

Projecte Shere Rom

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Faculty of Psychology / Psychology and Speech Therapy Service / Research Group on Human Development, Social Intervention and Interculturality

www.5dbarcelona.org

Programme description

Objective, background, detected need. Link between university education and society. Target audience, collaborators, strategic partnerships, field of action (local, global).

The Shere Rom Project was created in 1998 with the objective of making use of the educational potential of university students, as well as their expertise in the use of ICTs, to mediate educational activities with boys and girls from areas at risk of social exclusion and where there are major difficulties for educational inclusion. It is modelled on the University-Community Links project at the University of California (UCLinks), with which it collaborates online. Both projects involve the participation of researchers and university students in the design, implementation and sustainability of community-based education activities that make use of ICT.

The Shere Rom Project started out as part of the partnership between the Research Group on Human Development, Social Intervention and Interculturality (DEHISI) from the Faculty of Psychology at the UAB, and the Badalona Gypsy Association, setting up learning spaces on the latter's premises for boys and girls from 3 to 14 years of age, most of whom have a background of school failure, with the participation of university students who help the children with ICT mediated tasks, the aim being to work their way through a maze. The model has since been expanded to, in addition to other non-formal spaces, schools with multicultural populations and environments at risk of social exclusion, integrating these activities in the curricular framework, and in collaboration with teachers. Teams composed of one researcher, one teacher and four or five university students are formed to plan, run and evaluate these collaborative activities with young boys and girls. When conducted outside of schools, these teams feature a social worker instead of a teacher, usually of Gypsy ethnicity.

*Agreements have been signed with different institutions, most particularly Barcelona City Council, through the Pla de Barris (Neighbourhoods Plan), the Municipal Council for the Participation of the Gypsy People and the Municipal Council of Immigrant Participation, which were used as the basis for the implementation of communities of practice in and outside of schools. There have also been more **isolated agreements** with the Government of Catalonia, Barcelona Regional Council, Badalona City Council and El Prat de Llobregat City Council. Specific grants have been obtained from the Jaume Bofill Foundation and the Amics del País Foundation.*

- » *Impact Number of beneficiaries, time-frame of the benefits gained, scalability of the project to broaden its impact, improvements and continuity of the project, sustainability in the medium and long term.*

Thus far, three associations have taken part, one civic centre, one library, seven primary schools, two school-institutes and three secondary schools, in the districts of Besòs-la Mina, Bon Pastor, Roquetes, Gràcia and Hostafrancs in Barcelona, Sant Roc in Badalona and Sant Cosme in El Prat de Llobregat. The number of participant children has fluctuated between 75 and 240. Between 30 and 120 university students have taken part each year, either on work placements from subjects the fields of Psychology and Education, or as open credits.

In October 2018 the project will be 20 years old. Its sustainability depends on it being fully institutionalised in the university teaching environment, which especially implies the need to be recognised in terms of the work put in by teaching staff and the time spent on it.

More information

Lalueza, J.L.; Sànchez-Busqués, S. & Padrós, M. (2016). *Creando vínculos entre Universidad y Comunidad: el proyecto Shere Rom, una experiencia de aprendizaje servicio en la Facultad de Psicología de la Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona*. RIDAS. *Revista Iberoamericana de Aprendizaje Servicio*, 2, 33-69



Small World Initiative a la UAB: recerca de nous antibiòtics (SWI a la UAB)

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Faculties of Biosciences, Medicine and Veterinary Science

Departments of Genetics and Microbiology, of Animal Health and Anatomy, and of Animal and Food Science

<http://pagines.uab.cat/swiuab/>

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Programme description

The scientific community and the WHO, EFSA, EMEA, etc. all place special emphasis on the responsible use of currently available antimicrobials. This good practice directly implies a wide range of professionals, but also all members of the general public, since it is estimated that unless the current situation is resolved, there will be 10 million premature deaths up to 2050 as a result of bacterial infections against which we do not yet have or will not have effective antibiotics.

The SWI project at the UAB aims to help to improve information and public awareness about this problem, with our university's students, guided by the UAB's Microbiology lecturers, being responsible for conducting the awareness programme, while also participating in an international crowdsourcing and service learning project whereby they introduce secondary and high school pupils to the world of research. The project also seeks to stimulate and encourage secondary school pupils to study Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).

SWI at the UAB is aimed at life and health science undergraduates at the UAB and at first year high school or final year ESO (compulsory secondary education) pupils, as well as their families and social peers.

The project forms part of the Argó programme at the UAB Institute for Education Sciences (ICE) and has been supported by the Government of Catalonia's Specific Educational Resource Centre for Innovation and Educational Research (CE-SIRE). It also has the full support of the D+D SEM Group of the Spanish Microbiology Society and forms part of SWI@Spain and SWI International (www.smallworldinitiative.org). It was set up under the guidance of the UAB Institutional Biosafety Committee and UAB Valorisation and Patents Office. The project has been funded by the UAB Teaching Innovation programme and UAB Vice-Rector's Office for Innovation and Strategic Projects.

Impact

Results and impact of the SWI at the UAB project (2017-18)

The SWI at the UAB project was conducted at the UAB in terms of the teaching of UAB staff and students and, in accordance the following diagram, at secondary and high schools from February to May 2018.

	SESSION 1	SESSION 2	SESSION 3	SESSION 4	SESSION 5
EXPERIMENTATION	Take soil samples in sterile conditions	Isolation of bacteria	Re-isolation Antibiosis test	Results Selection of antibiotic producing bacteria	Preparation of education and awareness session for pupils, teachers and families at secondary and high schools
DEBATE	Antibiotics: Resistance and impact SWI project	Biosafety Levels Regulations	ESKAPE Nosocomial infections Resistance mechanisms Responsible use of antibiotics	Responsible research and innovation Intellectual property	

The project has involved 16 UAB lecturers, 56 UAB students and 313 pupils from 15 secondary and high schools. It has worked with 140 soil samples to seek antibiotic-producing bacteria, the antibiotics produced by 2,696 isolated strains of these soils have been tested against different bacteria, and it now has 59 bacterial strains that are capable of producing antibiotics. This is just the beginning of the UAB collection. The project has also had an impact on TV, the press and local radio.

Future of the SWI at the UAB project

Work has already begun on the SWI@UAB_2.0 project, which involves 16 UAB lecturers, and a similar number of UAB students are expected to be recruited in the first edition. The project is due to be implemented in 15 new secondary and high schools in our surrounding area. This edition has introduced innovations, such as the incorporation of students from the Faculty of Communication Sciences, crowdfunding and the creation of the SWI UAB network that will group together all the different centres that take part each year. With these measures, the project is expected to be consolidated and to be sustainable in the short and medium term.

More information

A large collection of images of all the centres that have participated in the project can be found at the following addresses:

<http://pagines.uab.cat/swiuab/>

<https://www.facebook.com/swiuab/>

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Shown below are some images of the closing ceremony of the project on 17 May 2018, which was attended by representatives of UAB lecturers and students, and teachers and pupils from all the secondary and high schools that took part.

