



PUCRS

# A new university for a new society

Photo of Pró-Mata/PUCRS - Private Natural Heritage Reserve

PUCRS Sustainability Report

20  
23





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# A new university for a new society

## The commitment to creating social impact and transforming realities.

We are PUCRS, a higher education institution with a 75-year history and the first Marist university in the world. Our journey in Education is marked by innovation, by pioneering and by the commitment to educating agents of transformation of society in different fields of knowledge.

In seven decades — guided by a humanist vision, by the charm and legacy of Marcellin Champagnat and by continuous learning —, we became more than an education institution: our purpose expanded and, in addition to educating people, we create structures capable of enhancing your talents, businesses and communities, and of putting life at the center, investing in research and technology that are transformed into services of prevention and healthcare and into solutions for different sectors of society.



We are interconnected with the community and we have a strong socioenvironmental commitment that encompasses initiatives such as the maintenance of Pró-Mata — the biggest Private Reserve of Natural Heritage (RPPN) of Rio Grande do Sul — and the creation and management of a Science and Technology Museum, of a Science and Technology Park (Tecnopuc) — considered the 4th biggest global ecosystem of innovation —, of different Institutes, among which are the Institute of Petroleum and Natural Resources and the Brain Institute (Brains), as well as a Hospital which is a reference in healthcare, education and research.

Our commitment to the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals and to the 2030 Agenda guide this report, whose purpose is to measure our practices and what we have learned, to inspire the university community and partners to join us in this journey, and to share the knowledge we acquired.

## Enjoy your read!



## Mission

PUCRS, grounded in Human Rights, in the principles of Christianity, and in the Marist educational tradition, through integral formation, generates and transforms knowledge into social, environmental, cultural and economic development, preparing people to change the world for the better.

## Vision

Being a new university for a new society, recognized for its impact and relevance.

## Strategic Positioning

Innovation, generation of impact and value to society.



01

**Excellence in every front of action.**

02

**Inclusive, plural and creative university community.**

03

**People at the center of each experience.**

04

**Vector of development for society.**

05

**Competitive and sustainable portfolio, connected to the needs of its time.**

06

**Responsive management committed to results.**

07

**Social, Environmental and Governance Responsibility.**

08

**Economic and financial soundness of schools and units.**

# Attention to the Commor Home

The relevance of the University must be based between what society expects from institutions and what they actually do. A University that is innovative and aware of its social commitment must be the main character in the process of regional and global development. In the dawn of the century, the sustainability theme, especially in the environmental dimension, has been drawing plenty of attention. After all, we have been seeing the results of mistakes made throughout history, when, in the name of development at any cost, we caused serious damage to the Planet and to the people, creating inequalities and a trail of destruction. Without a doubt, we have reached a new level of awareness regarding the damage caused, yet, still, we have not been able to actually reach any form of consensus on the new needs arising from all this change. Nature calls for change in human behavior and actions. Significant social potions want a new model of generation and distribution of wealth, as well as of use of resources. It is up to each of us and the University, as a higher education institution, to create and strengthen communities that aim at continuously more effective solidarity, through respect to life and everything that is human, through education, research and innovation.



▼ **Brother Evilázio Teixeira**  
President

# How we got here

The mission to teach leaders for society translates the wish that every initiative carried out at and by PUCRS makes the world a better place. Thus, positively impacting reality, in addition to being the passion that motivates students, is in the University's DNA, in the curricula of every level of education, becoming the premise for scientific research.

An evolving University, committed to its social mission, PUCRS aims to be aware of the great global challenges that require the creation and the development of new interprofessional knowledge and leadership skills.



 **CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD**  
the book that tells some of our transformation stories in these 75 years.

# How to read this report

## This document is a milestone.

In the year in which it celebrates 75 years of history, the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS) also begins a new cycle of Strategic Planning (2023-2027). A new vision, aligned with the Institutional Development Plan (PDI), guides a journey with the goal of becoming a new university for a new society, recognized for its impact and relevance.

Therefore, the traditional Social Report transforms into this Sustainability Report, which aims to enhance actions which impact the community and Education. Guided by the UN's 2030 Agenda, this is the first edition of a work that is constantly improving, structured based on the 5 P's adopted to guide the sustainable development.

## Planet (SDGs 6, 12 to 15)

Promoting sustainable management of water and plumbing for all, adopting sustainable standards of consumption and production, fighting climate emergency and preserving ecosystems.



## Partnerships (SDGs 17)

Revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development, a broad collaboration between countries, sectors and actors.



## Peace (SDGs 16)

Promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building efficient, responsible and inclusive institutions.



## People (SDGs 1 to 5)

Eradicate poverty and hunger, ensuring health, welfare, and quality education for all, promoting gender equality.



## Prosperity (SDGs 7 to 11)

Ensuring everyone has access to accessible, reliable, sustainable and modern energy, fostering innovation and resilient infrastructures to promote an inclusive economic growth.



Aligned with these goals, the University aims to enhance its contributing to the global effort towards a future that is more fair, prosperous and sustainable, recognizing the interconnection between local welfare and global challenges. In order to ensure transparency and authenticity, the metrics and results presented here were audited by an external renowned auditing firm, which assessed concrete evidence of each initiative.

This report celebrates our advances and our collaborative learning journey, as well as reinforces the importance of new commitments, serving as an invitation to the collective and continuous action towards a future that is more sustainable and fairer to all.

To learn more about the Sustainable Development Goals in Brazil, [click here.](#)



## CONNECTIONS



This icon, throughout the report, will help to better understand the actions and the way in which they connect to the strategic goals of the SDGs.







The Marist values  
of audacity, love of work, family spirit,  
simplicity, solidarity, spirituality and  
presence guide this constant journey  
towards impacting people's lives.





## People

# People at the center of every experience

Strategic driver adopted in 2023 which traces a direct connection to the first of the 5 P's of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.

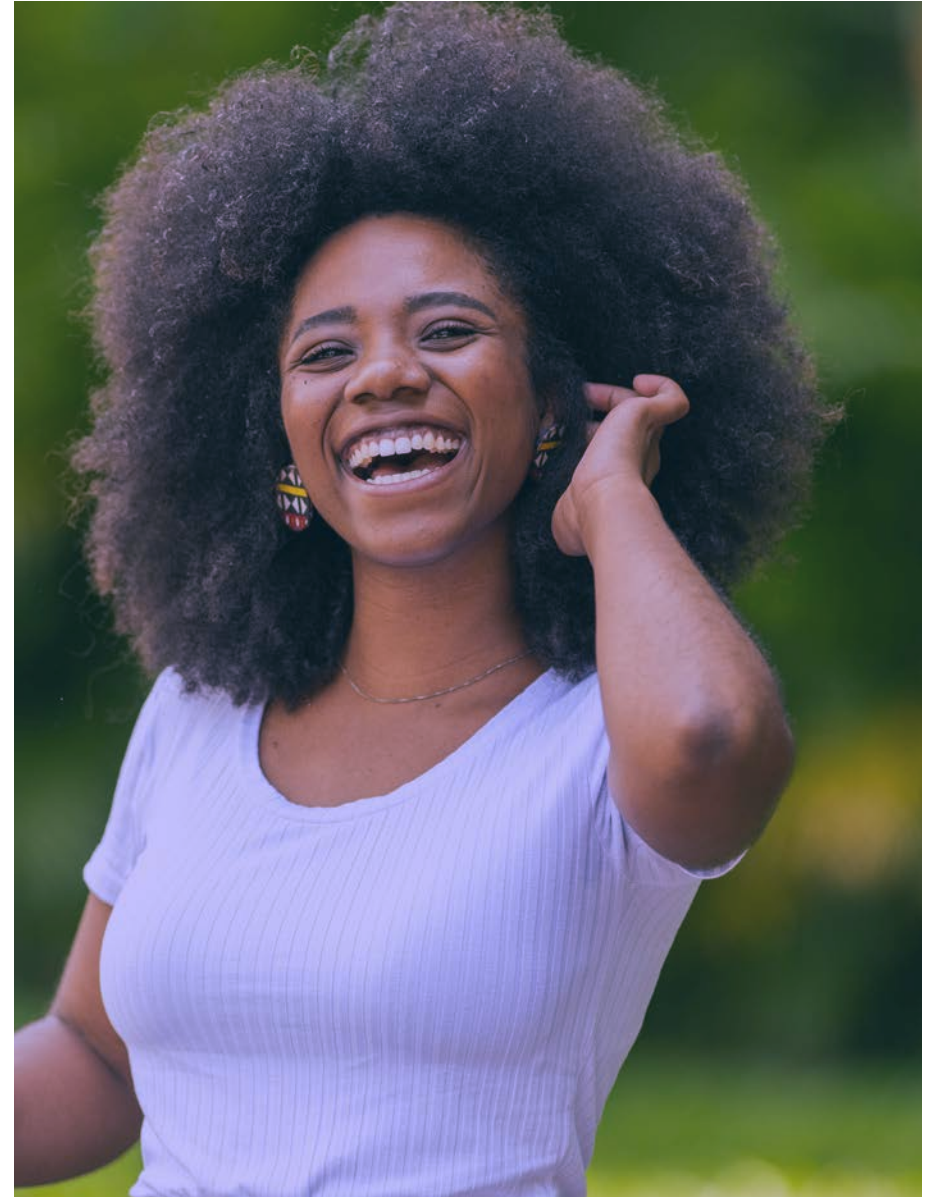


By adopting a holistic view of human development, recognizing education as a privileged means of transformation, this driver emphasizes an understanding the human being in its integrality: education improves people, people improve the world. In the university community's daily life, this is reflected in actions that range from community health projects to educational programs of inclusion and diversity, which aim to reduce inequalities and promote welfare beyond the Campus.

**Loyal to the mission of creating and transforming knowledge into social, environmental, cultural and economic development, in this chapter the University presents initiatives that translate its contribution to the SGS 1 to 5.**

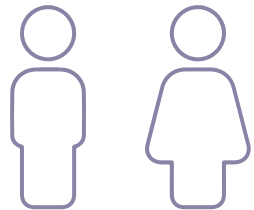


This chapter intends to not only highlight and measure actions and reflect on how they are linked to the global goals, but also to generate inspiration, learning and an even bigger commitment to people's welfare and development.



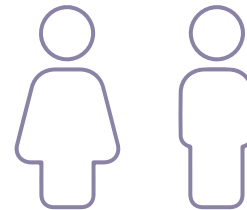
## UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

We are  
**3233**  
employees PUCRS.



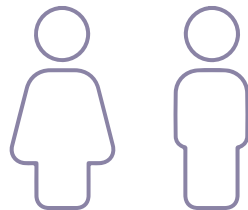
**56%** **44%**

We are  
**121**  
employees at Brains.



**55%** **45%**

We are  
**3445**  
employees at HSL.



**76%** **24%**

Altogether, considering  
HSL, Brains and PUCRS,  
there are

**328**  
people in management  
positions and

**176**  
young apprentices.

This year, PUCRS relaunched the Somar Program, a project focused on diversity and inclusion of people in our University. Currently, the total number of employees with disabilities at PUCRS, HSL and Brains is 300 people. The first inclusive class of apprentices was organized.

In 2023\*, PUCRS had 12,333 undergraduate students, both online and on-site. The total number of Specialization students was 71,102. We also had 1966 graduate students, and 566 got their degrees.

Among the various experiences that comprise a student's academic training, internationalization is one of the most enriching: in addition to the immersion in a foreign culture and language, there is the benefit of the contact with the student's field of knowledge/expertise in a different social, cultural, and economic context. Regarding undergraduate internationalization, PUCRS welcomed 171 students from 16 countries, while 97 of our students carried out academic mobility to 12 countries. Recent agreements made new destinations possible, especially TU Wien (Austria) and the University of Trento (Italy).

\*considering the number of students enrolled during the second semester of 2023

## MARIST VALUES

The Marist values of audacity, love of work, family spirit, simplicity, solidarity, spirituality and presence guide this constant journey towards creating a positive impact on people's lives. In 2023, 285 of the institution's employees participated in the Marist Culture and Identity course, which promoted and reinforced the Marist way of being and acting.

The culture of solidarity represents an institutional Marist value, which has permeated our activities for over 200 years. Based on this value, we are invited to commit and to reassert this commitment to the common good, the promotion and defense of rights. Therefore, on top of specific actions, the solidarity we seek concerns perceiving oneself along others, understanding them as a part of the same global community, dedicated to and responsible for our Common Home. PUCRS's Pastoral and Solidarity Center served 12 institutions, through the Educational Volunteering Project and other solidarity actions, totaling 4269 cases. In September, during a time with strong rain and floods in Rio Grande do Sul, the University, in a partnership with the Marist Network, collected around 200kg of non-perishable food, 3,080 items of personal hygiene, and 455 cleaning supplies, which were donated to the families hit by the flood in Ilha dos Marinheiros. Know more about this action here. Throughout the year, the volunteering actions in HSL involved 7946 people, and in the Pastoral Center, 16474.

## PUCRS'S SÃO LUCAS HOSPITAL, A REFERENCE FOR THE POPULATION

The access to essential and quality health care services, medication and vaccines guides our actions in the hospital, which is a reference for the population of Porto Alegre and Rio Grande do Sul.

**The hospital received, unprecedented in Latin America, the Qmentum Diamong accreditation for the + Cardio line, with criteria such as patient safety and health care quality approved by the QGA Global Alliance.**



| 108,4 mil  
thousand appointments

| 13,2 mil  
thousand surgeries

| 65,9 mil  
thousand urgency/  
emergency services

| 1,9 milhão  
diagnoses, therapies  
and treatments

### CURIOSITY


Did you know that the city of Porto Alegre has 1,3 million inhabitants according to the 2022 Census?

Patient care per day:

| SUS  
45,95%

| Private and  
insurance  
54,05%

  
58,61%

  
41,39%



## THE POPULATION'S MENTAL HEALTH

The Psychology Research and Services Center (SAPP) has been offering internships and research to students for 49 years. By offering free care to the community in different areas of psychology, SAPP provides an experience of integration between education, research and extension.



**Contributing to the universal access to health, including protection of the financial risk and the promotion of health and welfare, as well as reducing by a third premature mortality caused by noncommunicable diseases through prevention and treatment, are goals that connect with the actions presented on this page.**

**7.196 mil**  
thousand appointments

**3.496**  
patients

## INTEGRAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Different spaces on the Campus aim to promote students' and the community's mental and spiritual health, in the light of the Position on the Marist Network Life Project. Experiences and reflections on the political, technical, psycho-affective and psychosocial dimensions of the community are promoted, such as with the 1st International Journey of Meditation, a free and online event that aimed to foster the debate on the importance of meditation practices for health and life quality.



Another highlight throughout the year was PUCRS's participation in coordinating the scientific agenda of the II Marist Symposium on Evangelization. Aiming to boldly meet emerging needs, the Symposium gathered different subjects of the Marist Evangelizing Action in a network perspective, strengthening processes and identifying new pastoral horizons. In all, 65 papers were presented, boosting the integration of knowledge and experiences.



The event generated digital proceedings, which can be found here.

## ACCESSIBLE ORAL HEALTH

The Dental Care Service of the Dentistry Program, from the School of Health and Life Sciences, is offered to the community that needs dental care, in different specialties, for accessible prices. Students, supervised by professors, perform the services, enforcing the social and ethical commitment.



**44.371 mil**

thousand appointments

**3.395**

procedures in collective health

**10.477 mil**

thousand patients

## ACCESS TO SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND TO REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

With the purpose of further developing theory and practice, providing a dialogue with the community about sexuality, the School of Medicine's Sexology League discusses public health and basic education.

**Get to know the project  
Efficiency and effectiveness of  
sexual education interventions  
for teenagers: an overview of  
evidence for public policies.**

Specific projects that promote the health of women and of the LGBTQIAPN+ community also deploy agents of the university community. Themes such as violence, femicide, teenage pregnancy, family planning and sexually transmitted infections (STI) are discussed, promoting information and education. The actions seek to create specific public policies.



## BODIES IN MOTION

The Health and Welfare Program (SABER) assists children, teenagers, adults and the elderly in the search for a healthier and more active life. The participants have the free opportunity to exercise correctly, developing non-conventional motor activities, flexibility, speed, resistance, strength, in addition to autonomy and confidence.

**673**

people enrolled



## PHYSICAL REHABILITATION

The Rehabilitation Center is a space of assistance integrated with health and involves the fields of education, research and university extension. The assistance is integrated with the teaching programs at undergraduate and graduate levels.

13.976

services provided



## ATTENTION TO LOW BACK PAIN

São Lucas Hospital as a pilot in a joint project with Unimed Porto Alegre and a health institution called Dor Lombar de Valor. The goal of the project is to implement Value Based Health Care (VBHC) and improve the quality of life of people with low back pain, through an integrated network that will assist adults with the clinical diagnosis.

## INCENTIVE TO TEACHING-LEARNING PRACTICES

In the 10th edition of the Education through Work for Health Program (PET-Saúde) — an action of the Health and Education Ministries that aims to qualify the teaching-service-community integration in Brazilian municipalities —, PUCRS worked with the chronic noncommunicable diseases project. Actions were carried out in 10 Health Units in Porto Alegre, with the participation of 10 students from 10 undergraduate programs. Learn about the importance of this experience which collaborates with the Unified Health System (SUS).



## ACCESS TO BASIC HEALTH NEAR THE CAMPUS

The Vila Fátima University Extension Center/Health Unit — located near the Campus — ensures the residents of the area have access to rights and social development, as well as to quality services in health, education and assistance. There, students interact with the community and experience the reality of SUS. 23 professionals work at the Center, in addition to the participation of professors and students from eight PUCRS programs.

48.739 mil

thousand services performed

Through three parliamentary amendments, new dental chairs and equipment were purchased, and structural improvements were made to the space.



86 students joined the Tutorial Education Program (PET), an action by the Federal Government that encourages research, teaching and university extension activities at undergraduate level. Acquiring knowledge and necessary skills and promoting sustainable development, human rights, gender equality, peace and non-violence culture, global citizenship and the appreciation of diversity are goals that connect to these actions.

[Click her to know more](#)



## NEUROLOGY AND ONCOLOGY

*The Brain Institute (Brains), conceived by PUCRS to put science at the service of people's lives, is at the disposal of patients, doctors, researchers, students and companies that seek to understand, diagnose and treat diseases, especially those related to neurology and oncology. It is the only one in Brazil that gathers, all in one place, a diagnostics center for molecular imaging, a clinical and preclinical research center with international standard, and a radiopharmaceutical production center. Brains is at the disposal of SUS.*

**1,644 SUS patients underwent exams such as computed tomography (PET/CT), crucial in cancer diagnosis and for defining the appropriate treatment.**

A pioneer in the development and the only production center in Brazil of the 18F-Florbetaben radiopharmaceutical, capable of marking beta-amyloid plaques in the brain and assisting in diagnosing Alzheimer's Disease, Brains also produces:

- **Glicocer FDG-18F**, has great clinical utility, in oncology, capable of identifying different types of tumors.
- **Amespro Fluornicotinamida PSMA-1007 18F**, used in diagnosing primary and metastatic prostate cancer with high specificity. The PSMA exam is crucial for the definition of the medical approach to be used in prostate cancer patients, providing a more complete and efficient investigation of the tumor.



## RESEARCH AT BRAINS

28 new studies were started and there are now 54 active studies, 18 in assistance stage and 242 include volunteer patients.

**822 volunteers**

serviced in clinical research studies



Supporting the research and the development of medication for the diseases that affect mostly developing countries, providing access to medication and essential vaccines at accessible prices, are goals that are connected to the actions presented on this page.



## TETRAVALENT FLU VACCINE CLINICAL TRIALS

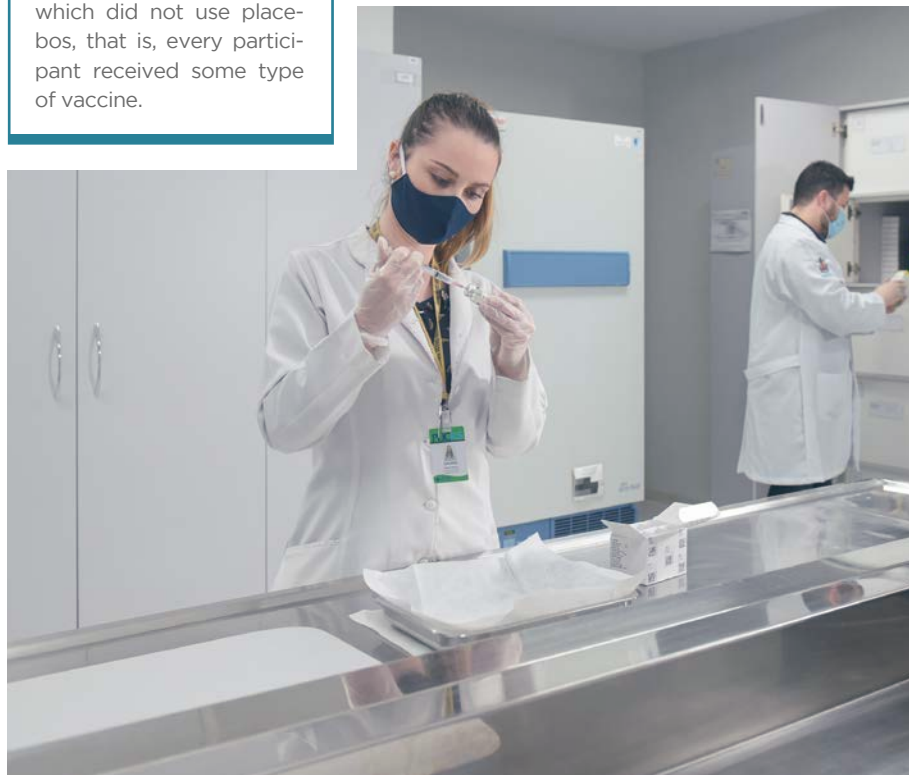
In order to assess the safety profile of a new tetravalent vaccine against the flu virus, São Lucas Hospital recruited volunteers. Clinical trials were made of the tetravalent vaccine, produced by the Butantan Institute, and the trivalent vaccine, which is currently the immunization option provided by SUS to the population.

### CURIOSITY ?

This is a randomized double-blind clinical trial which did not use placebos, that is, every participant received some type of vaccine.

## INCLUSION OF SENIOR CITIZENS

The Open University of Senior Citizens (UNATI) intends to include senior citizens in the academic environment and in society. Faced with the challenges posed by the rapid aging of the population and with the inversion of the population pyramid, UNATI carries out actions aimed at healthy aging, especially those that seek to improve indexes of life quality and autonomy. 172 people participated in 14 courses promoted to ensure equal access to education for affordable prices to men and women of all ages.



# Social, economic, and political inclusion for all

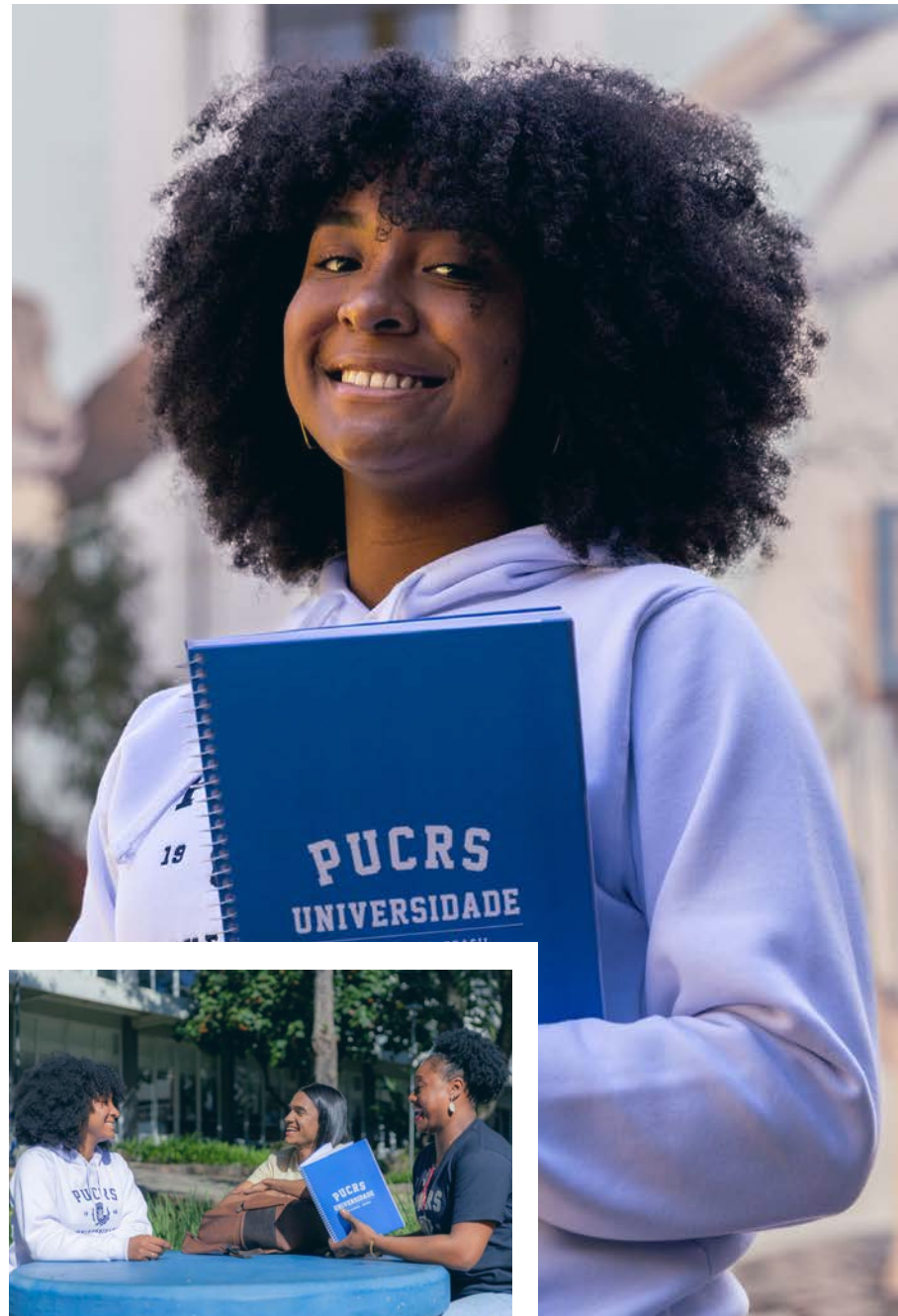
Conceived and financed by the University to facilitate the inclusion of people of color in higher education, Programa Raízes promoted the admission of 14 students in on-site undergraduate programs, in different fields of knowledge, with full scholarships and financial aid.

Learn about other stories of students that were admitted through the Program.



**“I met a lot of nice people here and I have wonderful colleagues. I am participating in a group called Jogae, whose purpose is to create games in order to make the teaching of History more didactic and fun during the learning process. I am enjoying what the University offers in addition to the course, for example, PUCRS Cultura’s guitar workshop — since I have always wanted to learn how to play this instrument. Something else that fascinated was the possibility of the students leaving the University as polyglots taking linguistics courses. I had no real idea about all this. Knowing PUCRS offers psychological support to students is also really nice.”**

- Susan Ferreira,  
student from the History-Teaching Degree Program



9 undergraduate students were presented with R\$ 1 thousand scholarships that covered living expenses, made possible by Grupo Carrefour with the goal of expanding the presence of black people in Higher Education.

**Project Gladys** – a partnership with the company HP – granted 8 full study scholarships and financial aid for students from the Data Science and Artificial Intelligence Program.

5 students were benefited by **Project Grace** – a partnership with the company Softex – to promote transformation in the lives of people in a socio-economically vulnerable situation by studying in Information Technology programs.

## WOMEN IN COMPUTING

17 active scholarships through the **Women in Computing** Project translate PUCRS's commitment to promoting the admission and permanence of women in the Computer Science Degree Program. In addition to the full scholarship, the partnership with the company Poatek offers financial aid to the selected candidates.



Eliminating gender inequalities in education and ensuring access equality for all levels of education and professional training for those more vulnerable, including disabled people, indigenous people and children in situations of vulnerability, are goals that connect to the actions described here, as well as globally expanding the number of scholarships available.



## SCHOLARSHIPS AND STUDENT LOANS

**R\$ 67,8 million**  
in student credit and  
loans for 2,010 people

**2.463 scholarships**  
from the Universidade  
para Todos Program (ProUni)  
Law no. 11.096/05

**312 graduates**  
from undergraduate  
programs through ProUni

**380 employees**  
and relatives had  
their studies funded

## ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS TO FACE THE CHALLENGES OF THE PLANET

Educating citizens who are the protagonists of their journeys is a priority for the University. A complete ecosystem of Entrepreneurship and Innovation is at the disposal not only of students from different levels of education, but also of the community.

## PUCRS'S SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PARK (TECNOPUC)

The ecosystem involves more than 200 organizations among public and private companies, research centers, startups and professional and entrepreneurial entities in an articulated community of over 6,500 people who collaborated towards the development of innovative business. The organizations that comprise the Park are of different sizes, markets and technologies, creating a rich and diverse community and companies and people. In 20 years, over 900 startups have been supported. Recognized as the fourth biggest global innovation ecosystem in the Triple Helix Conference, Tecnopuc is connected to more than 150 innovation environments in Brazil and in the world.



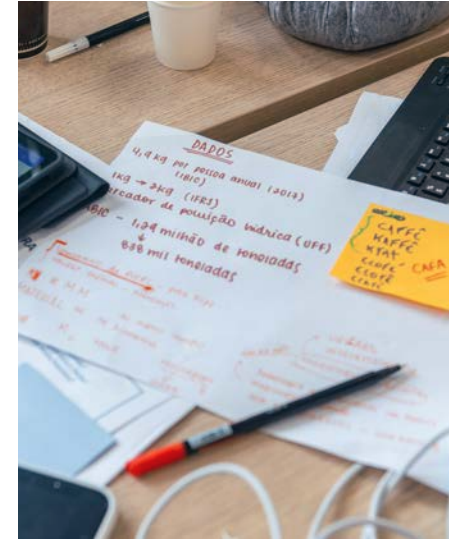
## INTERDISCIPLINARY LABORATORY OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION (IDEAR)

Created to foster and raise awareness among students, faculty and the community regarding the entrepreneurial attitude as a factor of social transformation, IDEAR makes use of practices that encourage creativity through new teaching methods and ludic teaching resources, like games, prototyping material, 3D printer and mounting blocks. It is responsible for implementing this vision, in a transversal manner, in every course.



The first step in the entrepreneurial journey of the PUCRS student can be the Innovation Marathon. In its 5th edition, with the central theme of Business of impact: innovation transform society, the University mobilized 181 young people with an infinity of ideas. One of the selected projects — chosen by popular vote — aims to recycle malt bagasse and use it in the production of animal feed.

Learn about other initiatives



Substantially increasing the number of young people and adults will relevant skills, including technical and professional ones, for jobs, decent work and entrepreneurship is the goal that connects to the actions described here.



## SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Celeiro is Tecnopuc's agribusiness Hub, created in partnership with Aceleradora Venturi to bring together producers, suppliers, cooperatives, startups, researchers and investors in the sector. Its intense market performance takes place with the active participation in funding associations and networks and with the promotion of innovation, like the development of bioinputs, equipment that uses the Internet of Things (IOTs), blockchain, among other technologies. Signing an agreement with the municipality of Santa Rose, in the Northwest of the state of Rio Grande do Sul, a region in which agriculture prevails, envisages the implementation of a regional extension of Celeiro.

Learn more about this initiative that aims to ensure sustainable systems of food production and to implement strong agricultural practices to increase productivity and production without harming ecosystems, the earth and the soil.



## TECHNOLOGY THAT CAN TRANSFORM REALITIES

Developed by PUCRS, Apple, and Instituto Eldorado, the TIC em Trilhas initiative is creating an online platform that will train 30,000 young people in the IT field. The goal is to provide training opportunities and access to the job market for young people in situations of social vulnerability in communities across different regions of the country. In Rio Grande do Sul, the first laboratory will be set up in Tecnopuc Viamão.

[Follow the progress of this project.](#)

## FREE TRAINING IN IT

Since 2021, the Dev The Devs Program, which offers free initial training in Systems Development, has been available to students from the state public school system in Rio Grande do Sul. The training is offered online and aims to spark interest among young people in the field of Information Technology.

632 students

from public schools have completed the program

The agile and inclusive Accelerator aims to teach the first steps in agile methodologies and programming to young people, accelerating the inclusion process of more vulnerable social groups in technology. Thoughtworks, Sicredi, and Globo are partners of Tecnopuc in the program, which lasts for 4 months in the on-site modality. **20 young people joined the classes of the program in 2023.**

With the aim of training young people aged 16 to 22, Full Stack is another social inclusion program for students in vulnerable situations. In this opportunity, they are invited to join the web development field. Created in 2021 by the Marist Community Center (Cesmar) in partnership with Tecnopuc, the initiative trained 37 young people within a year.



Building positive relationships does not only occur in classroom experiences, but extends throughout the campus and the entire community. Therefore, extension activities are guided by the SDGs and PUCRS's University Extension Policy. These activities take place through programs, projects, events, service provision, courses, workshops, and other modalities capable of ensuring comprehensive education for life, with a social vision aligned with the needs of people and the planet.

- | **40 extension courses**
- | **48 undergraduate courses**
- | **52 active professors**
- | **102 developed project**
- | **+ 103 thousand people benefited**



## SERVICE LEARNING

A program that puts teaching and learning at the service of the community. This is Service Learning, integrating the teaching experience with extension activities. By participating, students create projects to solve real community needs and meet demands from external partners such as private companies, public bodies, or non-profit organizations.

- | **32 organizations benefited**
- | **1.050 problem-solving students**
- | **23 solution-promoting courses**

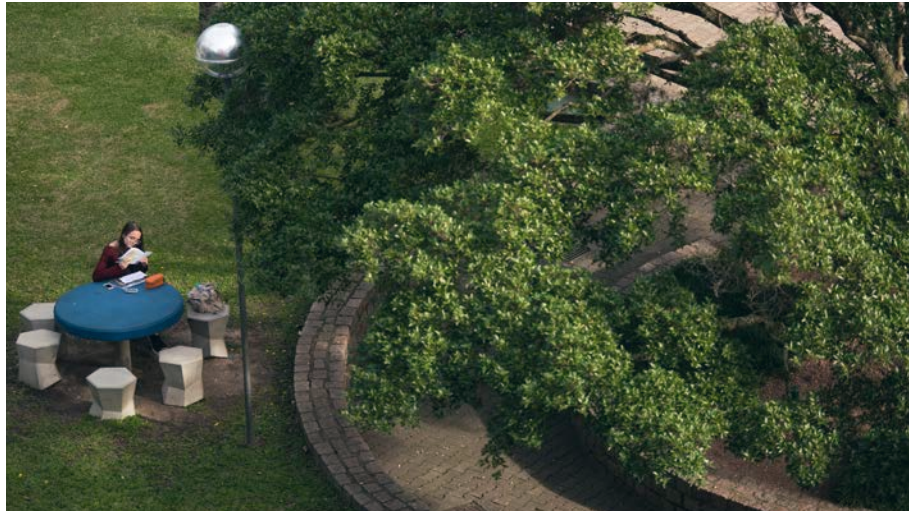


A systemic relationship with the community



## EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**269 students** completed the sustainability course, covering topics such as global warming and climate change, social impact businesses, hyper-consumption, and shared economy. This course is offered as an elective for all university programs.



**More than 500 undergraduate students participated in Scientific Initiation Programs at PUCRS, representing an opportunity for academic development through scientific projects with positive impacts on current relevant issues.**

## HUMANITIES, OUR NATURE

The Humanitas XXI lecture series brought together different areas of knowledge to explore essential themes involving humanity today. Offered to the university community and to society as a whole, it involved 270 participants. Topics included mental health, social acceleration, dynamic stabilization and the modern yearning for resonance, the role of the media, and democracy.

## + WELCOMING AND INCLUSION

The Student Support Center consists of three units that welcome students with specific needs and assist teachers in inclusive processes and practices. Services and follow-ups include:

**990 students with specific needs assisted**

People with disabilities (PcD)

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Tutoring, leveling, workshops, and training sessions for teaching and learning development

Learning disorders such as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), dyslexia, dyscalculia, and dysgraphia

Prevention, intervention, and mediation in mental health, well-being, and socio-economic vulnerability that could impact university attendance



**Providing better conditions to people with disabilities and creating learning environments that are safe, non-violent, inclusive and efficient for all are goals that connect to the actions described on this page.**

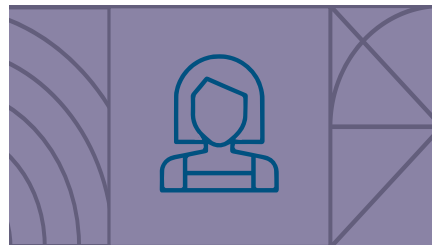


## ENCOURAGING WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP



## ENCOURAGING BREASTFEEDING

Expressing support and emotional comfort to women who are mothers and are fulfilling the important role of breastfeeding: this was the motivation for creating a Breastfeeding Room on campus. Although there is a dedicated place for this purpose, breastfeeding is encouraged in any environment, as it is a woman's right and a proven benefit to a child's health



[Click here to learn more about the initiative](#)



## WOMEN IN LAW

Women are increasingly occupying representative spaces and serving as inspiration to break down barriers. The *Elas no Direito* (Women in Law) project brings prominent women in legal practice to the University. In the last edition, 188 people participated.



## SALARY AND WOMEN'S CAREERS

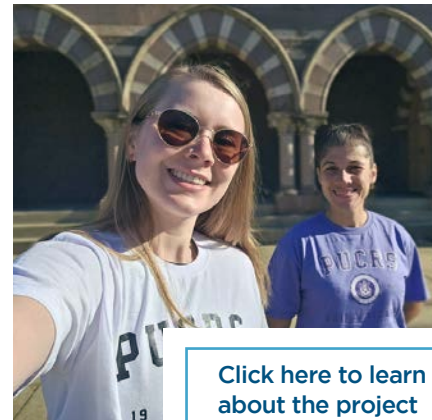
Business Professional Woman (BPW) is an organization present in over 100 countries and was at PUCRS to promote dialogues on salary, careers, and the training of women for professions, addressing the discrimination experienced in institutions.



**Ensuring the full and effective participation of women and equality of leadership opportunities in every level of decision-making in political, economic and public aspects is the goal that connects to the projects presented here.**

## WOMEN IN SCIENCE

Three leading universities in the UK — King's College London (KCL), University College London (UCL), and Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) — along with four Brazilian universities — Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS), Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), Federal University of Pelotas (UFPEL), and Feevale — aim to develop an international partnership based on actions to promote gender equality in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields



[Click here to learn more about the project](#)



## ALUMNI NETWORK - RELATIONSHIP WITH ALUMNI

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The PUCRS Alumni Award was created to recognize new stories, reinforce connections and commitment to alumni, and value initiatives that have an impact and contribute to building a more just, responsible, and humane society. In the last edition, nine trophies were awarded across seven categories, alongside two special honors. Alumni such as Martha Medeiros, Caco Barcellos, and Eliane Brum were among the awardees. In 2023, 448 people applied for the award.

[Click here to learn more](#)





# Prosperous University, inclusive, plural and creative community

With the aim of promoting a fulfilling life for all, in harmony with nature, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development identifies prosperity as a fundamental pillar. SDGs 7 to 11 were created to ensure access to affordable and renewable energy, promote sustainable economic growth and innovative industrialization, in addition to making cities and communities sustainable and inclusive.



PUCRS is a space where innovation, diverse knowledge, and achievements converge, following a strategic guideline called the *Society Development Vector*, committing to act as a driver of social, environmental, scientific, cultural, and economic development. This commitment is manifested through initiatives such as creating impactful structures and strategic partnerships to promote energy efficiency and the development of projects to disseminate knowledge on renewable energy and sustainable practices.

Another strategic guideline for the University's actions is the promotion of an *inclusive, plural, and creative university community*. In this sense, the pursuit of economic and social inclusion reaffirms the commitment to promote racial diversity and equity for people with disabilities, individuals aged 60+, and immigrants. To ensure impactful present and future actions, the Institution recognizes the importance of a *competitive and sustainable portfolio connected to the demands of its time*, developing projects that not only address emerging needs but also lay the groundwork for a possible and prosperous future.

This chapter aims to provide a detailed overview of these innovation actions that promote environmental care and the Common Home.

## Actions

### LOW-CARBON ECONOMY

The Laboratory of Hydrogen Technologies of the Institute of Petroleum and Natural Resources, in partnership with Petronas PPBL, is implementing a project to establish the first Accredited Laboratory in Latin America for hydrogen quality certification. Hydrogen, identified as the fuel of the future and a crucial player in developing a low-carbon economy, has the potential to generate numerous energy transition solutions.



[Click here to learn more about this project](#)



**Substantially increasing the participation of renewable energies in the global energy matrix and doubling the global improvement rate of energy efficiency are strategic goals of the 2030 Agenda that connect to the actions highlighted here.**

### ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The only laboratory in Brazil capable of performing all consumer safety and energy efficiency standards is located at PUCRS. Inaugurated in the Electrical and Electronics Testing Laboratory complex, which calibrates measurement instruments and conducts conformity assessment tests for product certification (LABELO), the Energy Efficiency Laboratory for Air Conditioners was established with a focus on reducing pollutant emissions by efficiently utilizing energy resources. The results of laboratory tests provide information for the energy efficiency label seen by consumers on products, assigning a grade of "A" to "D" based on pre-established parameters, with "A" representing the most efficient products and "D" the lowest grade.

[Click here to learn more about this structure](#)



## PROJECT USE

Access to clean energy is a concern that has brought University researchers together for the past 15 years through the Sustainable Energy Use (USE) Project. Proper use of energy resources and the most sustainable methods of generating and consuming energy are essential topics for building a future that makes life on Earth viable. Therefore, this action aims to provide knowledge and information to people about conscious energy consumption and sustainability practices.

[Click here to learn more](#)



## TECNOPOC EXPERIENCE

Over two thousand people participated in the Tecnopoc Experience, a technology, science, business, and impact event. It featured more than 100 free activities, with an intense schedule of experimentation, content, and networking for the entire community.



**Strengthening scientific research and improving technological capacities in industrial sectors worldwide, particularly in developing countries, by encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers are goals that connect to these actions.**

## INVOLVEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

To ensure that all educational institutions thrive and increasingly promote impactful and innovative actions, PUCRS represents the Brazilian Association of Community Higher Education Institutions (ABRUC) on the National Council for Science and Technology (CCT) in order to prioritize interests and demands in education and research for all of society. The CCT is an advisory body for assisting the President of Brazil in formulating and implementing national policies on science, technology, and innovation, composed of 28 members, including 14 State Ministers, eight producers and users of science and technology, and six representatives from education, research, science, and technology entities.

## INCLUSION IN THE WORKPLACE

The Internal Committee for the Prevention of Accidents and Harassment (Cipa) holds lectures on the inclusion of persons with disabilities at PUCRS, addressing inclusion in workplaces and work environments, regarding relationships with students and the campus community.



## INCLUSION OF THE DEAF COMMUNITY

The use of Brazilian Sign Language (Libras) is a way to ensure the preservation of the identity of individuals with hearing impairments, contributing to the appreciation and recognition of deaf culture. To support the expansion of Libras, researchers at PUCRS are developing a project funded by Google to reduce communication difficulties faced by this community. The initiative was recognized by the Google Award for Inclusion Research, which honors innovative research with high social impact.

[Click here to learn more](#)



**Empowering and promoting social, economic, and political inclusion for all, regardless of age, gender, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, or economic status, and achieving full and productive employment and decent work for all are goals connected to these projects.**

## TAX DECLARATION SUPPORT

The Accounting and Fiscal Support Center (NAF) of the Business School provided free assistance to 75 low-income individuals in filing their tax returns.

## EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

PUCRS participates in the Advisory Committee for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion of the Foundation for Research Support of the State of Rio Grande do Sul (FAPERGS). The group aims to generate initiatives that contribute to eradicating prejudices based on race, gender, sexual orientation, physical condition, age, religion, and other forms of discrimination, while increasing representation in scientific knowledge production.

[Click here to learn more](#)



## EMPLOYMENT INCLUSION

The Genial Idade Program, by the Science and Technology Museum, aimed to attract individuals aged 65 and older back into the workforce. In its first edition, four part-time monitor positions were offered, with shifts in the morning or afternoon.

[Click here to learn more about the program](#)



## HUMAN RIGHTS FOR IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

The Human Rights Advisory Service for Immigrants and Refugees (SADHIR) at the Law School assists immigrants and refugees in establishing themselves in Brazil, promoting their appreciation and social integration through legal guidance, assistance with documentation, diploma validation, job placement, and other services. Events such as the *I Symposium on Migration, Asylum and Statelessness: government action plans* and the VII Congress on Human Rights and Forced Migration brought together agents that are invested in the cause.



Facilitating orderly, safe, regular, and responsible migration and mobility of individuals is a goal that connects to the actions presented here.

## SÉRGIO VIEIRA DE MELLO CHAIR

In addition to integrating the Chair and having a commitment with the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) to protect and promote lasting solutions to the problems faced by these individuals, the University is part of the Committee for Attention to Migrants, Refugees, Stateless Persons, and Victims of Human Trafficking of the State of Rio Grande do Sul (COMIRAT/RS).

## ACCESSIBLE SCIENCE FOR THE COMMUNITY

The Science and Technology Museum was part of the program for the 21st National Museum Week, an event promoted by the Brazilian Institute of Museums (Ibram) in celebration of the International Museum Day. Additionally, 25 editions of the *A Night at the Museum* event were held: a night of adventure and mystery where participants unravel puzzles surrounding the exhibition. 1,447 children aged 7 to 12 participated.



Strengthening efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage are specific goals of the SDGs that connect to the actions presented here.

## CULTURAL HEMISPHERE

Offering culture during relaxation moments to healthcare professionals and patients is the goal of the project carried out at Bralns. Nine cultural presentations by local artists were offered for free to the population during lunch breaks.

## RUA DA CULTURA (CULTURE STREET)

At the heart of the campus, Rua da Cultura (Culture Street) offers a structure for outdoor artistic presentations and cultural interventions. It spans 84 meters with a stage and grandstand. Over 11,000 people attended shows and events held throughout the year on Culture Street.

## FREE KNOWLEDGE FOR ALL

With a space of 21 thousand m<sup>2</sup> open to the community, the Irmão José Otão Main Library combines technology, services, and resources. The collection comprises 1.9 million information items, including printed and electronic books, theses and dissertations, pamphlets, rare works, multimedia materials, and printed and electronic periodicals. There are 544.1 thousand copies of printed monographs, over 842 thousand titles of e-books, 432.4 thousand issues of printed periodicals, 85 databases, and 156.9 thousand titles of electronic periodicals. The entire collection can be accessed in person on campus.

## PUCRS CHOIR

Comprised of a community and voluntary group, currently conducted by Maestro Marcio Buzatto, the Choir is one of the most traditional in Rio Grande do Sul. The protagonist of concerts, musicals, operas, oratorios and symphonic concerts, throughout the year it performed for a live audience of 9,113 people with a diverse repertoire in styles, languages, and historical periods, based on classical music.



## PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

At the Center for Documentation and Cultural Memory (DELFO), documents from the areas of Literature, Arts, Journalism, Cinema, History, and Architecture can be found. The space houses rarities such as original books, authors' handwritten correspondence, photographs, personal items like glasses and clothing, books with personal notes, paintings, architectural plans, old newspapers, documents about German immigration in Rio Grande do Sul, among others. An example is Érico Veríssimo's 1932 book "Fantoches" with a personalized dedication.

## CULTURAL MERIT

Martinho da Vila filled the Commencement Hall with a concert of the album "Negra Ópera". The performance was part of the Cultural Merit ceremony, an annual award that symbolizes recognition of an artistic figure who has transformed their artistic life into a journey of defending culture as a tool for humanization and education. This action is part of a robust project aiming to transform the institution into a cultural hub.

[Click here to see how it went](#)





Planet

# Preserving and educating for the care of our Common Home

Protecting natural resources and the climate for future generations is urgent. PUCRS, guided by its strategic drivers, embraces this challenge through a driver named Social, environmental, and governance responsibility. Thus, it expresses its commitment to developing governance committed to protecting the planet. The standout feature is the Pró-Mata Private Natural Heritage Reserve (RPPN), maintained by the Institution since 1993 with the overarching goal of conserving biodiversity and natural ecosystems.



This chapter seeks to detail other key initiatives that demonstrate this commitment, such as implementing green technologies on campus, promoting educational actions on sustainability, and participating in international projects seeking to discover efficient resources to mitigate the effects of the climate emergency.

Promoting environmental sustainability in a cross-cutting manner is a commitment that the University reinforces each year. The initiatives highlighted here aim to inspire practices and increasingly serve as a guide in this urgent field.



## Actions

### CHANGE THE CLIMATE

An initiative in partnership with 14 institutions, including three European universities and 11 Latin American ones, aims to develop administrative policies to reduce greenhouse gas generation by universities and, consequently, contribute to humanity's carbon emission reduction targets. Through the international Climate Labs project, financed by Erasmus+, PUCRS developed the Environmental Management Program.

[Click here to learn more](#)



**Reinforcing resilience and adaptation to climate-related risks and natural disasters in all countries is a commitment of the actions presented here.**

### CO2 CAPTURE

A collaboration with Repsol Sinopec Brasil and the German startup DACMa enabled the creation and installation of the first Direct Air Capture (DAC) unit in Latin America on campus. This technology, considered one of the most important alternatives for managing greenhouse gas emissions seeks to mitigate the effects of the climate crisis and climate change. The project involves operating equipment with a capacity to capture 300 tons of CO2/year with the aim of understanding its operation under tropical conditions, determining its efficiency in removing CO2 from the air, and its energy demand. The potential for CO2 storage in rocks as calcium carbonate is also being studied to prevent its return to the atmosphere. Equipment acquisition has already been completed, and operations are expected to start in 2024.



## EDUCATION TO MOTIGATE CLIMATE CHANGE

The Climate Change and Technology exhibition at the Science and Technology Museum received a traveling version. Bringing playful experiences on the subject, the exhibition reached eight municipalities in the states of Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, and São Paulo.

**| 276, 5 mil**

thousand visitors to the physical exhibition

**| 99, 5 mil**

thousand visitors impacted by the Traveling Museum



**Improving education and increasing awareness and human and institutional capacity on global climate mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and warning are goals connected to the actions presented here.**



## PRESERVED BIODIVERSITY

In pursuit of caring for natural resources that promote quality of life improvement, the University maintains the Private Natural Heritage Reserve (RPPN) Pró-Mata, which is part of the Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) Program and is the largest private reserve in Rio Grande do Sul. In its over 3,000 hectares, the RPPN harbors primary and regenerating ecosystems of the Atlantic Forest, located on the edge of the Serra Geral plateau, in the municipality of São Francisco de Paula.

The area represents a significant fraction of the Atlantic Forest, recognized by UNESCO, and is part of the Atlantic Forest Biosphere Reserve, internationally recognized as one of the 25 biodiversity hotspots worldwide. The site features a mosaic of vegetation covering Dense Ombrophilous Forest in the lower areas (700m), Mixed Ombrophilous Forest (Forest with Araucaria), and High Altitude Fields in the higher areas (900m). Besides hosting diverse fauna and flora, including threatened species like the puma, ocelot, lesser anteater, and bare-throated bellbird, the RPPN Pró-Mata houses the headwaters of the Três Forquilhas and Maquiné river basins. The site is currently undergoing a series of long-term ecological studies by CNPq, encompassing biodiversity and conservation studies.

**Click here to follow a series videos explaining studies conducted on-site**



**Ensuring the conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems and their services, especially forests, wetlands, mountains, and drylands, taking urgent and significant measures to reduce habitat degradation, halt biodiversity loss, and protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species are specific goals connected to the actions presented here.**

## MOBILIZING GLOBAL ACTORS

The International Sustainability Congress brought together agents to discuss three central themes: Environmental resources and sustainability, Sustainable city for all, and Sustainability and society. The goal was to seek solutions for better societal involvement in politics and public management, in territorial occupation processes, and in mitigating the impact generated by city production.

**Click here to check record**



## ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

The Private Natural Heritage Reserve (RPPN) Pró-Mata hosted the 1st Monitoring Workshop of the Territorial Action Plan (TAP) for the Conservation of Endangered Species in the Planalto Sul Territory. The initiative was coordinated by the State Environmental Institute of Santa Catarina in partnership with the State Department of Infrastructure and Environment of Rio Grande do Sul, under the Pró Espécies Project, executed by WWF Brazil and implemented by the Brazilian Biodiversity Fund with resources from the Global Environment Facility. The group monitors 22 species classified as critically endangered and not covered by conservation initiatives, present in the Serrano plateau of Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul,

**Click here to follow**



**Increasing inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated, and sustainable planning and management of human settlements is a goal connected to the highlighted projects.**

## AGAINST WATER POLLUTION

In an extension course, students collected water from the Arroio Dilúvio stream, which crosses the city of Porto Alegre, and observed the unicellular organisms present. From this, they created an illustrated guide with the aim of making information about microorganisms in polluted environments public. The material was submitted to the State Foundation for Environmental Protection (FEPAM).

## COMPOSTING

São Lucas Hospital, in partnership with the startup Igapó, installed a composter in the institution's courtyard in 2023. The initiative contributes to the specific goals of the 2030 Agenda to substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling, and reuse of materials.

## SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

Another agreement with the Municipal Government of Porto Alegre aimed to improve vehicle and pedestrian flow around the Campus: the construction of a bridge over the Arroio Dilúvio, named Ponte Irmão Afonso, in honor of the university's founder. This initiative aimed to facilitate access, encouraging sustainable mobility.

## ENVIRONMENTAL RISK MANAGEMENT IN EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS

With the aim of promoting dialogue between professionals and researchers, the Challenges of Public Communication in Risk and Disaster Management Seminar, organized by the School of Communication, Arts and Design, sought to contribute with methodological and strategic suggestions for communicational confrontation of disasters. For this purpose, it involved professionals from different sectors and public managers from different spheres.

## ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

PUCRS has a waste management system in compliance with current environmental legislation, constantly seeking to improve and review its Solid Waste Management Plan (PGRS), through which it monitors companies responsible for both transport and final disposal of recyclable and contaminated waste, always prioritizing non-generation/reuse/recycling/ environmentally correct final disposal.

PUCRS provided 1616 tons of construction waste (such as rubble, plaster, and styrofoam, for example) to a licensed company that processes these materials, contributing to the reduction of environmental liability.

Check out some of our numbers in 2023:

Dangerous waste	Healthcare/Biological Waste (tons)	<b>24,865 tons</b> (reduction of 11 tons compared to 2022)
Dangerous waste	Electronic Waste (tons)	<b>7,262 tons</b> (reduction of almost 6 tons compared to 2022)
Non recyclable waste	Organic - non-recyclable reject (tons)	<b>241,320 tons</b> (reduction of 35 tons compared to 2022)
Segregated Recyclable Waste	Prunings and Tree Waste (tons)	<b>323,730 tons</b> (reduction of almost 100 tons compared to 2022)
	Wood (tons)	<b>121,740 tons</b>
	Metal Scrap - Iron	<b>105,920 tons</b>
	Metal Scrap - Aluminum	<b>0,205 tons</b> (reduction of over 400kg compared to 2022)
	Metal Scrap - Copper (wires and cables)	<b>0,153 tons</b>
	Paper and Cardboard	<b>91,600 tons</b>
	Various Glass	<b>4 tons</b> (reduction of 3.5 tons compared to 2022)
	Plastic Scrap - PET	<b>2,229 tons</b> (reduction of almost 3 tons compared to 2022)
	Used Cooking Oil	<b>0,115 tons</b>

Still in 2023, the University established the Environmental Management Committee, an entity linked to the President's Office, responsible for deliberating and monitoring issues related to the University's Environmental Management Program.



## WASTE MANAGEMENT

The extension course Ecology and Sustainability, in which students evaluated the solid waste management processes at the Vila Fátima University Extension Center, contributed to raising awareness among employees regarding solid waste management. Participants learned to apply these sustainable practices in their daily lives and became disseminators of knowledge within the community that receives health services at the facility.





# Promoting peaceful societies and strengthening global partnerships

The pursuit of peace, one of the essential pillars of the United Nations' 2030 Agenda, is an ongoing journey that requires collective efforts. Committed to promoting social justice, PUCRS actively participates in the implementation of SDG 16 through initiatives encompassing legal education, social protection, and human rights advocacy. The highlighted initiatives also underscore the university's commitment to SDG 17, showcasing how collaboration and cooperation are essential to achieving global goals and promoting a sustainable future for all.



Practices reflecting the strategic directive of placing *People at the center of every experience* guide actions in favor of peace and justice, promoting dignity and the rights of all individuals. Initiatives such as the partnership with the Rio Grande do Sul Judiciary, participation in the State Council for the Rights of Children and Adolescents, and the provision of Free Legal Counseling (SAJUG) exemplify the commitment to creating an environment that fosters the rule of law, equal access to justice, and protection of the most vulnerable.

PUCRS also engages in significant partnerships such as the Alliance for Innovation in Porto Alegre and Pacto Alegre, demonstrating the university's commitment to social and economic innovation. These partnerships aim to transform Porto Alegre into a world-class innovation ecosystem, emphasizing the importance of institutional collaboration for common development and improvement of the quality of life for local communities.

This chapter seeks to detail how these and other actions promoting peace, social protection, and rights assurance can inspire educational and social missions, encouraging educational institutions to increasingly become active agents in promoting global peace and justice.

## Actions

### RESEARCH THAT MAKES AN IMPACT

The University excelled in establishing strategic research axes aligned with SDGs, promoting interdisciplinarity and collaboration in areas such as Health and Well-being, Environment and Energy, Technologies, and Society and Development. These axes are essential for fostering the sharing of structures and knowledge, expanding the impact of research on society.

Through initiatives like Conexão Pós, PUCRS promoted research aligned with SDGs, involving master's and doctoral students, professors, and the general community. Events like these are vital for knowledge dissemination and stimulating research focused on sustainable development.

As per the search conducted on the InCites Platform, using documents published by PUCRS in Web of Science in 2023. The search considered the Sustainable Development Goals 1 to 16, filtered by "Research area." Data extraction was performed on January 25, 2024, returning documents indexed through December 2023. The data reflects PUCRS's main research focuses related to different SDGs.

### WEB OF SCIENCE: CITATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

In the People dimension, considering SDGs 1 to 5\*:

**330 published articles**  
**434 citations**

In the Prosperity dimension, considering SDGs 7 to 11\*:

**32 published articles**  
**7 citations**

In the Planet dimension, considering SDGs 6, 12, 13, 14 and 15\*:

**66 published articles**  
**68 citations**

In the Peace and Partnerships dimension, considering SDGs 16 and 17\*:

**35 published articles**  
**33 citations**



## SOCIAL PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

UBEA/PUCRS integrates the State Council for the Rights of Children and Adolescents (CEDICA), the normative, deliberative, and oversight body for state policies and actions aimed at the comprehensive protection of children and adolescents, holding one of the eleven seats representing civil society, seeking to influence policy formulation. The University also participates in the Coordinating Committee of the State Forum for Children and Adolescent Rights of Rio Grande do Sul, monitoring, proposing actions, and evaluating public policies directed at children and adolescents in the state.



Ending abuse, exploitation, trafficking, and all forms of violence and torture against children is a goal connected to the actions described here.



## SOCIAL RIGHTS ADVISORY AND DEFENSE

The Social Assistance Policy of the Brazilian Union for Education and Assistance (Ubea) is carried out through the Program for Advisory and Defense of Rights. The activities comprise a set of actions of offers and attention to the public policy of social assistance articulated with the social assistance network, ensuring the University's registration in Segment and Sectoral Rights Councils and Municipal and State Public Utility. A total of 5,943 services were provided to 2,813 individuals.



Ensuring public access to information and protecting fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements, promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels, and ensuring equal access to justice are goals connected to the highlighted actions here.



## FREE LEGAL COUNSELING

Through the Free Legal Counseling (SAJUG), the University and students provide a significant service to the community. Throughout the year, 1,707 individuals were assisted, with 814 active cases. The Service allows students to experience real legal practice, simulating the routine of a law firm by assisting community members in need of legal support.

## COURT SESSION ON CAMPUS

A Trial Session of the 4th Jury Court of Porto Alegre for an attempted homicide case was held on campus. Over 500 students attended the trial in the auditorium, which was broadcast live on PUCRS communication channels, with retransmission on the TJRS YouTube channel.

## SMALL CIVIL CLAIMS COURT

The initiative aims to serve as a "laboratory" for Law students who act as protagonists alongside the Registry Office of the Court. Its role in providing decentralized justice for real, less complex cases represents a valuable social service benefiting mainly the vulnerable population of the region. The Court also serves as an important school for lay judges, who volunteer to gain experience in the judiciary and provide rulings. Throughout the year, 204 cases were active.



## CONSUMER RIGHTS

The Consumer Desk provides comprehensive assistance to consumers. Through an agreement with PROCON RS, the initiative aims to resolve consumer complaints based on the Consumer Protection Code. Any resident of Rio Grande do Sul can use the service, which is provided in person by students and professors. Over 100 cases are handled per semester, with around 85% resolved by students. A total of 166 services were provided during the year.

## STUDENT REPRESENTATION

Student representation is organized through the Central Student Directory (DCE) and 23 academic centers and directories, endowed with autonomy and legal personality, whose primary mission is to represent the interests and needs of students, encouraging and strengthening their participatory dimension and integration into the university community. Student representation aims to ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making at all levels.



**Ensuring responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making at all levels is a goal highlighted here.**

## ALLIANCE FOR INNOVATION IN PORTO ALEGRE

Seeking to use academic knowledge and technology to develop projects that assist in the social and economic evolution of the capital, the Pacto Alegre Project, supported by the Municipal Government of POA, established the “Innovative Territories” program. The goal is to improve people’s quality of life through innovation and to promote human development in communities in Rio Grande do Sul.

The pilot project of the program started in Morro da Cruz, a region of Porto Alegre with around 35,000 inhabitants earning up to 2.2 minimum wages. In this locality, the Formô hub was inaugurated, receiving internet cables via Procempa and now offering free wifi to community members, along with computers for users to work, study, and perform other tasks requiring connectivity. In November, the program took another significant step by expanding free wifi coverage to Vila Planetário, Restinga, Mario Quintana, Bom Jesus, and the Islands.



## REPRESENTATION

Through its faculty, managers, and administrative staff, the University participates in different forums, such as the Working Group on Slope Protection and Watershed Revitalization in Urban Areas, within the Environmental Commission and the Fundamental Rights Defense Commission of the National Council of the Public Ministry. This Group aims to discuss the role of the Public Ministry and the most effective measures to strengthen the institution’s actions in the prevention and containment of damage from major floods and socio-environmental disasters in hillside areas.

## BUSINESSES OF IMPACT

Since 2022, PUCRS has partnered with the ICE Institute (Innovation in Corporate Citizenship), through Tecnopuc, joining the Coalition for Impact initiative. This multi-sectoral initiative at the national level aims for more and better impact businesses. In 2023, a notable action was the mapping of public programs promoting impact businesses in Porto Alegre. This study aims to promote the impact business agenda in the city’s public sector.



**Reinforcing global partnership for sustainable development complemented by multi-sectoral partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, experience, technology, and financial resources to support the achievement of sustainable development goals in all countries, particularly in developing countries, is a goal connected to the described actions here.**



**Access the document with initiatives related to entrepreneurship, innovation, and positive impact already mapped here.**



## RESEARCH FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Conexão Pós represents an event for sharing research conducted by master’s and doctoral students of Graduate Programs (PPGs) at the University, within the context of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With 297 participants, the event also included professors, undergraduate students, graduates, and speakers. Workshops on relevant topics for master’s and doctoral training were offered, in addition to various scientific sessions focusing on different SDGs. This action is extremely important for mapping projects conducted in various Graduate Programs, with an emphasis on social impacts.



## Acknowledgements of the year

PUCRS has been monitoring Higher Education assessments, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels, nationally and internationally. In the Guia da Faculdade evaluation, a total of 38 courses at PUCRS received stars, with 11 of them rated 5 stars and 27 of them rated 4 stars.

*In the Ranking Universitário Folha (RUF), PUCRS ranked 1st among private HEIs.*

We are among the best universities in Latin America and the Caribbean, according to the [Times Higher Education \(THE\) Latin America 2023](#) survey. PUCRS is the top private institution in Southern Brazil, rising from 14th place (2021) to 13th among 197 evaluated institutions from 15 countries. Also, according to the [QS Latin America Ranking 2023](#), the University is the top private institution in Southern Brazil and ranks among the best universities in 14 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

According to the Brazilian Confederation of Junior Enterprises (Brazil Junior), PUCRS was highlighted in the Ranking of Entrepreneurial Universities (RUE), considered the best private university in infrastructure (including technology parks) and 2nd place in internationalization.

We received the Capes Elsevier 2023 award, which praises national scientific production and recognizes Brazilian institutions for the highest impact contribution to the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The University was highlighted in SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities. The institutions' ranking was based on analyses of scientific production and metrics obtained through the SciVal tool, providing streamlined access to research outcomes from over 20,000 institutions in 230 nations worldwide, as disclosed by Elsevier.

On completing 20 years, Tecnopuc was recognized as the fourth best Global Innovation Ecosystem and won the People's Choice Award.



To learn more about the recognitions, [click here.](#)



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**UNIÃO BRASILEIRA DE EDUCAÇÃO E ASSISTÊNCIA**

CNPJ. : 88.630.413/0001-09

**“RELATÓRIO DO AUDITOR INDEPENDENTE SOBRE O RELATÓRIO DE  
SUSTENTABILIDADE”**

1. Examinamos as informações qualitativas e quantitativas que integram o **Relatório de Sustentabilidade** da **UNIÃO BRASILEIRA DE EDUCAÇÃO E ASSISTÊNCIA** composto pelas informações relativas à Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, Hospital São Lucas da PUCRS e Instituto do Cérebro, referentes ao exercício findo em 31 de dezembro de 2023, elaboradas sob responsabilidade de sua administração.
2. Nossa responsabilidade é a de expressar uma opinião sobre as informações contidas neste Relatório, com base em nossa auditoria, conduzida de acordo com as normas brasileiras e internacionais de auditoria. Essas normas requerem o cumprimento de exigências éticas pelos auditores e que a auditoria seja planejada e executada com o objetivo de obter segurança razoável de que as informações qualitativas e quantitativas que integram o **Relatório de Sustentabilidade**, estão livres de distorção relevante.
3. As informações qualitativas e quantitativas e as demais informações correlatas, foram confirmadas junto às áreas responsáveis da Entidade, incluindo relatórios gerenciais, quadros estatísticos, indicadores de gestão e outras informações obtidas junto à administração, especialmente com relação às políticas administrativas e operacionais.
4. Em nossa opinião, as informações qualitativas e quantitativas que integram o **Relatório de Sustentabilidade** são fidedignas e refletem adequadamente as atividades internas e externas decorrentes dessas operações, programas e projetos da **UNIÃO BRASILEIRA DE EDUCAÇÃO E ASSISTÊNCIA**, considerando as mantidas Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, Hospital São Lucas da PUCRS e Instituto do Cérebro.

Porto Alegre - RS, 08 de abril de 2024.

**AUDISA AUDITORES ASSOCIADOS****CRC/SP 2SP 024298/O-3**

Ivan Roberto dos Santos Pinto Junior

Contador

CRC/RS 058.252/O-1

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