



The University Social Council, the University of Seville and the Focus-Abengoa Foundation launch the 10th “Javier Benjumea Puigcerver” Research Prize

- The prize, which is worth €18,000 and includes publication of the work and a special diploma, seeks to recognise the work carried out by researchers within the university community.

Seville, 15 February 2013. The Focus-Abengoa Foundation together with the University’s Social Council and the University of Seville have announced the start of the submissions period for the 10th “Javier Benjumea Puigcerver” Research Prize. This award is designed to recognise the work carried out by members of the university community (doctors, graduates or diploma holders) who participate in research projects that contribute to the development of companies and institutions.

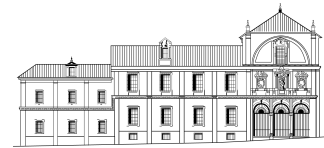
The “Javier Benjumea Puigcerver” Research Prize consists of an award of €18,000, a special diploma and publication of the winning work. Those interested in participating should send their work to the headquarters of the Social Council at the Vice-chancellor’s Office of the University of Seville before 15 March 2013. The terms and conditions of the prize, which include the requirements for all candidates, are available on the Focus-Abengoa Foundation’s website ([//focus.abengoa.es/](http://focus.abengoa.es/)).

The conditions of the prize state that research work should be in the areas of scientific and technical knowledge of the University of Seville and will be evaluated on criteria such as the quality of the work, its scientific interest to companies and society, and the usefulness and interest of the research in relation to the socio-economic and business environment of the University.

As is tradition, the prize-giving ceremony for the “Javier Benjumea Puigcerver” Research Prize will take place in the main hall of the University of Seville and will be attended by a wide-ranging group of academics and researchers, and representatives from the University of Seville and the Focus-Abengoa Foundation.

Social Council

The Council is the body representing civil society in the University, with functions that include promoting the relevance of the range of courses and activities among Andalusian society. According to its regulations, the functions of the Council are classified into three areas: Economic-financial, which includes powers to approve and pay the university’s budgets, rates and public prices, etc.; Academic, which encompasses the approval of new qualifications and the rules of attendance for students, among others; and Social Relations, with functions to



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promote agreements and the sponsorship and collaboration of society in the financing of the University.

The Social Council of the University of Seville decided to promote the “Javier Benjumea Puigcerver” Research Prize in order to commemorate this illustrious figure from Seville society who was awarded an *Honoris Causa* Doctorate from the University of Seville.

Focus-Abengoa Foundation

The Focus-Abengoa Foundation was created in 1982 as a result of the cultural work begun in 1972 by Abengoa with the publication of the works *Temas Sevillanos* (Themes of Seville) and *Iconografía de Sevilla* (Iconography of Seville). A collection of documents, books and engravings on the Kingdom of Seville and by Sevillian authors was created during the same period. This initial cultural work showed Abengoa’s directors the importance of the company’s involvement in activities that directly benefit society, beyond the firm’s core technology work, which led to the creation of the Seville Cultural Fund Foundation. The Hospital de los Venerables, a 17th century monument and the headquarters of the Focus-Abengoa Foundation in Seville, has housed the Diego Velázquez Research Centre, a leading institution for studying and disseminating the Baroque era and the Sevillian period of this universally renowned artist, since the acquisition of Velázquez’s Santa Rufina by the Foundation in 2007.

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