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AN INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO SPATIAL DESIGN AT THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL

Abstract

My experience as a graduate student and, now, as young professional, was full of challenges, events, and congresses. I strongly believe these events are a key part in every persons career, because they do not only imply an enhance in knowledge and information, but, also, they are an excellent opportunity to harden the soft skills every professional needs in its daily job: proactiveness; ability to think and work within a group of people, and to accept different points of view. That is the reason why, once I got a position as an assistant professor in my home University, I decided to offer my students my best effort both to replicate these experiences in my classes and, more importantly, to share with them any information related to the different trainings I heard about. But, considering that I have a special interest in the aerospace sector, I have always dreamed to organize a project integrating different areas of knowledge. My idea was that during the whole academic year, the interested students could have the chance to design either a rover or a space module. I have also considered the possibility of working together with other colleagues from University of Córdoba, who have been working on related topics. The idea is quite revolutionary in my country, where projects this size are not very common, particularly, in huge universities such as mine. But it is also revolutionary in the sense that it congregates students from no technical areas. This is something that is strongly highlighted from space agencies and industries, but is hardly ever perceived from undergraduates during their career. The broadcasting of the project is crucial, to ensure the impact on the university community, and as I see things, it will require a couple of months to assure it. The second step, will be to choose, after a predefined selection process, the students that would start the project. The schedule of the activities should be designed by the professors in charge of the project, with a close support of a committee of experts from the argentiniean industry that will give both support and founding to the project. The committee should be formed by authorities from INVAP, Skyloom, CONAE, University of La Plata, University of Córdoba and any other institution related to the aerospace sector in Argentina. It would also be a plus for the project to have the occasional intervention of worldwide experts.