

## Six students are recognized at the fundación Moeve University Chair Awards at UCA

- **The winning projects stand out for their practical application in areas such as energy transition, biodiversity, and efficient water consumption**

The Main Hall of the Higher Technical School of Engineering of Algeciras, at the University of Cadiz (UCA), was the venue for the award ceremony of the 2025 fundación Moeve University Chair Awards. These awards recognize excellence in final course projects in the categories of Energy Transition, Biodiversity, and Efficiency and Consumption of Water, particularly valuing their impact, usefulness, and future projection.

In the Biodiversity category, the fundación Moeve University Chair recognized the work of Atenea Rodríguez Luque, in first place, for her project *Variability of the Benthic Communities in Environments with Different Invasion Pressure*, and that of María José Romero Pérez, in second place, with *Effects of Yellow Artificial Light at Night (ALAN) on the Physiology of the Native Macroalga Halopteris Scoparia and the Invasive Species Rugulopteryx Okamurae*.

For her part, in the category of Energy Transition, Patricia García Herrera Cruces won first place thanks to her final project *Evaluation of the Mechanical and Physical Properties of New Sustainable Ceramic Materials for Construction*. Second place went to José Ángel Cano Sody for his project *Production of Crude Oil From the Reuse of Aeronautical Resins Through Hydrothermal Liquefaction and Liquid-Liquid Extraction, and State of the Art of Its Upgrading Through Catalytic Hydrogenation*.

In the Water Efficiency and Consumption category, Julia Ortiz Serrano received first place for her project *New Reverse Osmosis Developments for a Sustainable Concentration of Rare Earths*. Second place went to Clara de Juan Simón for her project, *Study of the Presence of Microplastics in Desalination Plants: Impact on the Marine Environment*.

The event was attended by María Luz Martín, vice-rector of the UCA's Bahía de Algeciras Campus; Francisco Trujillo, director of the fundación Moeve University Chair; Juan Carlos Valenzuela, Director of ETSIA; and Estrella Blanco, head of fundación Moeve.

During the ceremony, the winners had the opportunity to publicly present their projects, which were evaluated by the Joint Committee of the fundación Moeve Chair for their innovative nature, scientific-technical rigor, and contribution to resolving current challenges.

Estrella Blanco, head of fundación Moeve, emphasized, "the efforts of these students to propose sustainable solutions applicable to the challenges that the energy transition poses to us today." Congratulations to the winners of the University Chair Awards, the result of fundación Moeve's commitment to the University of Cadiz and social innovation.

Since its foundation in 2005, the fundación Moeve Chair has focused its work on promoting training, research, knowledge transfer, and dissemination, currently directing its actions towards social innovation and the development of university talent. The collaboration between the University of Cadiz and Moeve dates back to the origins of the University School of Industrial Technical Engineering of Algeciras, and has been consolidated over the years through continuous cooperation.

### **Fundación Moeve Chairs**

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 sector. 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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