



## ***Uniservitate Memberships***

### **Announcement**

The ***Uniservitate programme*** calls on Catholic, or Catholic-inspired, Higher Education Institutions to become members of its global network and access training resources, global and regional activities, research scholarships, awards and other benefits linked to solidarity service-learning.

*Uniservitate* aims to generate a systemic change in Catholic Higher Education Institutions through the institutionalization of Service-Learning (SL) as a tool to fulfill their mission of an integral education, to foster agents for social change who critically engage for a better society according to the social teaching of the Church.

We understand networking as a strategy for systemic change. The encounter between educators and students who develop service-learning projects strengthens their practices. The encounter between institutions that promote, implement and systematize it produces stronger institutions. And the exchange between all of them, at a local and global level, has impacts at the level of public policy and systems. This critical mass generates and sustains systemic change.

The ***Uniservitate global network*** is present on all five continents through seven regional hubs that support more than thirty universities that during the first stage of the programme (2020-2022) were incorporated as accompanied institutions, a condition that implies technical and academic assistance and economic support.

The new **Memberships** project adds to this structure to expand the scope of the programme. It does not imply any cost for the institutions, lasts one year —at the end of which its renewal can be requested— and includes **benefits and services** such as the following:

- [Belonging to a global network and learning community of SL practitioners and researchers](#)
- **Access to online training resources**
  - Self-managed courses on SL: basic concepts and steps to develop SL projects (5 users for the virtual training platform).
  - Digital resources developed by the *Uniservitate* Community Members in different formats and languages.
- **Participation in the [Uniservitate Award](#) (2024):** Global recognition for the best “Solidarity Service-Learning Experiences (SL) in Catholic Higher Education”. It is awarded by regions to initiatives that demonstrate effective contributions to the solution of socio-environmental problems, identified and addressed with organizations and community members; with active participation of students and a clear connection between service and educational planning.
- **Participation in the call for [Small Research Grants](#) (2025):** Through its regional hubs and the intervention of a scientific committee, *Uniservitate* grants small research



funds for projects on specific service-learning topics. Service-learning can make a specific pedagogical contribution to Catholic universities, helping them integrate their social reach and spiritual identity with academic activities, offering innovative ways to achieve an education that unites “hands, head and heart,” as demonstrated by research and experiences developed by Catholic Higher Education Institutions.

- **Preferred registration to Global *Uniservitate* Symposia** (Rome, 24th and 25th October, 2024, on-site and online): There are limited spaces available for on-site participation.
- **Exclusive Global and Regional Meetings.**
- **Meetings among CHEI Authorities and Community Engagement Leaders.**
- **Twin projects:** bi & multilateral joint SL initiatives with colleagues from all around the world to share experiences and resources.
- **Bi-monthly newsletter.**
- **Possibility of applying to become an “accompanied institution” by *Uniservitate*.**

To apply for the Membership project, the interested institution must [complete a form](#) with basic data and information about its experience or interest in solidarity service-learning and **send a formal letter of commitment signed by the Rector or the designated authority.**

Each application must also have the formal acceptance of the institutions of the corresponding region that, as regional hubs, already integrate *Uniservitate*.

Once accepted as members, institutions will only be asked to:

- Include the “*Uniservitate* Member” logo on the institution's website, linked to the *Uniservitate* website.
- At the end of the year, fill out a form that outlines the activities you have developed as part of the *Uniservitate* Membership programme and their impact on the institutionalization of service-learning. This will allow you to apply for renewal of your membership.

Applications for Memberships will be received during the months of January and February 2024; confirmations of acceptance, as well as activities for and with the new “members” will begin in March 2024.

For more information, please contact [uniservitate@clayss.org.ar](mailto:uniservitate@clayss.org.ar)