

## REPORT G. BUELA-CASAL : Meeting with CUIP External Advisory Board - April 4th, 3pm

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### CENTRO UNIVERSITARIO DE INVESTIGAÇÃO EM PSICOLOGÍA

Report: *Dr. Gualberto Buela-Casal, Profesor Catedrático de Psicología Clínica, España*

This report is based on the information provided at the meeting and on my previous knowledge of the group and the four universities that comprise it, since I have had the opportunity to collaborate in activities of the Universidade do Algarve, Universidades das Azores, Universidade da Madeira and Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa. I will not focus on the scientific production data, since that information is already contained in the reports, but on my opinion and assessment of the training, research and dissemination activities, in addition to clearly enhancing internalization.

Period 2018-2023

It is a large group with 44 members who complement each other in basic and applied research in Psychology, which is very relevant for the host universities where they work and also for their involvement in society.

Among the most outstanding aspects in the activity of the groups that make up this research center, I would like to highlight the following:

It is important that the criteria to join the research groups are demanding and diverse, this is very relevant to maintain a good competitive level of the groups. They also have an important number of master and doctoral students, which is necessary for the consolidation of the Center in the present but also in the future.

The organization of scientific meetings is one of the important strategies to promote internationality and encourage collaborations with groups from other countries. Therefore, it is very remarkable that they organized six international congresses of high prestige, which is more than one per year.

An important aspect to highlight is the experience of several members in the management and direction of research groups and centers, as well as their participation in external evaluation and accreditation processes.

In summary, the number of scientific publications is very high and in relevant journals in the different research fields in which they work. They have obtained a very high funding of almost five million euros, but also some projects from very competitive international sources. What I would most like to emphasize is that it is a very balanced Center where all the factors that make a research center consolidate in a solid way and allow a continuity and future projection are taken care of.

2025-2029

Once the proposal of activities proposed for the next five-year period has been presented and analyzed, it can be considered viable and realistic, since the vast majority of them are a continuity and improvement of everything developed in the previous five-year period. Regarding the proposal for the future, I would like to highlight the following:

To continue and strengthen scientific dissemination with the organization of important international congresses. This is very realistic given the previous experience in the organization of scientific meetings.

The internalization of the journal *Psique* is a desirable and possible goal since it is a very consolidated journal with 30 years of publication. In my opinion, if the aim is to give the journal a more international focus, prestigious international researchers should be included in the committee.

The plans to improve postgraduate training are ambitious but possible, and it is also feasible to promote internationalization, since the four host universities have a special attraction due to their geographical location and the ease of having four international airports to create a network of postgraduate students.

A very positive proposal is to organize research dissemination activities for the societies where the universities are located, transferring knowledge to society through seminars, channels, webs, is something very necessary and is rarely taken into account.

Finally, the organizational plan to coordinate all the activities among the members of the four universities is based on the previous experience of several of those responsible, even with experience in a vice-rectorship.

In summary, the proposal for the next five years is based on a solid foundation and is very realistic and well designed and planned. Undoubtedly, in the medium term it will be a research center in psychology with international reference.

Dr. Gualberto Buela-Casal

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