

Acto de investidura  
como doutor *honoris causa*  
de **D. Klaus von Gadow**

28 xuño 2019

2019

UNIVERSIDADE DE SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

# Protocolo

## Procesión da comitiva académica

### Desenvolvemento do acto

#### Investidura do Prof. Dr. D. KLAUS VON GADOW

Pedimento	Padriño, Prof. Dr. D. Juan G. Álvarez González
Lección do doutor <i>honoris causa</i>	Prof. Dr. D. Klaus von Gadow
<i>Laudatio</i>	Padriño, Prof. Dr. D. Juan G. Álvarez González
Concesión	Sr. Reitor
Imposición da esclavina, a borla, o anel e entrega do libro	Padriño, Prof. Dr. D. Juan G. Álvarez González
Xuramento	Sra. Secretaria Xeral
Imposición da medalla	Sr. Reitor
Agradecemento	Prof. Dr. D. Klaus von Gadow

#### Discurso do Sr. Reitor

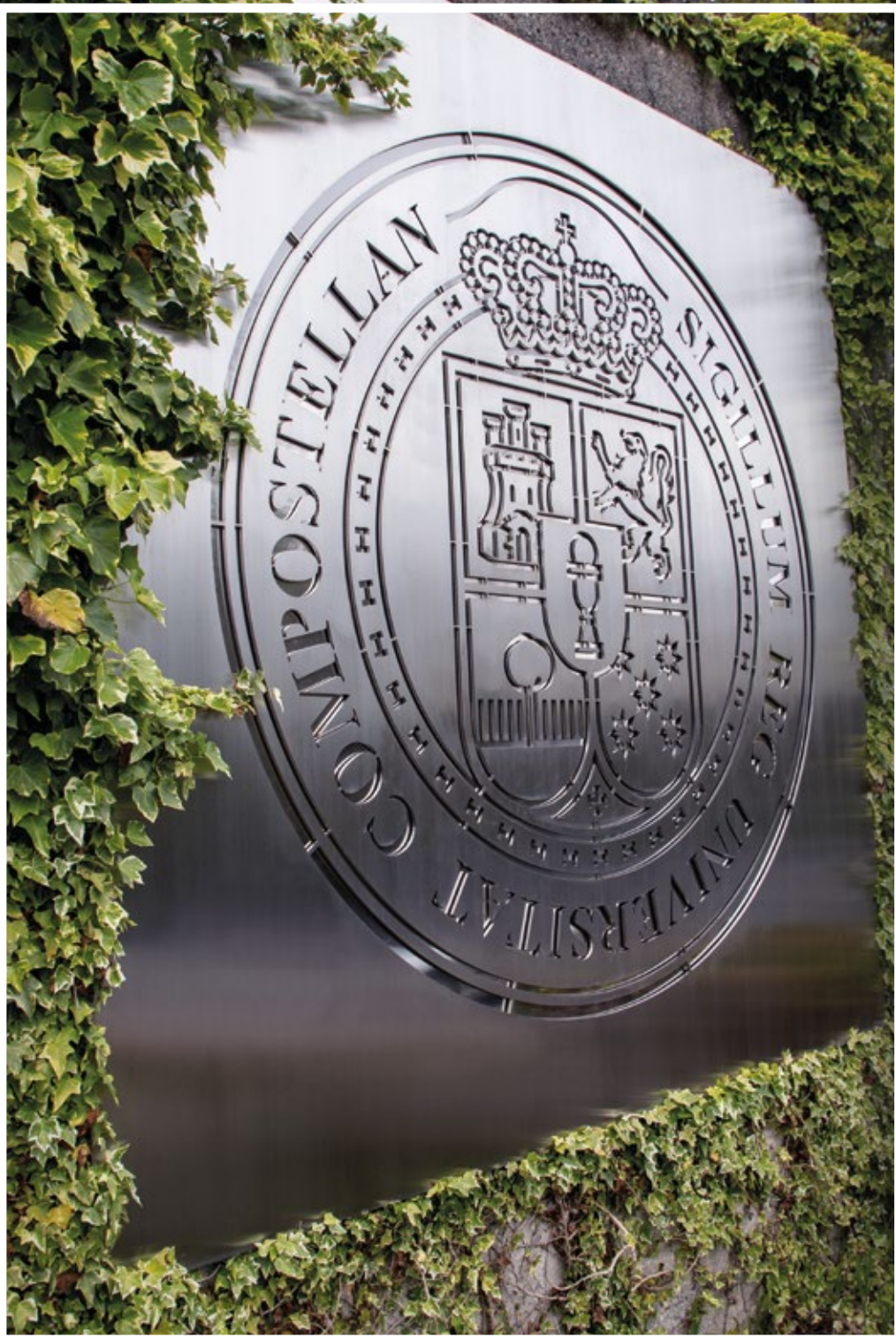
*Gaudeamus igitur*

## Procesión de saída

## Viño de honra ofrecido na Escola Politécnica Superior

O motivo que ilustra a capa deste libro correspóndese coa coidada decoración calada das cadeiras do Paraninfo da Universidade de Santiago de Compostela. A estrela é o símbolo heráldico do arcebispo Alonso III de Fonseca, benfeitor da Universidade.





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## Klaus von Gadow

Klaus von Gadow (Rostock, Alemaña, 1941) iniciou os seus estudos en ciencias forestais na Georg-August-Universität Göttingen (materias básicas) e na Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg (materias aplicadas), que posteriormente continuou con estudos de posgrao na Stellenbosch University (Suráfrica), na que se doutorou en 1978. Actualmente é profesor emérito da Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, malia continuar en activo tanto na investigación como na docencia.

O seu labor docente estivo repartido entre a Facultade Forestal da Universidade de Stellenbosch, na que exerceu durante trece anos (1978-1991), e na Universidade de Göttingen, na que exerceu durante outros quince anos (1991-2006). Foi bolseiro da Fundación Alexander-von-Humboldt como científico invitado na Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität de Munich e en 1986 conseguiu a habilitación nacional para o grao de catedrático de universidade, praza que ocupou en 1989 na Universidade de Stellenbosch ata 1991, en que pasou a ocupar a cátedra de Forest Management na Facultade Forestal da Universidade de Göttingen.

A súa principal liña de investigación conságrase aos estudos a longo prazo da evolución e o crecemento dos bosques, ao desenvolvemento de modelos que simulen estes procesos e á aplicación dos devanditos modelos ao deseño da paisaxe rural. Foi director de 49 teses de doutoramento e é autor ou co-autor de máis de 300 publicacións científicas (incluíndo 22 libros). Máis de cen desas publicacións realizáronse despois do seu retiro en 2006, especialmente con colegas de España, China e Suráfrica.

O Prof. Dr. von Gadow é editor xefe da serie de monografías *Managing Forest Ecosystems* e da revista *Forest Ecosystems*, ambas as dúas de temática forestal e editadas por Springer. Colaborou como avaliador en numerosas comisións científicas e paneis de expertos como a Swedish Foundation for Strategic Environmental Research (desde 1995); o Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG-Fundación Alema de Investigación Científica) en ciencias forestais (desde 1996); a Axencia Nacional de Avaliación e Prospectiva (ANEP) de España nos programas de contratación



Ramón y Cajal e Juan de la Cierva ou no programa de accións Marie Skłodowska-Curie para a Comisión Europea. Ademais, entre 1996 e 2006 foi coordinador da División IV da International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO).

O Prof. Dr. von Gadow é membro da Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry, Extraordinary Professor da Universidade de Stellenbosch e Honorary Professor da Beijing Forestry University (China). Foi recoñecido como Honorary Professorship pola Academia Chinesa das Ciencias Forestais e nomeado doutor *honoris causa* pola Estonian University of Life Sciences. Recentemente foi nomeado Eminent Foreign Scholar polo Ministerio de Educación da República Popular de China. Durante os últimos anos, von Gadow foi convidado a liderar proxectos de investigación en universidades e organismos públicos de investigación en Finlandia, China, Estonia, Rusia, España, México, Suráfrica, India e Ucraína, fundamentalmente en investigacións relacionadas coa biodiversidade forestal ou co desenvolvemento de modelos da estrutura e a dinámica dos ecosistemas forestais e a súa aplicación no deseño da paisaxe.

A colaboración coa Universidade de Santiago de Compostela remóntase ao ano 1997, no que von Gadow realizou unha estancia de investigación de seis meses na Escola Politécnica Superior de Enxeñaría do campus de Lugo. Nesa altura era director do Institut für Waldinventur und Waldwachstum da Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, instituto co que se estableceu un acordo de intercambio que permitiu a formación de numerosos profesores e doutores da Universidade de Santiago na prestixiosa universidade alemá. Desde aquel ano, o Dr. von Gadow realizou continuas visitas á Escola Politécnica Superior de Enxeñaría de Lugo, nun constante apoio tanto en tarefas de investigación como favorecendo a creación de redes de colaboración entre a Universidade de Santiago e institucións de investigación forestal de todo o mundo, entre as que salientan a Beijing Forestry University (China), a Chinese Academy of Forestry (China), a Universidade Juárez do Estado de Durango (México), a Virginia Tech University (USA), a Oregon State University (USA), o Himalayan Forest Research Institute (India), a Stellenbosch University (Suráfrica), a Universidade Técnica de Lisboa (Portugal), a Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (Suecia) ou a Estonian University of Life Sciences (Estonia).

O resultado máis tanxible destas redes de colaboración son os 32 artigos publicados nos últimos cinco anos (sen contabilizar os artigos publicados conxuntamente co Dr. von Gadow) por investigadores da Universidade de Santiago en colaboración con investigadores dos devanditos centros, ou a organización conxunta de varios congresos internacionais e cursos de formación de posgrao e doutoramento en México, China, Alemaña e España.



## Juan G. Álvarez González

Juan Gabriel Álvarez González (Madrid, 1965) realizou os estudos de enxeñaría de montes na Universidade Politécnica de Madrid, na que se licenciou en 1990 e doutorou en 1997. O seu labor docente iniciouse no ano 1994 como profesor asociado na Escola Politécnica Superior de Enxeñaría da universidade compostelá (campus de Lugo) ata obter unha praza de profesor titular de universidade no ano 1998. Tras concorrer en 2006 a un proceso de habilitación nacional para o grao de catedrático de universidade, obtivo unha praza no devandito corpo docente en 2007 na Área de Enxeñaría Agroforestal da Universidade de Santiago de Compostela. Actualmente é catedrático do Departamento de Enxeñaría Agroforestal desta Universidade. Así mesmo, é coordinador do Máster en Enxeñaría de Montes da universidade compostelá, onde dirixiu once teses de doutoramento e máis de oitenta proxectos de fin de carreira e traballos de fin de grao e máster.

A súa actividade investigadora iniciouse no Centro de Investigacións Forestais de Lourizán (Pontevedra) en 1992, manténdose vixente a súa vinculación con este centro grazas á participación en proxectos conxuntos de investigación, especialmente co departamento de protección forestal. A principal liña de investigación do profesor Álvarez González oríentase á aplicación da biometría para a simulación de procesos relacionados coa evolución e o crecemento dos bosques, coa súa capacidade para produciren biomasa e fixaren carbono e, nos últimos anos, co risco de incendios asociado ao combustible forestal.

Forma parte do grupo de investigación Unidade de Xestión Forestal Sustentable, grupo de investigación de referencia competitiva do Sistema Universitario de Galicia desde o ano 2006, que está englobado na Agrupación Estratéxica do Sistema Universitario de Galicia «BioReDes» (xestión e produción sustentable de bio-recursos), que impulsa proxectos de investigación relacionados coa xestión e produción agroforestal e a seguridade alimentaria.



É autor de máis de 70 artigos en revistas científicas SCI (1140 citas), 29 proxectos de investigación de convocatorias competitivas (nove internacionais, once nacionais e nove autonómicos), ademais da obra *Tablas de producción para los montes españoles* (1999) e tres monografías máis en colaboración con outros expertos no campo da enxeñaría forestal.

A colaboración do profesor Álvarez González con Klaus von Gadow remóntase a 1997, ano da primeira estancia deste na Universidade de Santiago, e foise reforzando ao longo dos últimos tempos mediante a dirección conxunta de teses de doutoramento, o intercambio de estudantes entre institucións, ou a publicación de numerosos traballos e artigos científicos en colaboración.

A permanente dedicación e entusiasta apoio do Prof. Dr. von Gadow ao avance do coñecemento nos máis variados eidos da temática forestal na Universidade de Santiago abriu as portas á súa participación en estudos internacionais de investigación, permitindo coñecer de primeira man os procesos que regulan o crecemento e a evolución de ecosistemas forestais moi diferentes e impulsando o desenvolvemento de modelos que simulan os devanditos procesos en bosques de, por exemplo, China, Vietnam, India, Suráfrica, México, Colombia, Perú, Chile ou Brasil.





## Tradición e modernidade

A Universidade de Santiago de Compostela proxecta sobre o futuro o seu medio milenio de historia. Afundindo as súas raíces na Europa renacentista, soubo evolucionar co tempo e converterse nunha das institucións que conformaron a identidade de Galicia. A comezos do século XXI, a súa vocación divulgadora do coñecemento e promotora da investigación convertérona en referencia mundial en eidos como a medicina, a biotecnoloxía, as humanidades ou a innovación científica.

O xermolo da Universidade sitúase nos remates do século XV, cando en Europa se difundía incesante a nova técnica da impresión de libros que había de revolucionar o mundo. En 1495, un rexedor de Compostela, Lope Gómez de Marzoa, funda o *Studium* de Gramática Latina no mosteiro bieito de San Paio de Antealtares, o chamado *Estudo Vello*. O impulso da familia Diego de Muros, xa nos albores do século XVI, consegue someter o Estudo á protección eclesiástica, permitindo a creación de cátedras de Dereito e Artes e, axiña, tamén de Dereito Canónico. Será pola decidida iniciativa do arcebispo Alonso III de Fonseca e Ulloa, humanista dotado das mellores características dun home do Renacemento, cando, coa fundación do Colexio de Santiago en 1521, se reforcen definitivamente os alicerces da actual institución académica. As primeiras Constitucións da Universidade de Santiago apróbanse en 1555.

No século XIX, a Universidade experimenta o seu maior desenvolvemento coa implantación de estudos científicos e de Humanidades acordes cos tempos, e coa inauguración en 1805 do seu edificio principal, hoxe Facultade de Xeografía e Historia. Da puxanza da Universidade na época falan fitos como o primeiro experimento eléctrico levado a cabo en España, que iluminou en 1851 esta mesma edificación grazas a un novidoso arco voltaico instalado polo científico Antonio Casares.

O ámbito universitario foi pioneiro na integración da muller en campos da sociedade, vedados durante séculos. As mulleres accederon á Universidade por primeira vez no curso 1913-1914, abrindo a porta a un proceso lento pero imparabile. A Universidade compostelá foi tamén lugar de intercambio de ideas para as xeracións de intelectuais que fixeron avanzar a sociedade galega nos tempos convulsos do século XX e na Transición, e que crearon, grazas en parte ao seu paso por estas aulas, algunhas das obras máis singulares da cultura galega.

A Universidade divide a súa oferta académica en dúas cidades históricas, Santiago de Compostela e Lugo, urbes en ambos os casos que se aproximan aos 100 000 habitantes. Compostela é Patrimonio da Humanidade desde 1985 e meta



dos Camiños de Santiago, que atraen cada ano a milleiros de peregrinos de todo o mundo desde a descuberta dos restos do Apóstolo. Concentrado de todas as esencias de Galicia, Santiago é desde sempre o faro político, social e cultural da Comunidade. Pola súa banda, Lugo, a antiga *Lucus Augusti* romana, conserva intacta a muralla do século II e todo o carácter do interior galego.

Con cinco séculos de historia, non é estraño que a Universidade atesoure un patrimonio artístico dificilmente comparable con calquera outra institución galega. En conxunto, a Universidade esténdese a través dun millón de metros cadrados de infraestruturas, repartidas en preto dun centenar de edificios,



moitos deles auténticas xoias arquitectónicas. Algúns dos situados en Compostela retratan un pasado brillante, como a mencionada Facultade de Xeografía e Historia; a severa Facultade de Medicina (1901); o pazo de San Xerome (con raíces no século XV), sede da reitoría en plena praza do Obradoiro; ou a de Filosofía, do XVIII, a carón da antiga muralla da cidade. As novas instalacións tamén contan con deseños vangardistas, como os da Facultade de Ciencias da Comunicación en Compostela (1999), de Álvaro Siza; ou o moderno campus lucense.

Na actualidade cursan estudos na Universidade ao redor de 25 000 estudantes. En Lugo, o denominado Campus Terra concentra estudos do ámbito da sustentabilidade económica e medioambiental, con especialización no campo agroalimentario, tan importante para a economía galega. En Compostela, pola súa banda, atópanse dous campus, o Norte e o Campus Vida, este último de excelencia internacional e centrado en ámbitos como a medicina e a biotecnoloxía.

Da vocación universal da Universidade fala a procedencia internacional dunha parte moi apreciable do alumnado. Arredor de 1500 matrículas corresponden a estudantes chegados doutros países, o que a converte nunha institución cosmopolita, aberta ao mundo e disposta a absorber e difundir coñecemento aos cinco continentes. Cada ano a Universidade envía ao exterior 400 mozos e mozas a través do programa Erasmus de intercambio universitario, e recibe un número moi similar procedente de 32 países.

A de Santiago é, así pois, unha universidade completa, con oferta docente na práctica totalidade dos saberes e decididamente enfocada a actuar como líder do progreso científico, económico e social. A investigación é un dos piares da institución, e dela saíron xa diversas iniciativas e empresas *spin off* que axudan a trasladar á economía real as achegas científicas acadadas.

A vida dentro da Universidade de Santiago non se reduce aos estudos e á investigación, senón que cada curso se propón un abano moi amplo de actividades que, ademais de ofertarse á comunidade universitaria, complementan a programación cultural (coro, teatro, ciclos musicais e literarios) e deportiva (natación, atletismo, tenis, hóckey) das cidades nas que está radicada.

A Universidade de Santiago de Compostela expresa tamén o seu respecto polo talento externo coa concesión de doutoramentos *honoris causa* a persoeiros dos máis diversos ámbitos, do científico ao político ou o cultural e artístico. Ata o momento preto de cen personalidades destes ámbitos foron recoñecidas con este título.

Con cincocentos anos de historia e decididamente impulsada ao futuro, a Universidade de Santiago conserva a vitalidade e a responsabilidade dunha institución fundamental para o progreso de Galicia e a mellora da sociedade.





## *Gaudeamus igitur*

Gaudeamus igitur,  
iuvenes dum sumus. *(bis)*  
Post iucundam iuventutem,  
post molestam senectutem,  
nos habebit humus. *(bis)*

Vivat academia,  
vivant professores. *(bis)*  
Vivat membrum quodlibet,  
vivant membra quaelibet,  
semper sint in flore. *(bis)*







Investiture of  
**Prof. Dr. Klaus von Gadow**  
as Doctor *Honoris Causa*

28 June 2019



2019

UNIVERSIDADE DE SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

# Academic Ceremony Guide

## Academic Retinue Procession

### Ceremony components

#### INVESTITURE OF PROF. DR. BERNARD L. FERINGA

Proposal	Sponsor, Prof. Dr. Juan G. Álvarez González
Doctoral speech	Prof. Dr. Klaus von Gadow
<i>Laudatio</i>	Sponsor, Prof. Dr. Juan G. Álvarez González
Concession	Rector
Delivery of the cloak, tassel, pin and book	Sponsor, Prof. Dr. Juan G. Álvarez González
Oath	General Secretary
Medal award	Rector
Acknowledgements	Prof. Dr. Klaus von Gadow

### Speech by the Rector

*Gaudeamus igitur*

### Closing procession

### Reception. Escola Politécnica Superior

The motif illustrating the cover of this book corresponds to the careful decorative fretwork of the chairs of the Paraninfo in the University of Santiago de Compostela. The star is the heraldic symbol of the archbishop Alonso III de Fonseca, benefactor of the University.





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## Klaus von Gadow



Klaus von Gadow (Rostock, Germany, 1941) began his studies in forest sciences in the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen (core subjects) and in the Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg (applied subjects), which he later on continued with post-graduate studies in Stellenbosch University (South Africa), in which he graduated as a doctor in 1978. Currently he is professor emeritus at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, even though he is still active both in research and teaching.

His teaching activity has been distributed between the Forestry Faculty of the University of Stellenbosch, in which he worked for thirteen years (1978-1991), and the University of Göttingen, in which he worked for another fifteen years (1991-2006). He has been a grant holder of the Foundation Alexander-von-Humboldt as a visiting scientist at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität of Munich, and in 1986 he obtained the national habilitation for the rank of university professor, a place he occupied in 1989 in the University of Stellenbosch until 1991, when he started to occupy the chair of Forest Management in the Forestry Faculty of the University of Göttingen.

His main line of investigation is dedicated to the long-term studies of the evolution and growth of forests, and the development of models which simulate these processes and the application of the aforementioned models to the design of rural landscape. He has been the director of 49 doctoral theses and he is the author and co-author of more than 300 scientific publications (including 22 books). More than 100 of these publications came about after his retirement in 2006, specially with colleagues from Spain, China and South Africa.

Prof. Dr. von Gadow is editor in chief of the series of monographs *Managing Forest Ecosystems* and of the journal *Forest Ecosystems*, both of them about forestry and edited by Springer. He has collaborated as evaluator in numerous scientific committees and panels of experts such as the Swedish Foundation for Strategic Environmental Research (since 1995); the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG-German Foundation of Scientific Research) in forest sciences (since 1996);



the National Agency for Assessment and Forecasting (ANEP) of Spain in the Ramón y Cajal and Juan de la Cierva recruitment programmes, or in the actions programme Marie Skłodowska-Curie for the European Commission. Moreover, from 1996 to 2006 he was the coordinator of the IV Division of the International Union of Forest Research Organisations (IUFRO).

Prof. Dr. von Gadow is member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry, Extraordinary Professor of the University of Stellenbosch, and Honorary Professor of the Beijing Forestry University (China). He has been recognized as Honorary Professorship by the Chinese Academy of Forest Sciences and named Doctor *Honoris Causa* by the Estonian University of Life Sciences. Recently, he has been named Eminent Foreign Scholar by the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China. Over the last years, von Gadow has been invited to lead research projects in universities and public research organisations in Finland, China, Estonia, Russia, Spain, Mexico, South Africa, India and Ukraine, fundamentally in research projects related to forest biodiversity or with the development of models of the structure and dynamics of forest ecosystems and their application to landscape design.

Collaboration with the University of Santiago de Compostela dates back to 1997, when von Gadow made a six-month research stay at the Higher Polytechnic School of Engineering of the campus of Lugo. At that time he was the director of the Institut für Waldinventur und Waldwachstum of the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, institute with which an exchange agreement was established which allowed the formation of numerous professors and doctors of the University of Santiago in the prestigious German University. Since that year, Dr. von Gadow has made continuous visits to the Higher Polytechnic School of Engineering of Lugo, constantly supporting both in research activities as well as encouraging the creation of collaborative networks between the University of Santiago and forestry research institutions from around the world, among which stand out Beijing Forestry University (China), the Chinese Academy of Forestry (China), the Juarez University of the State of Durango (Mexico), Virginia Tech University (USA), Oregon State University (USA), the Himalayan Forest Research Institute (India), Stellenbosch University (South Africa), the Technical University of Lisbon (Portugal), the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (Sweden), or the Estonian University of Life Sciences (Estonia).

The most tangible result of these collaborative networks are the 32 articles published over the last five years (without including the articles published jointly with Dr. von Gadow) by researchers from the University of Santiago or the joint organisation of various international conferences and postgraduate and doctoral training courses in Mexico, China, Germany and Spain.



## Juan G. Álvarez González

Juan Gabriel Álvarez González (Madrid, 1965) completed his studies on forestry engineering at the Polytechnic University of Madrid, in which he graduated in 1990 and received his doctorate in 1997. His teaching activity began in 1994 as associate professor in the Higher Polytechnic School of Engineering of the University of Santiago de Compostela (campus de Lugo), until he obtained a place as university lecturer in the year 1998. After attending in 2006 to a national enabling process for the rank of university professor, he gained a place in the aforementioned faculty staff in 2007 in the Area of Agroforestry Engineering of the University of Santiago. Currently he is a professor from the Department of Agroforestry Engineering of this University. In addition, he is the coordinator of the Master's Degree on Forestry Engineering of this University, where he directed eleven doctoral theses and more than eighty university final projects, bachelor theses and master's dissertations.

His research activity began in Lourizán's Forest Research Centre (Pontevedra) in 1992, keeping up to date his link with this centre thanks to his participation in joint research projects, specially with the department of forest protection. The main line of investigation of professor Álvarez González is geared toward the application of biometrics for the simulation of processes related to the evolution and growth of forests, to their capacity to produce biomass and sequester carbon and, in recent years, to the risk of fire associated with forest fuel.

He belongs to the research group Management Unity of Sustainable Forestry, group of competitive reference of the University System of Galicia since 2006, which is framed within the Strategic Group of the University System of Galicia "BioReDes" (management and sustainable production of bioresources), which promotes research projects related to agroforestry management and production and food security.



He is author of more than 70 articles in SCI scientific journals (1140 citations), 29 competitive call research projects (nine international, eleven national, and nine regional), apart from the work *Tablas de producción para los montes españoles* (1999) and three monographs written in collaboration with other experts from the field of forestry engineering.

Prof. Dr. Álvarez González's collaboration with Klaus von Gadow goes back to 1997, year of his first stay at the University of Santiago de Compostela, and it has been strengthening in recent times through the joint direction of doctoral theses, the exchange of students between institutions, and the publication of numerous works and scientific articles in collaboration.

The continuing commitment and enthusiast support of Prof. Dr. von Gadow to the advancement of knowledge in the most varied fields of forestry in the University of Santiago opened up doors to his participation in international research studies, enabling him to know first hand the processes which regulate the growth and evolution of very different forestry ecosystems, and stimulating the development of models that simulate the already mentioned processes in forests from, for instance, China, Vietnam, India, South Africa, Mexico, Colombia, Peru, Chile or Brazil.





## Tradition and trendiness

The University of Santiago de Compostela projects its 500-year history into the future. Sinking its roots in Renaissance Europe, it has striven to evolve over this time and become one of the institutions conforming Galician identity. At the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, this University has been recognized internationally for its contributions to the dissemination of knowledge and research in such fields as medicine, biotechnology, humanities and scientific innovation.

The roots of this University go back to the closing of the 15<sup>th</sup> century precisely when the revolutionary technology of the printing press was rapidly spreading across Europe. In 1495, a headmaster in Compostela, Lope Gómez de Marzoa, founds the Studium of Latin Grammar in the monastery of San Pelaio de Antealtares, the so-called Old Study. At the dawn of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the Diego de Muros family manages to get the ecclesiastical authorities to back the Study, allowing for the establishment of chairs in both Law and Humanities and, soon afterwards, Canonical Law. Archbishop Alonso III de Fonseca e Ulloa, a humanist in the fullest sense of the Renaissance, undertakes the founding of the Colexio de Santiago in 1521, reinforcing once and for all the pillars of the present-day academic institution. The first Constitution of the University of Santiago is approved in 1555.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the University undergoes its greatest transformation by incorporating scientific and humanistic fields of study in keeping with the times, along with inaugurating its main building in 1805: the present-day Faculty of Geography and History. Milestones such as the first electrical experiment undertaken in Spain –illuminating this very building in 1851 thanks to a novel electric arc installed by the scientist Antonio Casares– speaks of the vigorous spirit of the University at that time.

Under the groundbreaking auspices of the university, women gained access to fields within society which they had been barred from for centuries. Women first entered this University in 1913, crossing the threshold in a slow but unrelenting process. The Compostelan University was also a place for fostering new ideas for generations of intellectuals, forging new roads for Galician society of the turbulent times of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and during the Spanish transition, and which gave rise to some of the most outstanding works of Galician culture, some of whose creators were alumni.

The University is divided between two historical cities, Santiago de Compostela and Lugo, both of about 100,000 inhabitants. Compostela has been



a World Heritage Site since 1985 and is the final goal for the different Camiños of Santiago, bringing millions of pilgrims from all over the world since the discovery of the Apostle's remains. Representative of the essence of Galicia, Santiago has always been the political, social and cultural beacon of the Community. On the other hand, Lugo, the ancient Roman Lucus Augusti, preserves intact the Roman wall of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century and all of the character of inland Galicia.



With five centuries of history behind it, it is no surprise that the University has amassed an artistic heritage unmatched with almost any other Galician institution. All in all, the University's facilities cover over a million square metres with close to 100 buildings, many of which are authentic architectural jewels. Some of these in Compostela recall a brilliant past such as the abovementioned Faculty of Geography and History; the Faculty of Medicine (1901); the San Xerome mansion (rooted in the 15<sup>th</sup> century), the premises of the Rector; or the Faculty of Philosophy, 18<sup>th</sup> century, bordering the old wall of the city. More recent facilities include vanguard designs such as the Faculty of Communication Sciences in Compostela (1999), by Álvaro Siza, or the modern campus of Lugo.

At present, about 25,000 students are studying at the University. In Lugo, the Campus Terra is home to fields of study in economic sustainability and the environment, with a special focus on the field of the agri-food sector, of such importance in the Galician economy. On the other hand, Compostela has two

campuses: North Campus and Campus Vida (Life), the latter being International Excellence focusing on the fields of medicine and biotechnology.

The international provenance of a significant part of its student body speaks for the universal vocation of this University. Approximately 1,500 students from other countries are presently registered, making this a cosmopolitan institution, open to the world and willing to absorb and disseminate knowledge world-wide. Each year, this University sends 400 students abroad through the university exchange program Erasmus and receives a similar number from 32 other countries.

The University in Santiago is, therefore, comprehensive inasmuch as offering studies in practically all fields of knowledge and firmly committed to forging ahead as a leader of scientific, economic and social progress. Research is one of the pillars of our institution fostering many diverse initiatives and spin-off companies which transmit the latest scientific contributions to the real economy.

Life within the University of Santiago is not just studies and research alone; each year a wide range of activities are programmed which are not limited to the university community itself, enhancing the cultural (choirs, theater, concerts, literary readings) and sporting (swimming, field and track, tennis, field hockey) programs of both of its home cities.

The University of Santiago de Compostela also expresses its respect for external talent by awarding doctoral *Honoris Causa* to renowned figures from the most diverse fields, from natural sciences to social sciences to literature to the arts. Nearly one hundred prominent persons have been awarded this title so far.

With over 500 years of history and determined to strive forward, the University of Santiago preserves its vitality and the responsibility of an essential institution for the progress of Galicia and the betterment of society.







## *Gaudeamus igitur*

Gaudeamus igitur,  
iuvenes dum sumus. *(bis)*  
Post iucundam iuventutem,  
post molestam senectutem,  
nos habebit humus. *(bis)*

Vivat academia,  
vivant professores. *(bis)*  
Vivat membrum quodlibet,  
vivant membra quaelibet,  
semper sint in flore. *(bis)*

