

# SANTANDER GROUP

## European Universities' Network



[www.sgroup.be](http://www.sgroup.be)



## SANTANDER GROUP

### *European Universities' Network*

- The Santander Group is a dynamic platform for modern, internationally orientated universities with the aim of **expanding collaboration opportunities in education and research** through the **transfer of knowledge and development of strategic alliances**
- 34 universities from 16 European countries
- International non-profit association under Spanish law established in 1988



## What we do

- Privileged contacts to university associations and HEIs worldwide
- Providing international visibility

### I. Internationalisation strategy

- Building consortia for EU-funded projects
- Reinforcing research collaboration
- Strengthening social mission of universities

### II. Academic collaboration

- Administrative
- Academic
- Research
- Student mobility

### IV. Academic mobility

### III. Transfer of knowledge

- Identification and promotion of individual and institutional expertise
- Specialised workshops and seminars



## Selected Projects and Activities

### Regional Collaboration & Mobility

- Berkeley Exchange Programme – USA
- Alfa Puentes – Latin America
- ICon – Intercontinental Academic Mobility Programme
- STEP Programme – Placements for students

### Transfer of Knowledge

- Summer schools for Doctoral Students
- Specialised workshops and seminars
- United Nations Academic Impact Project

### Strategic Alliances

- Collaboration with university associations and HEIs with Latin America (AUGM, FAUBAI, ASCUN, OUI)
- Erasmus Mundus iDEA Project

### Strengthening Research Capacities

- Networking for EU funded projects
- Assistance with internationalisation of Science and Technology
- Specialised courses and workshops



## ***Project activities 2012/2013***

- ***ICon – Intercontinental Academic Exchange Programme***
  - *Collaboration with the Montevideo Group*
    - *Mobility*
      - *Undergraduate*
      - *Graduate*
      - *Doctoral sandwich programmes*
      - *Academics*

***Duration: Ongoing***

***Co-ordinator: SG Secretariat with a Steering Committee of the project***



## ***Project activities 2012/2013***

***Study Abroad Programme - joint Study Abroad programmes are planned to be created for international students among SG institutions in specific strategic-excellent areas.***

***Duration: 2012/2013 – project development, operational from 2013/2014***  
***Co-ordinator: Rebeca Tomás from Rovira i Virgili University.***



## ***Project activities 2012/2013***

### ***Exploratory study to create doctoral academic networks between SG universities***

*Establishing networks between SG university members with common doctorate interests and to map out academic interest among university partners. An ultimate goal will be to strengthen doctoral academic links and to submit an application for Erasmus for All action.*

***Duration: 2012/2013 – project development, operational from 2013/2014***

***Co-ordinator: Matxalen Llosa Blas, University of Cantabria***



## ***Project activities 2012/2013***

### ***New International Mindset at University Campuses***

*Setting up a programme of training courses for university staff of SG universities in order to raise awareness and shape the internal culture of our institutions towards internationalisation. The project can either become an initiative funded by individual members or it can be funded from EU Lifelong Learning Programme. The initiators are considering bidding for EU funding early next year.*

***Duration: 2012/2013***

***Co-ordinator: Marina Casals from Rovira i Virgili University***



## ***Project activities 2012/2013***

### ***Collaboration in the Internationalisation of Science and Technology - CIST***

*collaboration in Science and Technology both among SG members and their counterparts outside of Europe. Foster collaboration Higher Education Institutions and S&T Parks in Latin American (strategic region). The project is designed as a long-term activity that can be divided into stages and comprise multiple activities such as*

- *networking of researchers and research units*
- *training courses for researchers*
- *collaboration with Brazil, Mexico, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Colombia in doctoral education (sandwich programmes).*

***Duration: Ongoing***

***Co-ordinator: SG Secretariat***



## ***Project activities 2012/2013***

### ***Continuing Professional Development for Postdocs - CPD***

*Providing assistance with post-doctorates and PI with essential information and tools to develop their research careers successfully. The tools use for this type of activities will be: developing, maintaining and reviewing an individual career plan, from initial research plans to obtaining tenure; doing research with and for diverse clients such as funding agencies, governments, foundations or firms; applying for a principal investigator award; team and project management, including collaborative and/or international teams, with a focus on internal management as well as vis-à-vis the scholarly community, funder and institution.*

***Duration: Ongoing; the courses can be delivered at the SG members universities upon request;***

***Co-ordination: SG Secretariat***



## ***Project activities 2012/2013***

### ***EU-LA Higher Education Community within the framework of the Alfa Puentes Project***

*This online tool facilitates dialogue between experts in Higher Education from Europe and Latin America. SG members can register as members of the community to:*

- *Become members of interest groups and interact with other experts*
- *Apply to register as experts*
- *Request the uploading of documents in the “Documents Repository” section*
- *Attend selected Alfa Puentes meetings*
- *Seek synergies between projects*
- *Receive News Flashes*

*To read more about the community and about the Alfa Puentes project, click here:*

*Community: <http://alfapuentes.org/portal/node/260>*

*Alfa Puentes: <http://alfapuentes.org/portal>*

***Duration: Alfa Puentes project duration from now until May 2013; the Community will be available beyond its duration***

***Co-ordination: SG Secretariat***