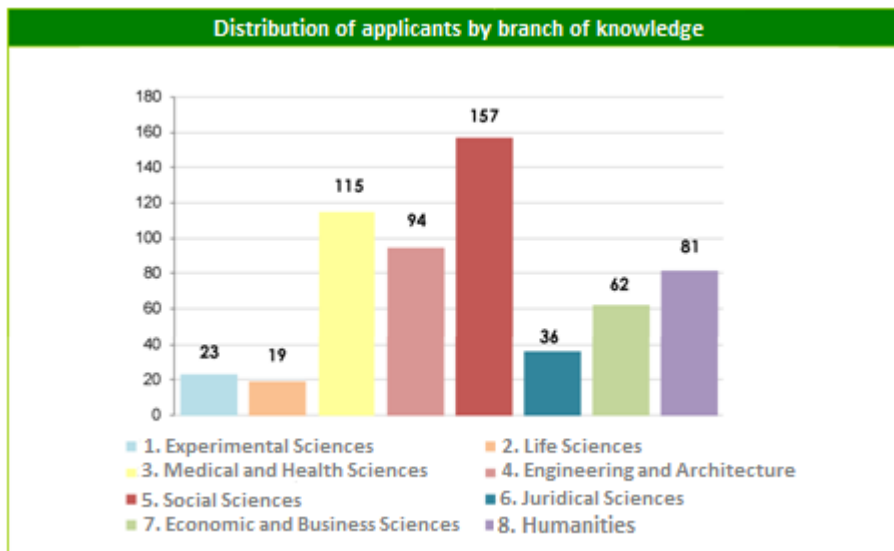


The following table shows the distribution of the applicants by branch of knowledge and by sex.

¹⁰ Translator's note: Spanish academic job titles resist ready translation into English, since some of them have no direct equivalents in English-speaking countries. *Profesor Contratado Doctor* is a tenured PhD-holding associate professor; *Profesor Contratado Doctor con Vinculación Clínica al SAS* is the same but with clinical ties to the Andalusian public health system; *Profesor Ayudante Doctor* is a non-tenured PhD-holding assistant professor; while a *Profesor de Universidad Privada* works at a private university. Unlike some other academic posts, none of them confers the status of *funcionario* (civil servant)

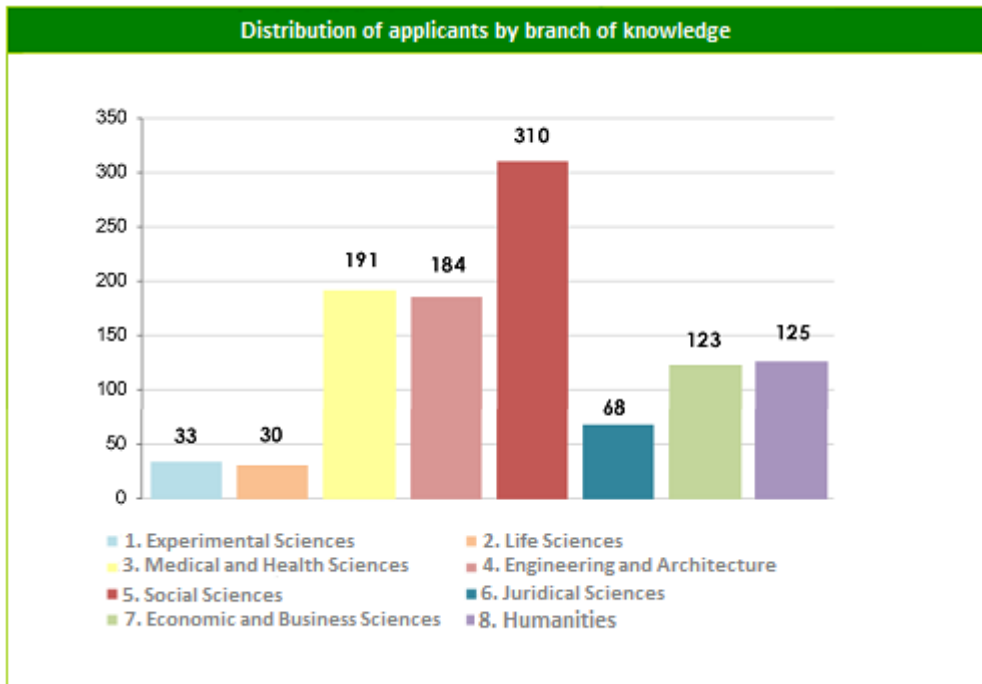
N° of Applicants for Teaching Staff Accreditation			
BRANCH	Men	Women	Total
Experimental Sciences	9	14	23
Life Sciences	5	14	19
Medical and Health Sciences	59	56	115
Engineering and Architecture	66	28	94
Social Sciences	62	95	157
Juridical Sciences	19	17	36
Economic and Business Sciences	29	33	62
Humanities	40	41	81
TOTALS	289	298	587

The chart derived from the preceding table shows that the number of applicants in the Social Sciences branch exceeds the others; applications in this branch have increased in comparison to previous years.



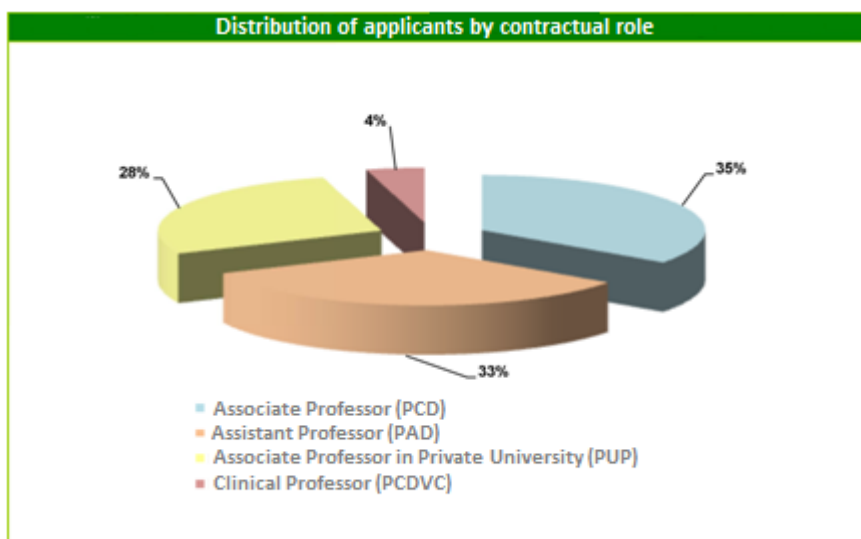
The chart below sets out the applications received, classified by branch of knowledge and by sex. This reflects the fact that the same applicant may apply for various contractual roles.

N° of Applications evaluated for Teaching Staff Accreditation			
BRANCH	Men	Women	Total
Experimental Sciences	10	23	33
Life Sciences	7	23	30
Medical and Health Sciences	90	101	191
Engineering and Architecture	123	61	184
Social Sciences	135	175	310
Juridical Sciences	34	34	68
Economic and Business Sciences	62	61	123
Humanities	68	57	125
TOTALS	529	535	1,064



The distribution of the applications by contractual role is shown in the following table. The contractual role that attracted the greatest number of applications was PCD, followed by PAD. This continues the trend of previous years, although the gap between the two roles has narrowed.

Nº of Applications evaluated for Teaching Staff Accreditation			
CONTRACTUAL ROLE	Men	Women	Total
<i>Profesor Contratado Doctor (PCD)</i>	184	188	372
<i>Profesor Ayudante Doctor (PAD)</i>	172	181	353
<i>Profesor Universidad Privada (PUP)</i>	144	150	294
<i>Profesor Contratado Doctor con Vinculación clínica al SSPA (PCDVC)</i>	29	16	45
TOTALS	529	535	1,064



The following table shows the distribution of the applications submitted, classified by contractual role and branch of knowledge.

Applications evaluated by convocation in Public Andalusian Universities									
BRANCH	PCD		PAD		PUP		PCDVC		
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	
Experimental Sciences	4	7	4	10	2	6	0	0	
Life Sciences	3	7	2	9	2	7	0	0	
Medical and Health Sciences	25	28	18	33	18	24	29	16	
Engineering and Architecture	44	23	45	16	34	22	0	0	
Social Sciences	46	64	47	63	42	48	0	0	
Juridical Sciences	14	14	12	10	8	10	0	0	
Economic and Business Sciences	24	27	17	12	21	22	0	0	
Humanities	24	18	27	28	17	11	0	0	
TOTALS	184	188	172	181	144	150	29	16	

2.1.1. Evaluation for the Accreditation of Teaching Staff

Once the applications had been accepted they were evaluated by the corresponding commission, leading to the results set out in the following table:

Results of Evaluation for Teaching Staff Accreditation								
BRANCH	Applications evaluated		POSITIVE		NEGATIVE		POSITIVE (%)	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Experimental Sciences	10	23	6	14	4	9	60.00%	60.87%
Life Sciences	7	23	2	8	5	15	28.57%	34.78%
Medical and Health Sciences	90	101	53	51	37	50	58.89%	50.50%
Engineering and Architecture	123	61	100	46	23	15	81.30%	75.41%
Social Sciences	135	175	67	105	68	70	49.63%	60.00%
Juridical Sciences	34	34	32	27	2	7	94.12%	79.41%
Economic and Business Sciences	62	61	46	50	16	11	74.19%	81.97%
Humanities	68	57	20	19	48	38	29.41%	33.33%
TOTALS	529	535	326	320	203	215	61.63%	59.81%

The following tables show the results in terms of branches of knowledge and each contractual role.

Results of Evaluation for Accreditation - Profesor Contratado Doctor									
BRANCH	Applications evaluated		POSITIVE		NEGATIVE		POSITIVE (%)		
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	
Experimental Sciences	4	7	2	3	2	4	50.00%	42.86%	
Life Sciences	3	7	1	1	2	6	33.33%	14.29%	
Medical and Health Sciences	25	28	16	9	9	19	64.00%	32.14%	
Engineering and Architecture	44	23	36	17	8	6	81.82%	73.91%	
Social Sciences	46	64	21	40	25	24	45.65%	62.50%	
Juridical Sciences	14	14	13	10	1	4	92.86%	71.43%	
Economic and Business Sciences	24	27	15	21	9	6	62.50%	77.78%	
Humanities	24	18	7	6	17	12	29.17%	33.33%	
TOTALS	184	188	111	107	73	81	60.33%	56.91%	

Results of Evaluation for Accreditation - Profesor Ayudante Doctor								
BRANCH	Applications evaluated		POSITIVE		NEGATIVE		POSITIVE (%)	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Experimental Sciences	4	10	3	9	1	1	75.00%	90.00%
Life Sciences	2	9	1	6	1	3	50.00%	66.67%
Medical and Health Sciences	18	33	9	23	9	10	50.00%	69.70%
Engineering and Architecture	45	16	36	15	9	1	80.00%	93.75%
Social Sciences	47	63	27	37	20	26	57.45%	58.73%
Juridical Sciences	12	10	11	10	1	0	91.67%	100.00%
Economic and Business Sciences	17	12	15	11	2	1	88.24%	91.67%
Humanities	27	28	8	10	19	18	29.63%	35.71%
TOTALS	172	181	110	121	62	60	63.95%	66.85%

Results of Evaluation for Accreditation - Profesor de Universidad Privada								
BRANCH	Applications evaluated		POSITIVE		NEGATIVE		POSITIVE (%)	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Experimental Sciences	2	6	1	2	1	4	50.00%	33.33%
Life Sciences	2	7	0	1	2	6	0.00%	14.29%
Medical and Health Sciences	18	24	11	7	7	17	61.11%	29.17%
Engineering and Architecture	34	22	28	14	6	8	82.35%	63.64%
Social Sciences	42	48	19	28	23	20	45.24%	58.33%
Juridical Sciences	8	10	8	7	0	3	100.00%	70.00%
Economic and Business Sciences	21	22	16	18	5	4	76.19%	81.82%
Humanities	17	11	5	3	12	8	29.41%	27.27%
TOTALS	144	150	88	80	56	70	61.11%	53.33%

Results of Evaluation for Accreditation - Profesor de Contratado Doctor con Vinculación clínica al SSPA								
BRANCH	Applications evaluated		POSITIVE		NEGATIVE		POSITIVE (%)	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Medical and Health Sciences	29	16	17	12	12	4	58.62%	75.00%
TOTALS	29	16	17	12	12	4	58.62%	75.00%

2.1.2. Technical Evaluation Committees and External Evaluators

The Technical Evaluation Committees are provided for in the evaluation procedure¹¹ and have been modified by various subsequent resolutions¹².

During 2015 the technical evaluation committees were made up as follows:

¹¹ Resolution of 15 December 2005 establishing the evaluation procedure for the contractual teaching staff roles in the Andalusian University System (BOJA nº 28 December 2005).

¹² AGAE resolutions of 3 April 2006, 14 December 2006, 19 March 2007, 1 February 2008, 1 October 2009 and 27 April 2010 and AAC resolution of 6 November 2014, publishing the composition of the technical committees appointed to evaluate the contractual teaching staff roles of the Andalusian University System

Members of the Technical Evaluation Committees			
Branch of Knowledge	Members of the Technical Committee	University	Role
Experimental Sciences and Life Sciences	Dr. Florentino de Lope Rebollo	Univ. of Extremadura	President
	Dr. Encarnación Rodríguez Gonzalo	Univ. of Salamanca	Member
	Dr. Carmen Sánchez Ávila	Polytechnic Univ. of Madrid	Member
Medical and Health Sciences	Dr. Aurelio Luna Maldonado	Univ. of Murcia	President
	Dr. Eulogio Valentín Gómez	Univ. of Valencia	Member
	Dr. Paula Oliver Vara	Univ. Balearic Islands	Member
Engineering and Architecture	Dr. Rosa Oria Almudí	Univ. of Zaragoza	President
	Dr. Vicente Navarro Gámir	Univ. Castilla la Mancha	Member
	Dr. Santiago Celma Pueyo	Univ. of Zaragoza	Member
Social Sciences	Dr. Miguel Ángel Vallejo Pareja	National Distance Learning Univ.	President
	Dr. Bernardo Gómez Alfonso	Univ. of Valencia	Member
	Dr. Jorge Calero Martínez	Univ. of Barcelona	Member
Jurisical sciences, Economic and Business	Dr. Fernando Reviriego Picón	National Distance Learning Univ.	President
	Dr. Diego Quer Ramón	Univ. of Alicante	Member
	Dr. Mercedes Gómez Adanero	National Distance Learning Univ.	Member
Humanities	Dr. Francisco Collado Rodríguez	Univ. of Zaragoza	President
	Dr. Antonio Urquizar Herrera	National Distance Learning Univ.	Member
	Dr. Lourdes Gordillo Álvarez-Valdés	Univ. of Murcia	Member

A change in the composition of the Social Sciences Committee has taken place since 2014, with Dr. Pedro Guerrero Ruiz being replaced by Dr. Bernardo Gómez Alfonso and Dr. Isabel de la Torre Prados by Dr. Jorge Calero Martínez.

2.1.3. Accreditation Appeals Committee

In order to settle appeals that are lodged against resolutions issued by the Technical Evaluation Committees, an Accreditation Appeals Committee was created in April 2006.

The composition of this committee is as follows:

PRESIDENT:

- Dr. Ángel Rodríguez-Vergara Díaz. Professor of Constitutional Law.

Members:

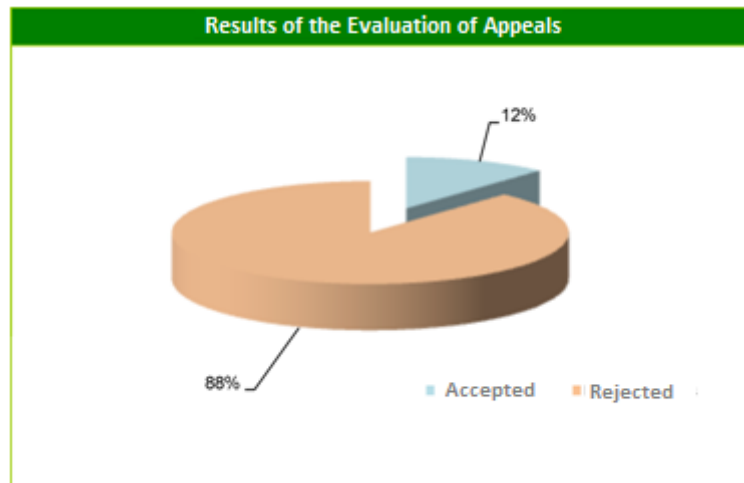
- Dr. Baltasar Cabezudo Artero. Professor of Botany.
- Dr. Mercedes Salaices Rodríguez. Professor of Pharmacology.
- Dr. Alberto Losada Villasante. Professor of Hydraulic Engineering.
- Dr. María Clemente Linuesa. Professor of Education and School Management.
- Dr. Miguel Ángel Zalama Rodríguez. Professor of the History of Art.

In 2015, the Appeals Committee met on 20 January, 9 June, 24 September and 30 November. At these meetings a total of 68 appeals were considered from 50 appellants whose evaluations for contractual roles

had been given negative verdicts by the Accreditation Evaluation Committees.

The number of appeals evaluated in the various branches of knowledge is shown in the following table:

Appeals evaluated in the various Branches of knowledge									
BRANCH	Total appeals		ACCEPTED		REJECTED		ACCEPTED (%)		
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	
Experimental Sciences	1	0	0	--	1	--	0.00%	--	
Life Sciences	1	2	0	0	1	2	0.00%	0.00%	
Medical and Health Sciences	6	4	1	0	5	4	16.67%	0.00%	
Engineering and Architecture	13	2	0	0	13	2	0.00%	0.00%	
Social Sciences	13	13	4	2	9	11	30.77%	15.38%	
Juridical Sciences	1	0	0	--	1	--	0.00%	--	
Economic and Business Sciences	2	2	0	0	2	2	0.00%	0.00%	
Humanities	4	4	1	0	3	4	25.00%	0.00%	
TOTALS	41	27	6	2	35	25	14.63%	7.41%	



2.2. Evaluation of Applications for the Contracting of Emeritus Teaching Staff

Within the prevailing regulatory framework¹³, the AAC takes on the task of evaluating the activity undertaken by academics who ask to be hired or renewed as emeritus teaching staff.

The evaluation procedure for the role of emeritus academics established by the AAC starts with the university's request accompanied by the Curriculum Vitae (CV) of the academic in question. In 2015 a total of 27 CVs were evaluated. The evaluation process is carried out by the same evaluation committees responsible for the contractual teaching staff accreditation programme.

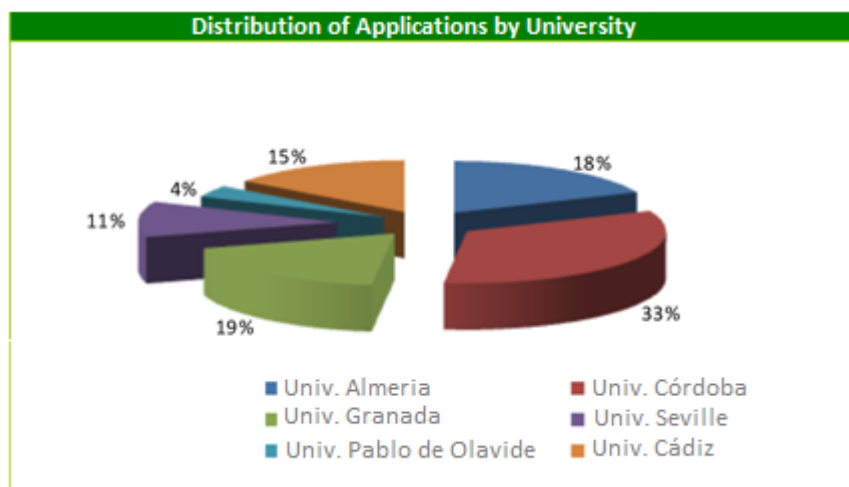
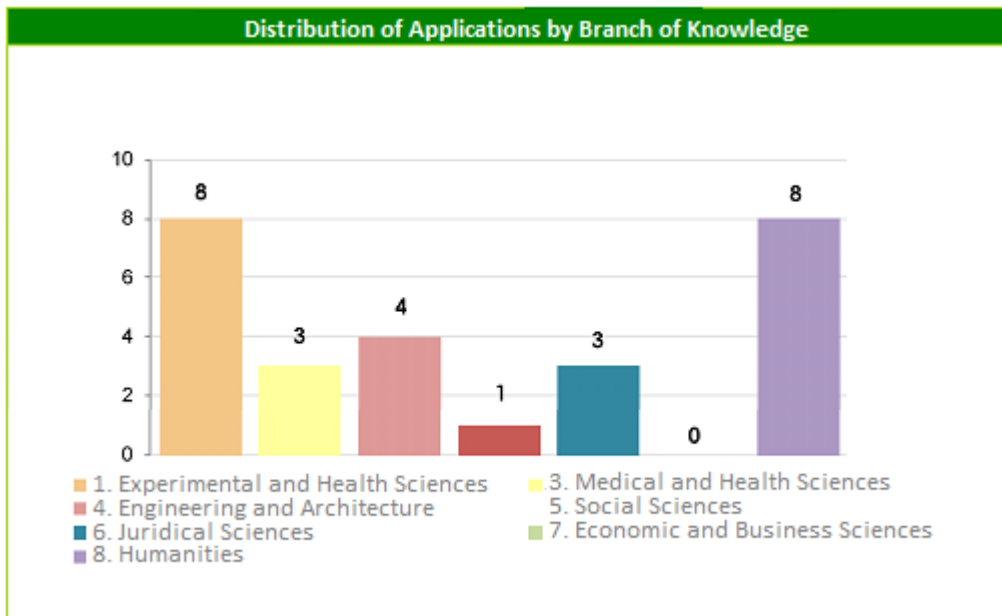
There is an imbalance in the distribution by sex: only five applications were received from women.

The following table shows the distribution by branches of knowledge.

¹³ Law 12/2011, dated 16 December, amending the Andalusian Universities Law.

Nº of Applications Evaluated – Emeritus Teaching Staff				
Branches of Knowledge	Applications submitted		Positive evaluations	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Experimental and Life Sciences	5	3	5	2
Medical and Health Sciences	3	0	3	--
Engineering and Architecture	4	0	4	--
Social Sciences	1	0	1	--
Juridical Sciences	3	0	3	--
Economic and Business Sciences	0	0	--	--
Humanities	6	2	5	0
TOTALS	22	5	21	2

Of the 27 applications for the role of emeritus academic the break-down by universities was as follows: one from the University of Cádiz, five from the University of Córdoba, nine from the University of Granada, four from the University of Málaga, five from the University of Seville and three from Pablo de Olavide University. The percentage distribution is shown in the following chart.



3. Evaluation of Research

3.1. Area Commissions

AAC-DEVA has been responsible for evaluating the applications submitted in the context of the following activities:

- (A) Incentive programmes for agents of the Andalusian Knowledge System (SAC).¹⁴
- (B) Research groups' scientific activities.¹⁵
- (C) Creation or modification of university research institutes.¹⁶
- (D) Andalusia Talent Hub programme for the international mobility of research personnel.¹⁷
- (E) Other incentives.¹⁸
- (F) Incentives financed by other Autonomous Communities.

In order to undertake these activities, DEVA's R&D&i evaluation department has a head of department and 16 Commissions that cover the nine scientific-technical areas of the Andalusian Research Development and Innovation Plan (PAIDI): "Agri-foodstuffs" (AGR), "Biology and Biotechnology" (BIO), "Health Sciences and Technology" (CTS), "Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics" (FQM), "Humanities" (HUM), "Natural Resources and Environment" (RNM), "Social, Economic and Juridical Sciences" (SEJ), "Production Technology" (TEP) and "Information and Communication Technology" (TIC).

With the goal of achieving greater precision in the evaluations, some PAIDI areas are sub-divided, hence the 16 Commissions. Thus the "AGR" area is divided into two sub-areas, "Agriculture" (AGRO) and "Foodstuffs" (ALI); "FQM" is divided into three, "Physics" (FIS), "Chemistry" (QUI) and "Mathematics" (MAT); "HUM" is divided into three, "Psychology and Education Sciences" (EDU), "Philology, Linguistics and Literature" (FLL) and "Geography and History" (GEOEHIST); "SEJ" is divided into two, "Social and Juridical Sciences" (SJ) and "Economic and Business Sciences" (EE); and finally "TIC" is divided into two, "Telecommunications" (TEC) and "Information Technology" (TIN).

Each Commission is made up of a Coordinator and various researchers of acknowledged renown from universities and institutions outside Andalusia. The mission of these experts is to contribute their knowledge of the area to lead, orient and channel all manner of evaluations related to the sphere of research. This group constitutes a panel of experts that supports the AAC in taking decisions regarding all evaluation processes, the search for expert evaluators from outside Andalusia, the carrying out, if applicable, of summaries and evaluations of specific applications, and any other activity requiring an expert opinion in their area of expertise.

The evaluators are selected from the more than 15,000 experts that AAC currently has on its own database and that of the National Evaluation and Forward Planning Agency (ANEP). All evaluators of incentives in the Andalusian system belong to entities outside Andalusia and their experience and knowledge of the subject in question is taken into account at the time of selection. The following table shows the 16 Area Commissions.

¹⁴ Order dated 11 December 2007, Order dated 18 December 2009 and Resolution dated 14 January 2009.

¹⁵ Order dated 3 September 2007 and Order dated 18 December 2009.

¹⁶ Agreement of 20 December 2005 of the Andalusian Universities Council, BOJA 13 June 2006.

¹⁷ Order dated 24 July 2014, BOJA 31 July 2014

¹⁸ Agreement of 20 December 2005 of the Andalusian Universities Council, BOJA 13 June 2006.

Area Commissions			
PAIDI AREAS	COMMISSIONS		
AGR	AGRO	ALI	
CTS			
BIO			
FQM	FIS	QUI	MAT
HUM	GEOEHIS	EDU	FLL
RNM			
SEJ	SJ	EE	
TEP			
TIC	TIN	TEC	

In 2015, the head of DEVA R&D&i department was Dr. Soledad Rubio Bravo, Professor of Analytical Chemistry at the University of Córdoba, and 15 academics acted as coordinators of the corresponding scientific-technical areas. Their names, universities and scientific areas are listed below:

- Dr. Francisco Miguel Cánovas Ramos. University of Málaga. Biology and Biotechnology.
- Dr. Juan Bautista Martínez Rodríguez. University of Granada. Psychology and Education Sciences.
- Dr. Bernabé Escobar Pérez. University of Seville. Economics and Business.
- Dr. Iluminada Baturone Castillo. Higher Scientific Research Council (CSIC). Physics and Mathematics.
- Dr. Rafael Fernández Chacón. University of Seville. Health Sciences Department.
- Dr. Rosario Fernández Fernández. University of Seville. Chemistry.
- Dr. Lidia Fuentes Fernández. University of Málaga. Information technology.
- Dr. Luis María Gómez Canseco. University of Huelva. Philology, Linguistics and Literature.
- Dr. Emilia María Guadix Escobar. University of Huelva. Foodstuffs.
- Dr. Juan López Martínez. University of Granada. Social and Juridical Sciences.
- Dr. Juana Mayo Núñez. University of Seville. Mechanical Engineering.
- Dr. José Lucas Pérez Llorens. University of Cádiz. Natural Resources.
- Dr. Pablo Zarco Tejada. Sustainable Agriculture Institute (CSIC). Agriculture.
- Dr. Juan Manuel Campos Carrasco. University of Huelva. Geography and History.
- Dr. Juan Gonzalo Wangüermert Pérez. University of Málaga. Telecommunications Engineering.

3.2. Incentive Programmes for Agents of the Andalusian Knowledge System

As part of the incentives programme for SAC agents, DEVA's R&D&i department has undertaken the following activities in the past year:

3.2.1. Evaluation and Monitoring of Research Projects

Ex post evaluation of 667 research projects financed in the 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009 and 2010 programmes was carried out. The applications were submitted by the lead researchers of projects financed by the General Secretariat of Universities, Research and Technology (SGUIT) and after an automatic review to detect and remedy any possible formal deficiencies, were sent to DEVA for evaluation. The monitoring statements

submitted were distributed among the 16 subject areas established by DEVA and the evaluation was done by peer review, carried out by experts, in accordance with the following criteria: (1) Results obtained in the project, bearing in mind the objective quality indicators pertinent to the scientific-technical area to which the project belongs; (2) Appropriateness of the results obtained to the project's subject area; (3) Leadership of the lead researcher and degree of participation of the components of the team; (4) Activity undertaken by grant-holders and contractual members of the project. The statements, classified as Favourable or Unfavourable, were sent to the SGUIT for processing and a report was sent to the respective lead researchers.

3.2.2. Research Project Monitoring Appeals

DEVA has been responsible for issuing a technical report on the appeals submitted by those lead researchers whose monitoring statements relating to research projects financed in the 2007 funding programme received an unfavourable evaluation.

The appeals were submitted by the lead researchers to the SGUIT and after an automatic review to detect and remedy any possible formal deficiencies, were sent to DEVA for technical evaluation. For the purposes of this evaluation a Resources Commission was set up comprising experts from outside Andalusia. Each member of the Commission reviewed the pleas submitted within his or her area and issued a preliminary report. Subsequently the members of the Commission, together with the head of the area, met in Córdoba and after analysing the results reached a consensus for a final report on each of the appeals submitted. These reports were sent to the SGUIT, thereby completing DEVA's evaluation.

Reports were sent on a total of 50 appeals submitted on ex post evaluations of research projects financed in the 2007 funding programme.

3.2.3. International Research Projects

Five projects were submitted to DEVA in 2015 for evaluation under the heading of international projects (Order dated 11 December 2007, BOJA nº 4). Evaluation of these projects was carried out by peer review and after discussion of the reports issued by experts in the Area Commission, the final report was sent to the SGUIT.

3.3. Scientific Activity, Research Groups and Technological Development

DEVA has undertaken the evaluation of 39 research groups for inclusion in the Electronic Register of SAC Agents (Order dated 3 September 2007, BOJA nº 187, September 2007).

In order to carry out the evaluation, the groups were distributed in accordance with their main lines of research, among the 16 areas established by DEVA, and the evaluations were undertaken by experts based on the criteria set out in the aforementioned Order.

3.4. University Research Institutes

The creation of university research institutes in Andalusia requires an evaluation by DEVA of the statement submitted by the applicant organisations. The items that are rated include the goals of the centre, the quality of the research groups that constitute the centre as well as its degree of integration and coordination, its economic statement, its plan of activities, structure, etc.

The possible results of the evaluation are: (1) recommendable; (2) recommendable with reservations (in this case the negative aspects identified by the evaluation need to be modified/remedied and subjected to a fresh evaluation) and (3) not recommendable. In 2015, DEVA evaluated 11 university institutes in Andalusia.

3.5. Andalusia Talent Hub programme for the international mobility of research personnel

In 2015, DEVA was responsible for evaluating the second phase of the Talent Hub Programme whereby 20 two-year contracts were offered for the hiring of research personnel by SAC agents linked to the International Excellence Campuses (CEI) located in Andalusia (Order dated 24 July 2014, BOJA 31 July 2014).

In order to evaluate the 209 applications that were submitted, a Commission of Experts was appointed made up of scientists who covered all the areas of expertise involved. Approximately 40% of the experts had non-Spanish nationalities, while the remainder were Spanish scientists from outside Andalusia. Each of the applications was evaluated by three experts, at least one of whom was not Spanish. When the scores differed by more than 10% a fourth evaluation was carried out.

The evaluation criteria included the academic and professional track record of the candidate (40%), the appropriateness of the centres selected (30%) and the potential impact of the research project being proposed (30%). In order to be eligible, the candidates' scores had to be equal to or above 50% of the overall score.

The Commission of Experts, consisting of 33 researchers, met at DEVA's offices in Córdoba with the goal of analysing and discussing the results of the evaluation, prioritising the candidates, interviewing at least 40 of their first choices and drawing up a final report.

3.6 Other incentives

3.6.1. Grants made to Research Projects under the Support for Research, Technological Development and Innovation Plan of the University of Jaén

At the request of the SGUIT, DEVA was also responsible for evaluating grants within the auspices of the Support for Research, Technological Development and Innovation Plan of the University of Jaén for the period 2014-2015 (Resolution dated 5 June 2015 taken by the Vice-Rector for Research, Technological Development and Innovation at the said university).

The 91 experts who took part in this process evaluated a total of 55 projects submitted to the 2015 programme, using the GESVAL telemetric application. The result of these evaluations was sent to the SGUIT.

3.6.2. Evaluation of personnel at the Institute of Agricultural and Fisheries Research and Training – IFAPA

At the behest of SGUIT, DEVA has been responsible for the process of evaluating the applications submitted in the second recruitment programme for research personnel within the framework of specific R&D&i lines of research, financed by the European Social Fund (Resolution of the Institute of Agricultural and Fisheries Research and Training dated 26 April 2012). DEVA was also in charge of evaluating the monitoring of activity undertaken by researchers in the first programme (Resolution of the Institute of Agricultural and Fisheries Research and Training dated 16 September 2010).

A Commission of Experts led by Dr. Soledad Rubio Bravo and made up of researchers from outside Andalusia was in charge of evaluating the applications submitted by the research personnel, in accordance with the criteria established in the respective resolutions.

Nine and six applications respectively were evaluated for each programme. The results of these evaluations were sent to the SGUIT.

3.6.3. Grants to support the activity of research groups who carry out their work in the Principality of Asturias

SGUIT has commissioned DEVA to evaluate applications for grants to support the activities of research groups who carry out their work in the Principality of Asturias (Resolutions dated 30 April and 1 August 2014 of the Department of Economy and Employment of the Principality of Asturias).

In order to evaluate the groups they were distributed between the 16 areas established by DEVA, in accordance with their main lines of research. The evaluation of the applications was carried out by the commissions for each area, which based their judgements on the criteria set out in the aforementioned resolutions. DEVA evaluated a total of 14 research groups.

3.7. Attendance at the VIII Meeting of R&D&i Evaluation Agencies

Dr. Soledad Rubio, representing the DEVA R&D&i Department, attended the VIII Meeting of R&D&i Evaluation Agencies organised by ANEP, which took place on 29 June in Santiago de Compostela. The event was held at the new premises of the Galician Innovation Agency (GAIN), which acted as the host agency. The head of the DEVA R&D&i Department contributed to the meeting by presenting the following topic for debate: Transparency and confidentiality law as it applies to evaluation commissions.

4. International Activities

4.1. ENQA: Forum

ENQA is an organisation that represents quality evaluation and accreditation agencies in the European Higher Education Area. Having passed our full membership renewal review (19-20 March 2014), our status was reconfirmed on 15 September 2014 at the meeting of the ENQA Governing Council until 15 September 2019.

On 16 and 17 April 2015 AAC-DEVA hosted the fifth annual ENQA Forum. The Forum, where strategies for addressing the future of quality in education, types of collaboration between evaluation agencies in the European context as well as the strengths and weaknesses of the current quality assurance systems were all debated, attracted a total of 80 participants from 29 countries and 46 agencies.

4.2. European Register (EQAR)

Once it had renewed its membership of ENQA as a full member, DEVA continued to be listed in the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education.

4.3. International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies (INQAAHE)

DEVA continues being a member of the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE), an international association bringing together 200 organisations that are active in the theory and practice of quality assurance.

4.4. Agreements for the Evaluation of Degrees Abroad

Over the course of 2015 AAC signed a collaboration agreement with the Russian evaluation and accreditation agency AKKORK for the evaluation and accreditation of four master's degrees at the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia. In May 2015 a DEVA commission of experts travelled to Moscow and carried out the evaluation of the degrees in question.