



UNIVERSITY OF JAÉN

Vice-chancellorship of Communication and Institutional Relations

The Office of Communication *Press Release*

Tuesday, February 22nd 2011

The University of Jaén will participate in the Solar Decathlon Europe 2012, the international competition rewarding the best solar home

It will do it together with the Universities of Seville, Malaga and Granada with the “*Andalucia Team*” team, which will present the project *Patio 2.12*

The University of Jaén will participate in the Solar Decathlon Europe 2012, a prestigious international competition organized by the Department of Energy of the United States, celebrated in Madrid in June 2012, awarding the most energy efficient, sustainable and comfortable solar home.

The University of Jaén will do it within the “*Andalucia Team*” team together with the Universities of Seville, Malaga and Granada, a team chosen from a great number of candidates and will compete against another 19 participants from other universities from around the world.

The proposal being developed by the Andalusian team to participate in this competition is called *Patio 2.12* and consists of a prefabricated modular housing, sustainable, energy efficient and self sufficient from renewable energy which has as its basis the traditional Mediterranean house. *Patio 2.12* is committed to developing a new type of construction without a footprint on the environment; low consumption in the production process and being able to have a fully linked cultural identity in the culture it is inserted in.

The prototype features a technological courtyard, which combines traditional wisdom and comfort of the Mediterranean house with the new technologies of the production of photovoltaic energy.

With this proposal, the Andalusian team, which brings together researchers from the three Schools of Architecture of Andalucía and from the Polytechnic University of Jaén,



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seeks the excellence of knowledge in the field of sustainable housing and Andalusia as a reference point in the field of domestic architecture and cutting edge of renewable energy, finding in the Solar Decathlon Europe 2012 competition the opportunity to situate itself strongly within the international arena.

Solar Decathlon Europe 2012 is an excellent platform for disseminating the knowledge and application in the field of efficient energy through housing prototypes. During its celebration the projects designed and built by the university will be displayed and subjected to ten tests in the Solar Village, the space where the 20 finalists assembled their work.

Solar Decathlon has been taking place biennially since 2002 in Washington D.C and in 2010 it had its first European edition (Solar Decathlon Europe) celebrated in Madrid. Next year, Madrid will host the competition again, with the participation of teams from the Americas, Asia, Europe and Africa, among which are four Spanish teams; the Polytechnic University of Catalonia, the Basque Country University, the Cardenal Herrera University of Valencia and *Andalucía Team*.