

## Five pupils stand out at the Fundación Moeve Chair awards at the UCA

- **These outstanding projects are related to the fields of energy transition and biodiversity**

The 2024 Fundación Moeve Chair awards ceremony was held in the Graduation Hall of the Higher Technical School of Engineering of Algeciras at the University of Cádiz (UCA). These awards recognize excellent capstone projects in the energy transition and biodiversity categories, highlighting their relevance and applicability.

In the biodiversity category, the Fundación Moeve Chair awarded first place to Fernando Cortés Córdoba with his project *Designing a Bioreactor for the Production of Polyhydrooxialcanoates (PHA) Using Mixed Crops from Acidogenic Effluents of Invasive Algae (*Rugulopteryx okamurae*)*, and Emma Gómez Fernández came in second place with her *Study of Hydrothermal Liquefaction of an Invasive Species of Marine Macroalgae and Basic Sizing of a Pilot Plant for this Process*.

On the other hand, in the Energy Transition category, José Lorenzo Calderón Solís was recognized for his capstone project, *Development of Innovative Thermochromic Materials Based on VO<sub>2</sub> Using Laser Technology*. The second prize was awarded *ex aequo* to Emmanuel Benjamín Tavira Zambrano and Tomás González Narvaez for their *Continuous Hydrogen Production through Gasification in Supercritical Water of Phenol and its Application in Epoxy Resins Obtained from the Liquefaction of Aeronautical Waste of Composite Materials and Prototype of Photovoltaic Plant with Energy Storage Tower by Gravity* projects, respectively.

The event was attended by the winners, as well as María Luz Martín, vice-rector of the Bahía de Algeciras Campus of the UCA; Francisco Trujillo, director of the Fundación Moeve Chair; Carlos Alberto Prieto Velasco, head of Energy Transition Technologies at the Moeve Research Center; and Estrella Blanco, head of Fundación Moeve.

During the ceremony, the winning students had the opportunity to publicly present the projects chosen for these awards by the joint committee of the Fundación Moeve Chair due to their innovation nature, originality, and scientific-technological approach, as well as their relevance and applicability.

Estrella Blanco, head of Fundación Moeve, highlighted "these students' research efforts to present high-level projects to the Chair Awards, the result of Fundación Moeve's commitment to the University of Cadiz and social innovation".

Since its foundation in 2005, the Chair's activity has focused on promoting and incentivizing aspects regarding education, research, technology transfer and dissemination, currently focusing on social innovation and student development. The relationship between the University of Cadiz and Moeve dates back to the founding of the Algeciras University School of Technical Industrial Engineering. Since then, the two entities have maintained a constant line of collaboration.

### **The Fundación Moeve chairs**

The Fundación Moeve Chairs at the Universities of Cadiz and Huelva are continually strengthened thanks to the contributions and involvement of the company's professionals as well as the academic institutions committed to improving research, training, knowledge flow and innovation.

Fundación Moeve Chairs have helped thousands of students to approach the professional world and bring university professors closer to the reality of the energy sectors. Knowledge and experience exchange between Moeve professionals and university teachers and students has led to the professional enrichment of all of them. Today, Fundación Moeve Foundation is a great ally of these universities.

**Fundación Moeve** is a non-profit, general interest organization whose goal is to carry out work aimed at serving the needs and priorities of the local communities where its founder, Moeve, conducts its activities. Fundación Moeve's scopes of action are people, biodiversity, and social innovation.

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