



message from the vice-rector

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Following last year's successful first edition of *research@ua*, the yearly magazine that summarises the most relevant r&d results of the University of Aveiro (UA), this second edition is part of the on-going efforts to better disseminate the excellence in the research developed at the UA.

In these last two years as Vice-Rector for Research and Doctoral School at UA, I became familiar with a huge number of exciting and challenging research topics developed at our university, as you are about to see in the next few pages.

Sharing the vision of the University of Aveiro, our overall mission is to contribute to the development of our region and country, as well as to the general progress of science and technology and, consequently, to a sustainable way of life for all. To this end, several strategies have been implemented in the last two years, from which I would like to highlight the creation of the Research Support Office (GAI) and the Doctoral School (EDUA). GAI was created with the main objective of promoting the

participation of our researchers in EU-funded projects, as well as to increase the participation of researchers in international networks. The diversification of funding sources is, nowadays, a pressing need in order to promote independent and high-quality research, since national funds have been decreasing over the years. Therefore, the team working in GAI is fully dedicated to give support to researchers; disseminate up-to-date information on national and international research programmes, fellowship programs and specific announcements of calls and events; provide one-to-one coaching and support to proposal submission and project management and, also, to the organization of information events. Besides, we cannot conceive a University focused on research without a direct integration of its major developments in the courses curricula. Preparing students with courses integrating the results of research is a way to develop our own research. In order to better promote this concept UA created EDUA. This

school has the mission of coordinating the Third Cycle activities internally and externally, developing new innovative courses and increasing the admission of students.

The increasing participation in national and European networks, either at doctoral studies or projects level, the development and implementation of new technologies and the creation of new spin-offs, are some of the indicators that demonstrate that we are on the right track. For that, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all our researchers. Without their efforts, certainly, this wouldn't be possible. For the future, we will continue committed to the improvement of our r&d quality and impact, the sustainability of our personnel development and the promotion of excellence in the four strategic areas – medicine, ICT, sea and energy.

I hope this small report may attract your interest and may be a driver for a future collaboration with UA!