

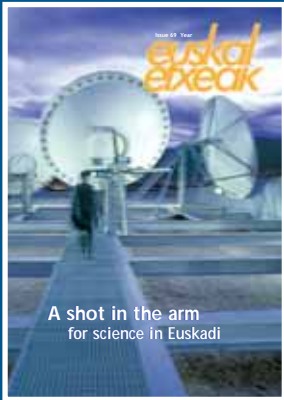
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euskal etxeak

A person in a dark coat is walking away from the camera on a long, narrow metal grating walkway. The walkway leads towards several large, white satellite dishes mounted on metal structures. The scene is set at night or dusk, with a dark, cloudy sky and some lights visible in the background. The overall mood is one of quiet observation and scientific exploration.

**A shot in the arm
for science in Euskadi**

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Fillet of wild turbot with porcini mushroom sauce, potato ravioli and smoked green onions

Aurkezpena

ANA AGIRRE ZURUTUZA



Opening letter

Basque Minister for Industry, Trade and Tourism

In recent years Euskadi has reached a level of science and technology that puts us in an excellent position for taking the lead toward international leadership. This position is the result of institutions and private sector agents working together over the past two decades to shape a positive climate for scientific and technological development in the country, ultimately bringing about greater economic and social development.

The outcome of this major public and private effort has been very successful, and explains why the Basque Country is at the forefront in Spain in overall research and development efforts, the principal benchmark for measuring the investment in science and technology. In 2003, 1.5% of the Basque GNP was earmarked for R+D, compared to the 1.1% average in Spain. Even more important than the actual numbers, such efforts have made it possible for Euskadi to boast the most robust network of technology infrastructure in Spain.

However, despite this positive trend, we have not forgotten about the not-so-favorable position our innovation and knowledge system holds compared with advanced regions and countries. It also encourages us to reinforce the efforts made so far if we want to work toward a genuine leadership and pioneering position on the European and international levels.

New vitality is needed in building a knowledge society

Most importantly, we are witnessing a gradual structural change in the social and economic order, the dimension, depth and consequences of which are still incalculable, since the elements in this process imply a profound transformation in the current production model and social relations. This new order is based on the flow of knowledge, not just technology; on innovation, not just information; and on cooperation, not just competition. In short, we are dealing with knowledge, a new competitive paradigm which directly challenges the traditional economic theory linked to the concept of limited resources. Knowledge is multiplied indefinitely; the more it is used, the more widespread it becomes.

In this context, the strategy for science and technology by 2010 presents itself as a unique

opportunity, compared to other phases of transformation in Euskadi, to serenely confront the structural changes facing society and the economy. In fact, this strategy is the most ambitious initiative taken so far in the Basque Country in the area of science, technology and innovation. It represents a decisive show of support on the part of the Basque Government in generating new knowledge aimed at furthering the economic, social, cultural and intellectual enrichment of Basque society and its citizens in the European and global context.

As regards the strategy of competition, particular emphasis has been placed on business approaches with greater added value, where knowledge (and its capacity to be generated and incorporated) is increasingly defined as the only source of sustainable competitiveness for our enterprises. In order to apply this approach of shifting toward a fully developed knowledge society, a scientific and technological foundation must be built to support it. This challenge involves a change of coordinates in terms of human resources dedicated to the generation and application of science and technology in our country. All of these efforts call for significant cultural changes on the part of society and in their perception of science and technology, most particularly among youth.



Young researchers for a Basque Innovation System

In a context marked by the need to move toward a knowledge-based society, and with competition increasingly dependent on science and technology, it is essential for advanced societies to have a solid supply of qualified experts in the field of science and technology. This challenge undeniably calls for an increase in the number of researchers and an ambitious effort to attract young people to careers in science and technology, provide them with the proper training, and incorporate them into the system.

In meeting this challenge, the actions laid down in the 2005-2008 Science, Technology and Society Plan are based on a system-wide perspective, making up a "comprehensive cycle of training and integration into the workforce." This approach is based on a solid premise: measures must be put in place not only to increase the number of qualified researchers and step up the quality of education, but also to guarantee their

incorporation in the system and professional advancement once they are there. Only from this dual perspective – increased numbers and better education – does such an approach make sense.

In keeping with this position, the 2005-2008 Science, Technology and Society Plan sets a number of measures into motion aimed at attracting and training young researchers and incorporating them into the Basque Innovation System. The measures are designed to reinforce three phases: raising awareness and sowing the seeds for graduates, high-level, pre- and post-doctoral education; and broadening the recruitment of young researchers and incorporating them into the system.

Therefore, as the first link in the chain to attracting young people to careers in science and technology, the Plan promotes degree candidate internships at partner



agents of the Basque Network of Science, Technology and Innovation (BNSTI) and companies in the private sector. The purpose is to support R+D projects undertaken by final-year university students, directed by research personnel from the host center (BNSTI agents and private companies).

The goal of this innovative program is threefold: to bring the agents of the Basque Science, Technology and Innovation Network and private companies active in the area of R+D+i closer to the incubators of future professionals; to attract the best degree candidates to careers in science and technology; and to encourage potential professionals in the area of science and technology from earlier on.

In the area of pre- and post-doctoral education, the 2005-2008 Science, Technology and Society Plan includes a variety of actions ranging from more traditional formulas to innovative proposals. These include research and innovation grants, company-based doctoral thesis support programs, and post-doctoral thesis fellowships. Other so called 2+2 and 1+1 training programs combine pre- and post-doctoral education in addition to support for incorporation into the system.

Lastly, the comprehensive cycle of training and integration into the workforce is rounded out by incorporating technologists and researchers into the system for the ultimate purpose of ensuring the

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development of careers in science and technology and the full inclusion of technologists and researchers in the Basque Innovation System, in both the BNSTI and companies in the private sector committed to R+D.

With this aim, the actions and measures included in the Plan focus on two fronts: the integration of researchers into the system and the recovery and attraction of talent. Therefore, the program for incorporating researchers into technology-based enterprises supports the stable incorporation of young researchers, and senior researchers, in technology-based companies. This way young talented researchers are encouraged to continue their professional careers, thus preventing a loss of capacity within the system. The program for attracting and recovering researchers is aimed at supporting the return of young researchers who have developed their professional activity outside the system.

In short, as we can see from a simple analysis of data, the Plan lays out an ambitious project based on explicit quantitative objectives and direct support for successfully incorporating 600 new researchers into the Basque Innovation System (300 in companies), training 400 researchers in strategic areas of research, and increasing the number of PhDs by 200. All of this is based on a budgetary commitment of nearly 20% of the funding for the Plan going to recruiting and integrating researchers, and 5% going to actions geared toward the dissemination and promotion of science and technology.

The 2005-2008 Science, Technology and Society Plan takes on the challenge of recruiting and preparing new and better qualified researchers, and integrating them in the Basque knowledge and innovation arena. Included in the philosophy and design of actions are the guidelines, recommendations and responses currently being defined and expressed by the European Union in this area.

Careers in research: a must for Euskadi

Garapen zientifiko eta teknologikoa gizarte modernoan bereizitasun garrantzitsuena bihurtu da. Mendebaldeko Europako herrietan gertatzen den modura, zientzia eta teknologia, ez dira bakarrik etekin ekonomikoaren ikuspuntutik begiratu beharreko gaiak, baizik eta gizarte baten egituraketa sinbolikoetan mugitzen diren faktoreak. Euskal Herriko politika zientifikoa ere bide horretatik doa.

Scientific and technological development, with the constant advanced throughout history, has contributed to the social, cultural and economic process we now enjoy in Western Europe. Its contribution is undeniable with regard to material improvements deriving from developments in telecommunications, transportation, manufacturing, construction, energy and countless other areas of knowledge. The same advances have equally contributed to reaching new heights in quality of life resulting from breakthroughs in health and environmental progress just to name a few.

However, science and technology also have an anthropological and cultural dimension, the importance of which our society has yet to internalize. Culture is a specific way of "existing" and "being" as a society, and the scientific and technological process is a factor which has a significant impact on the configuration of cultural patterns.

The amount of investment in training and preparing scientists, researchers and technologists made by a country over the years is one of the essential elements used today for measuring its real intellectual quality as a people. Thus, beyond the instrumental use of a research force in generating technological developments and applications, often times the reflection that needs to be made is on the role that investment plays in creating a culture of analysis, rigor and participation on the part of



society, and in shaping an intellectually rich productive and social fabric.

Therefore, creating our own research force is a vital source (although not the only one) for fueling the infrastructure and capacities of our innovation and knowledge system (technology centers, research institutions and universities). It is also the principal school for social leadership in our country and a factory of intellectual capabilities and management skills. We must be able to tap this resource to ensure well being and economic competition in the Basque Country.

In the past two decades Euskadi has made a commendable effort to prepare and train researchers. The grant programs for graduate and doctoral students

working in or outside the Basque Network of Science, Technology and Innovation, or the updating of university curricula (with the inclusion of stable third-cycle programs, among others) are just some examples of the effort made by our society in the long process of complying with European standards.

We started from scratch and little by little have managed to create a small body of researchers, which, needless to say, will have to be augmented and reinforced (especially if we want to step up our R+D efforts to 3% of the GNP). Special efforts will have to go toward areas of knowledge that are strategic from the point of view of economic and social progress in our country.

Today, however, the challenge is an entirely different one. It is no longer just a matter of regulating the relationship between science and universities or training researchers and technologists per se. The challenge now is to move forward in managing the entire process so that, in the first place, the science and technology system is consolidated and replenished with the incorporation of career researchers who contribute to the country's scientific and technological production. But it is essential that we be aware, and accept as a positive development, the fact that many of the people training as researchers or scientists, perhaps even most, are not going to go on hone their skills in scientific or technology centers, but instead will directly join the ranks of the social fabric and productive capacity of the country.

Whatever path we take, one thing is for certain: the need to create the concept of careers in research. In Euskadi this concept has not fully matured, although on occasions it come about spontaneously, often the product of professional concerns of the researchers themselves, a far cry from any type of systematic public policy.

It is also true that the situation is much the same in the rest of Spain and in many regions and countries of Europe. Others, however, have resolved the issue since the need to address an attractive career in research came up much earlier. These are societies in which little by little a substantial intellectual base has been built and where there is greater awareness and a more fluid dialogue between science and society.

In Euskadi we are dealing with a change of scenario from the previous model. The new strategy for science and technology by 2010 introduces some guidelines in this direction and lays down the basic groundwork for creating the instrument for personal realization we call the career researcher. It includes basic, high-quality international training; working conditions that are not only decent but on par with other prestigious



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Izan ere, zientzialarien
formakuntza da herri baten maila
intelektuala neurtzen duena.**

professions; agile environments which look favorably on incorporating new individuals; mobility throughout Europe and the rest of the world; places of scientific excellence; and most importantly, the cultural changes in our society that place value on the role of researchers, their contribution to our intellectual capital and to the overall enrichment of our community.

Rosa Barrio, José Luis Zugaza, Javier Aizpurua and Ángel Moreno are four young Basque researchers – exemplifying a number of others – who have spent several years training abroad. They have come home to contribute their knowledge and experience and collaborate in the advancement of research in the Basque Country. The first two work at CIC bioGUNE, the

new bioscience research center located at the Technology Park of Bizkaia, inaugurated in January. The other two have joined the Donostia International Physics Center (DIPC), which promotes resources and spaces for scientific research, and collaborates with such institutions as the University of the Basque Country.

ANGEL MORENO

Simulations for understanding specific properties

«I'm in a good place for applying what I've learned»

Angel Moreno, aged 33, was born in Bilbao and studied Physics at the School of Science at Lejona. He later earned his PhD through the Physics of Materials Department at Donostia, writing his thesis on polymer physics under the direction of Juan Colmenero and Ángel Alegría. "I conducted an experiment using neutron dispersion techniques, which means that I had to go elsewhere since we don't have the kind of large-scale facilities needed for this kind of work here. I've done experiments at the Laue Langevin Institute in Grenoble, France, at the IFF in Juelich, Germany, and at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in Chilton, England, on atomic movements in polymers. A polymer is a very long flexible molecule, like a chain, consisting primarily of carbon and hydrogen. We find the most common example in plastics."



experiment, it means the forces you presupposed are correct. The mechanical properties of materials are a direct result of forces, and by means of simulations you can understand the origin of the properties much less expensively than by carrying out an experiment."

Moreno worked with this technique for two years at Laboratoire des Verres in Montpellier, France, and then for a year and a half at Università di Roma La Sapienza. Just a few days before the Pope passed away he left Rome for Donostia. "I had the opportunity to come back and

it seemed like a good place for me to put into practice what I'd learned. This line of research has become pretty important lately in the polymers physics group headed by Juan Colmenero."

After completing his thesis, supported by a grant from the Basque Government, he went on to work in field of molecular dynamics simulations techniques. "The idea," he explained, "is to presuppose what the intermolecular forces in material are like, and then to use a computer to calculate how molecules move under the effect of these forces. Based on the movements we can calculate physical quantities in a real laboratory experiment. If there is agreement between the simulation and the

The new Donostia researchers thinks that the decision he made three and a half years ago to continue his scientific career after finishing his thesis was a good one. "If I had to go back and do it all over I'd make the same choice. The post-doctoral experience was a very positive one. I got to work with people who were highly-qualified experts and good human beings." Both Ángel Moreno and Javier Aizpurua have five-year Fellow Gipuzkoa contracts with the DIPC.

JAVIER AIZPURUA**Theoretical study of the world on a small scale**

Javier Aizpurua is 34 years old and has returned to Donostia after being away for nearly five years. After completing his undergraduate degree in Physical Science at Zaragoza, the Basque Government awarded him a grant which allowed him to write his thesis at the Physics of Materials department of the School of Chemistry under the supervision of Pedro Miguel Etxenike and Alberto Rivacoba. His thesis, entitled "The Electron Microscope," was a theoretical description of the energy loss of fast electrons in the electron microscope. Following approval, Aizpurua began his forays abroad, also supported by the grant program.



«I'm at a very promising stage right now»

He then set out on a more extensive journey: a short stint at the University of Cambridge Cavendish Laboratory, where the electron was first discovered over a century ago, and two years at the Chalmers University of Technology in Sweden. Here he worked as post-doctoral researcher on a project funded by the European Commission which involved six institutes, aimed at describing electromagnetic interactions in the scanning tunneling microscope. "It was very interesting because it gave me the opportunity to travel all over Europe for two years and collaborate with groups from Irish universities in Belfast and Dublin, the University of Kiel in Germany, the Dutch University of Nijmegen, and the University of Marseilles in France, among others." Then came the North American experience, where he worked with a group of nanophotonics and nanoptics experts led by Dr. Bryant at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Washington D.C., a federal agency dedicated to the promoting measurement, standards, and technology. He ended up staying on for three years.

So, what is his really all about? "I work with nanoparticles – minute particles – which have electronic and optical properties with potential applications in nanoelectronics and biology. For instance, particles of this kind can be injected in biological environments where certain cancerous cells adhere to these nanoparticles. By introducing laser in the system, the cancerous cells that have attached to the nanoparticles are selectively destroyed by laser. It's like a selective bombardment of laser on the nanoscale, in which nanoparticles help us get the target right. We are studying which nanoparticles can be used, where the resonance lies, what influence the resonance environments have, and all of

this has different applications, such as biomedics," explains Javier Aizpurua.

In short, what this young researcher and his group do is "a theoretical study of the world on a very very small scale, where relationships and physical laws are governed by quantum physics, in which the laws are very different from the ones that govern the our world in terms of meters and kilometers."

The Fellows Gipuzkoa program, sponsored by the provincial government, has enabled Javier Aizpurua to return to the DIPC to continue developing his knowledge and to set up an area of study in nanophotonics and nanoptics, "a subject that is really hot right now in Europe, the United States and Japan."

When asked what he sees for his future, Aizpurua explained that "the problem of stability is there, both on a personal level and with regard to the situation of researchers in this country. Right now I'm at a transitional stage. It's very promising, though, because we are at the right place to be able to stabilize our situation for the future. What is missing on the political level is a program of stabilization in the Basque Country, a program which would allow researchers trained at the highest levels, with the help of government subsidies, to become a stable creative body of researchers, and in this way generate wealth in the medium to long term.

To be fair, he added "things could be done better, but some good things have come from public institutions. As I said before, I got started with a pre-doctoral fellowship awarded by the Basque Government in 1994, a program that was created when there was nothing of the kind around here. I think Pedro Miguel Etxenike was one of the spearheads of the research grant programs, which have been a model for the rest of Spain. The DIPC itself is supported by the government, and then there are the grant programs, research projects.... Investments are being made. The problem is that we have a historical deficit in allocating resources to basic and applied research."

In this institute of physical theory and simulation development, there's no such thing as white lab coats; our basic tools are pencils, paper and computers. Javier Aizpurua uses a latest-generation computer to perform high-level calculations.

ROSA BARRIO

Oriented basic research



«Research in model organisms often leads to important discoveries in humans»

Donostiarra and specialist in molecular biology, Rosa Barrio completed her studies at the Autonomous University in Madrid, where she also finished her thesis with help from a grant from the Basque Government. The subject of her thesis was the *Drosophila melanogaster*, that little fruit fly we so often see hovering over a bowl of fruit. "The fruit fly is commonly used in research because it is a relatively simple organism that we have a lot of genetic information about. It's easy to manipulate, accessible and inexpensive to keep in the laboratory; that's why so many of us choose it as a model. By models I mean that when it's not feasible to experiment on people animals are used in research to study how genes function. The secret is that we're actually very much like flies, worms and rats, so most of the research that's done on, say, a worm can be extrapolated to humans," explained Barrio.

Rosa Barrio wanted to do her post-doctoral work with Biology Professor Fotis Kafatos, who taught at Harvard while at the same time overseeing a laboratory in his native country of Greece. "First I went to the United States and afterwards I spent two years in Greece on a grant from the European Union. Professor Kafatos was then appointed Director-General of the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), a cutting-edge multinational research center located in Germany. So I went there and spent five years supported by a grant from the Spanish Ministry of Education and with funding from the center itself. All of my post-doctoral work revolved around the *Drosophila*, but with a different family of genes. That's the work I'll continue with now."

While she was working in Madrid with Professor José Felix de Celis, who in turn worked under Antonio García Bellido, one of the most prestigious scientists in Spain, Rosa Barrio heard about a possible opening at the bioGUNE center in the Derio Technology Park in Bizkaia, and has been working there since December 1st 2004 on oriented basic research. To explain what she does, Barrio gave us an example: "If cancer is an alteration in the normal growth process of cells, and you know how the process works, then you can understand the reason behind an abnormal process in cancer. I can't say I work in cancer research per se, but my research is related and helps me understand the processes that occur when there's a malfunction in the human organism. I've also been studying the nervous system of the *Drosophila* and there are a lot of people doing the same in complex biological processes like memory or learning. Research in model organisms of inferior animals is very important and in many cases leads to discoveries in humans."

Rosa Barrio said that research work builds character since the work is usually long-term. "People say that obsessive people make good scientists. And in addition to obsessive, methodical and patient, because you just keep at it until you find the answer.

Barrio never imagined she would have the chance to work in the Basque Country. "It was totally unexpected. It would have been difficult for me to pack my bags and head to another country. And I'm glad because I think this center is going to work. There are all sorts of people from different backgrounds here. The management has a positive spirit and I think our prospects look good.

JOSÉ LUIS ZUGAZA**Works with embryonic stem cells**

«Euskadi needed a center like BioGUNE»

After earning his undergraduate degree in Biology at the University of the Basque Country, José Luis Zugaza went to Galicia to study Pharmacy at the University of Santiago de Compostela, where he completed his thesis at the Department of Medicine. He then spent two and a half years working with the Imperial Cancer Research Fund in London. In the last quarter of 1997 he left England to work in Paris for three years with the Center for Pharmaceutical Studies at the University of Paris XI School of Pharmacy. In 2001 he joined the University of Salamanca Cancer Research Center. After ten years outside of the Basque Country, José Luis Zugaza returned in 2004 to become part of BioGUNE.



There are three other people in the group led by Zugaza: two PhD students and a new technician, each involved in a different project. One is on why and how normal cells become cancerous; another, in collaboration with Lezoualc'h from INSERM U446, is on molecular mechanisms in Alzheimer; the third centers on a series of proteins that could regulate the clonal proliferation of T-lymphocytes.

"When I went to Salamanca in January 2001 I was given a contract associated with a project, and in 2003 I was hired as researcher for the University of Salamanca Ramón y Cajal project sponsored by the Ministry of Education. I found out that CIC bioGUNE was in the process of being set up and that they would be looking for researchers for the center. I sent in my resume and went through the selection process." Today José Luis Zugaza is in charge of a laboratory where he trains doctorate students, works on his own personal project, and collaborates on another project organized by the center. "the center invests money in developing projects whose results will work to the benefit of society. Right now we're asking the Basque Government for funding to support a macroproject which will involve different institutions. The goal of the project is to study at the molecular level how neurodegenerative disorders, such as Parkinson's disease, are produced. The symptomatology in Parkinson's disease patients is unmistakable: a loss of voluntary movement. In addition, at the histology level, there is a progressive death of dopaminergic neurons. To develop the study we're going to work with embryonic stem cells to differentiate into dopaminergic neurons; the first objective is to make them functional to use as cell therapy in humans," explained José Luis Zugaza.

Among the partners in this macroproject are Valencia Infertility Institute Research Foundation, headed by professor Simón, pioneer in Spain in cultivating human embryonic stem cells; professor Luisa Ugedo from the University of the Basque Country; Doctor A. Villaruel from the Biophysics Unit, and Doctor L. Castaño from Cruces Hospital and CIC bioGUNE, in addition to José Luis Zugaza, Luis Parada, María Vivanco, Robert Kypta, David Gubb, James Sutherland, Rosa Barrio and José María Mato. Over the next three years Zugaza will also be immersed in developing a study of liver dysfunctions, along with ongoing projects and any new projects he is asked to take on.

With so many projects, José Luis Zugaza sees a bright future ahead. "This center," he assured, "is just as good, if not better, than the places I've worked at before; the Basque Country needed a place like this. We know that there are some excellent, well-prepared groups working out of the university, but the area of biotechnology was lacking. CIC bioGUNE is one of the contributions in this area. It was important for there to be a center that could bring together the other biotechnology centers that are now cropping up." The 43-year-old scientist born in Durango said that he also enjoyed pre- and post-doctoral grants from the Basque Government while working his way to the research position he now holds.



Grants that open doors

Eusko Jaurlaritzak bultzaturik, beka ugari sortu dira industria eta hezkuntza sailetan zientzia eta teknologia ikasketak burutu dituzten ikasleek atzerriko esperientziak ezagutu ditzaten eta beren ezaguerak ikerketa berrietan jorratu ditzaten. Hona hemen landu diren proiektuen xehetasunak.

Fundación Centros Tecnológicos – Iñaki Goenaga is a private entity whose patrons are the three official industrial engineering professional associations of Alava, Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa, and technology centers Ceit, ESI, Gaiker, Ikerlan, Inasmet, Labein, Leia, Robotiker and Tekniker.

The main goal of the Foundation is to create and manage grant programs geared toward the scientific and technological training of young researchers in Euskadi and their subsequent incorporation into the job market, and in this way promote the culture of innovation. The Foundation promotes education and

training by offering different grant opportunities, with 25 announcements to date. More than 3,400 grants have been awarded so far, making it possible for many recent bachelor's degree recipients to further their education and enter into the work force.

Since early on, the Foundation's grant programs have received support from the Basque Department of Industry, Trade and Tourism, which has provided public funding for grants included in the projects associated with Generic Research and Strategic Research (Etorrek).

The grants sponsored by Fundación Centros Tecnológicos – Iñaki Goenaga fall into the framework of research projects carried out at partner agents of the Basque Science, Technology and Innovation Network, of which the Foundation is also a member. Therefore, grants go towards work at such places as technology centers, other centers in the sector, technology parks, and so on.

The Foundation feels that the work it has accomplished over the years clearly benefits society for a number of reasons. First, because the training

in science and technology received by grant recipients has given nearly 90% of them direct access to the business world. Secondly, the grants also strive to strengthen the Science-Technology-Business-Society System in the Basque Country, since many of the grant holders end up working at one of the Science, Technology and Innovation Network partners agents.

Another aim is to disseminate the culture of innovation in Basque society. Many of the grant recipients are given positions of responsibility in companies where, after the grant program has finalized, they continue working. The Foundation feels modestly satisfied to have been able to contribute to their education and instill in them a set of innovation-based values as a means of generating wealth.

International grants and other projects

In addition to its traditional research, innovation and PhD grant programs, in March 2005 Fundación Centros Tecnológicos – Iñaki Goenaga implemented "Becas Etortek," the first grant program aimed at international training and incorporation of researchers.

The ultimate goal of this program is to bolster the Basque Science-Technology-Business-Society System incorporating around 100 researchers in the medium-term in strategic areas of research in the Basque Country (biotechnology, biomaterials, manufacturing, microtechnology, intelligent materials, wireless (environmental intelligence), microenergy, etc.

These new grants are for holders of PhDs, candidates with recognized research aptitude,

experienced researchers, and recent bachelor's degree graduates with excellent resumes. Successful candidates will spend an initial training period of one or two years abroad (at universities, research centers and laboratories known for their research excellence), and a second one- or two-year period in the Basque Country. As a result of this process the researchers are encouraged to join one of the different partner agents of the Science, Technology and Innovation Network (SARETEK) or companies involved in the areas of strategic research.

The period of international study will take place at prestigious centers in such countries as the United States, Canada, Germany, Belgium, France, Finland, the United Kingdom, Sweden and Switzerland.

Additionally, the Foundation will collaborate with the Basque Department of Industry, Trade and Tourism to implement "Guregana," a program aimed at designing a network of contacts between researchers and technologists in Euskadi and abroad. The purpose is to allow Basque researchers living in other countries to return to Euskadi to work within the Science, Technology and Innovation Network or companies active in R+D+i.

This program hopes to establish different levels of cooperation between Basque researchers and researchers working in other countries. Proposals range from specific one-off projects to bringing foreign researchers to Euskadi for longer periods of time to share and generate knowledge, and even stay on as permanent researchers in the Basque Country.

For more information:
www.fundacioncentrostecnologicos.org

Subsidies from the Department of Education

The policy on research grants implemented by the Basque Department of Universities and Research, and more concretely by the Office of Scientific Policy, promotes the training of scientists who, for the most part, will subsequently form part of the research network in the Basque Autonomous Community.

Financial aid is dedicated to two main areas: grants for PhD studies, and grants for post-doctoral training. The primary focus for the latter is to create a research specialization; therefore, grants are awarded to cover costs for previously determined areas of research.

In addition to grants, also available are subsidies, work

study programs and competitive job announcements, all of which center on reinforcing research projects and creating consolidated groups and networks of international cooperation. For more information visit

Jon Barrutia
Deputy Minister for
Universities and Research

Elena Urrestarazu researches a cure for epilepsy from Montreal

For over three years Elena Urrestarazu has been studying at the Montreal Neurological Institute, one of the most highly-acclaimed epilepsy treatment and research centers in the world, thanks to a post-doctoral grant from the Basque Government. Her post-doctoral stipend is for one year, extendible to two, and she plans to make the most of it. As she sees it, one year is not enough to properly carry out any type of research project. "Besides," added the young researcher from Placencia de las Armas, "I missed two months because my visa was delayed."

Her project focuses on the application of a novel mathematical technique called Independent Component Analysis (ICA), which separates independent activities in the electroencephalogram (EEG). The technique is used to isolate epileptic activity from normal brain activity to determine the location of the epileptic epicenter. "This discovery," Urrestarazu went on to explain, "is particularly important in epileptic patients who control their seizures with medication and are candidates for surgery. In combination with other techniques, it can more accurately determine what areas need to be target to cure the epilepsy."

Some of the results of this research have been published in two international journals, the "Journal of Clinical Neurophysiology" and "Epilepsia." The rest of their findings are also expected to be published soon. The team has presented five papers at international congresses and seven at national congresses.

In Montreal Urrestarazu is using intracranial electrodes. "In some cases, when the area of seizure onset isn't very clear, electrodes are implanted in an attempt to localize the specific area. But there can still be doubts even with this method. We want to see if by using ICA we can more precisely localize or obtain more information about the connections in the different areas of the brain that play a role in epileptic seizures."


When she finishes her fellowship, Elena Urrestarazu wants to return to Euskadi. She knows it will not be easy to find work as a neurologist, and therefore will probably look in the area of epileptology.

Elena Urrestarazu's training in Medicine is tied to the University of Navarra, where she earned her degree in Medicine and Surgery in 1996. The following year she took her internal medicine residency exam (MIR), coming in 39th in the area of Neurology. She then taught at the



Montrealen hilabeteak pasa ondoren, Euskadira itzultzeko asmoa du Elena Urrestarazuk. Bere herrian neurologia atalean jarraitzea zaila izango duela argi dauka eta epileptologian aritzeko erreztasun handiagoak izango dituela dio.

University Clinic as associated professor for several years and earned her PhD in Medicine, graduating cum laude. Urrestarazu was an intern at the Spanish Neurology Society working with a program specific geared toward training in epilepsy. She was also awarded a pre-doctoral research grant by the Basque Government. She was also a member of the research team working on projects FIS 00/0009-01, FIS 03/0043 and FIS 2004-2006. She has participated in eleven papers presented at international congresses and in 33 presented at congresses in Spain. Urrestarazu has had four chapters in published books, seven articles in specialized international journals and another seven in Spanish journals.



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EUSKO JAURLARITZA



GOBIERNO VASCO

International businesswomen meet in Bilbao



200 lagun baino gehiago izan ziren joan den apirilaren Bilbon Bizkaiko Emakume Enpresari eta Zuzendarien Nazioarteko Batzarrean. Botere ekonomikoaren aurrean emakume hauek duten zereginaz eta enplegu mailan emakumeek sortutako enpresek duten indarraz aritu ziren hiru egunez.

“Emakumeak munduko biztanleriaren erdia baino gehiago gara eta beraz, gure eskubideak erabiltzeko aukera dugu eta erabili egin behar ditugu. Gure esku ere badaude gizarteko baliabideek sortzen dituzten etekinak” adierazi zuen biltzar honen hasieran Josune Barrena, Elkarteko buruzagiak.

Businesswomen weave alliances of power

Bilbao was host to the 2nd International Convention of Women Entrepreneurs & Executives. Held in April at the Palacio Euskalduna Convention Center, the event drew in more than 200 participants. The gathering, organized by the Businesswomen's Association of Bizkaia (AED) under the theme "Weaving Power Alliances," analyzed the role of leadership among women in different areas of society.

In her presentation to the congress, AED President Josune Barrena said that the achievements of women in the twentieth century "are many and important, but even when current laws and constitutions proclaim equality between all citizens, sexual discrimination is still with us in today's society. "In this sense, women entrepreneurs

who run businesses that create wealth, employment and sustainability, and women executives who make important political, economic and social decisions contribute more than twice as many benefits as they receive. "Therefore," added Barrena, "it is essential for us to be more visible in places where decisions are being made and to have greater representation in different bodies of power."

Over the course of three days, the convention addressed such subjects as leadership among women in different areas of society, the need to set up networks and lobbies to promote the empowerment of women and the development of their careers, and the pursuit of equality between men and women.

According to recent data, 33.26% of executive positions are held by women. This figure, however, may lead us to believe that women occupy a majority of public and private sector senior executive positions. In fact, this figure drops to 16.74% in enterprises with more than ten employees. In terms of CEOs, managing directors and non-executive directors of large companies, the presence of women is virtually non-existent, with 97% of the top positions in the hands of men.

International experts

Highly-acclaimed speakers and well-known experts from around the globe were present at the three-day conference, including Shere Hite, Researcher and Director of the Hite Research Center in the United Kingdom; Christine Fyffe, Political adviser, small business director and former Member of the Victoria Legislative Assembly in Australia; Patricia Espinosa, President of the Women’s Institute in Mexico; Jan Morris, Consultant for the "Springboard: Women’s Development Programme" in the United Kingdom; Irene Natividad, President of the Women’s World Summit. USA; Senior Vice-President of Deutsche Telekom and expert in Equal Opportunity, Diversity and Human Resources; Cristina Carrasco from the University of Barcelona, who addressed the lack of structures in place today to provide care for children and others; and Amelia Valcárcel from the University of Oviedo, who offered her reflections on political power in women.

Business award

To mark its tenth anniversary, the Businesswomen's Association of Bizkaia created the first AED Business Prize, awarded during the International Convention. The



Josune Barrena, left, President of the Businesswomen's Association of Bizkaia, with two participants.

prize was designed to honor the company, organization or entity which has made the most noteworthy efforts in the advancement of equal opportunity between men and women. Criteria for awarding the prize included the level of innovation, both internally and externally, of the Equal Opportunity Plan, or the degree of impact on the organization's overall goals.

Two organizations were the recipients at the first edition of the prize. The first was the Basque Parliament for recently passing the Equality Act now in force, which Lehendakari Juan José Ibarretxe described as the most important political contribution of his career in public service. The second prize went to the Spanish Government for appointing as many women ministers as men.

Josune Barrena:
«Emakumeok erabaki handiak hartu behar izaten ditugu enpresetan eta aberastasuna sortzeko gai gara. Gainera, arlo publikoa eta pribatuaren arteko orekan mugitzen gara».





JUAN IGNACIO VIDARTE *director of the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao*



Zortzi urte daramatza Juan Ignacio Vidartek Guggenheim Museoan zuzendari bezala eta Bilbok bizi izan duen iraultza urbanistikoaren testigu izan da. Guggenheim Museoak Bilbo, denon gogoan dagoen hiri industrial eta kutsatu hura, mapa turistikoan jartzea lortu du eta Euskal Herria bisitatzeko aitzakia bihurtu da miloika turistentzat. Vidartek urte hauetako balantzea azaltzera dator elkarrizketa honetan.

«The Guggenheim has had a positive psychological impact on the people of Bilbao»

Juan Ignacio Vidarte, economist by training and "Bilbaino" by birth, experienced the process of building the European headquarters of the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao first-hand: from the construction phase under the orders of Frank Gehry, to watching the museum become an economic, urbanistic and cultural catalyst for the city. In the nearly eight years Vidarte has been director-general, he has demonstrated that the museum is an international cultural and artistic reference.

People say that Bilbao can show the world a modern image thanks to the Guggenheim Museum. Who should take credit?

The Basque institutions that led the project from the beginning, mainly the Basque Government and the Provincial Council of Bizkaia; the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation of New York, which provided its support, art collections, special exhibition programs and experience in administrative and management matters; the 150 Basque

companies and the 14,000 museum members, all of whom contributed economic support to start the machinery rolling forward.

A year after it opened 1,300,000 people had visited the museum. Has this average held steady, and is it still the most visited museum in Euskadi?

The reality has exceeded all expectations, ranging from 900,000 to a million visitors per year. Since its inauguration seven and a half million visitors have walked through the doors.

A lot of visitors are attracted to the museum because of Frank Gehry's spectacular architecture. As director-general isn't it frustrating for the container to be considered the museum's best work of art, shadowing the actual content?

It would be frustrating if it were really true, but it isn't. We know in fact that people visit the museum for its content. The number of visitors depends on the particular events and exhibitions offered at any given time. I won't deny that the building's architecture plays a very important part, not only due to its spectacularity, but because of its power to create unique spaces for showing art. I think that the balance between container and content has been very successful.

Where do most of the museum visitors come from?

According to our surveys, nine out of ten are from outside Euskadi. 65% come from other Autonomous Communities and foreign countries. Approximately 17% are from France, 8% from Great Britain, 7% from the United States, and another 7% from Italy.

To what extent is the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao dependant on the Guggenheim in New York?

There is a close relationship with New York in terms of operations, the planning of exhibits, and educational programs, but we maintain our own autonomy. Legally we are independent entities; our museum is managed by the Guggenheim Foundation Bilbao, which makes decisions about program guidelines and budgetary matters.

The main temporary exhibition this year, which opened in March and will be on display for six months, is dedicated to Aztec art. What kind of



*«Hasiera batean egin
genituen prebisioak
erabat hautsi dira.
Urtero ia milioi bat
bisitari dauzkagu.
Zortzi urte hauetan 7,5
milioi lagunek ezagutu
dute museoa»*

sales pitch would you give to undecided visitors?.

I'd tell them that this is a one-of-a-kind experience to learn about the richness of the Aztec empire. They'll have a chance to see over 600 prehispanic and colonial objects on loan from more than 50 institutions. 80% of the material comes from Mexican museums and other 20% from centers in Europe and the United States. The exhibition in Bilbao is even more complete than the New York display. Here we have included a chapter on the Conquest and the Viceroyalty, which were only briefly outlined

in New York. We have also included more audiovisuals and text. A total of 2500 square meters spread over eleven of the museum's nineteen galleries are been dedicated to this show. 80 technicians were hired to put together the exhibition under the supervision Mexican architect Enrique Norten, who saw to both design and staging, as well as transforming a space meant for contemporary art into a setting that would reflect the historical context of the Aztec empire.

The first of these historical and cultural journeys was an exhibition on display in 1998 dedicated to China. And now this one. What's next?

We're in contact with the Guggenheim in New York to try to bring an exhibit on the art of Russia. It would include art created by Russian artists themselves, plus art from other countries belonging to Russian collections. The exhibition will first be organized in New York and we're hoping to be able to bring it to Bilbao at the end of 2006.

On balance, how would you describe the outcome of the Guggenheim over the past eight years?

Very positive. All of its goals have been achieved. The museum has been a very effective instrument in spreading a vision of the culture in Euskadi to the rest of the world. It has also been an important catalyst for change from an economic and urbanistic perspective, and has even had a positive psychological impact on the people of Bilbao. As a museum it has become a consolidated presence in the culture of visual arts and enjoys an innovative management model. In nearly eight years since the museum opened its doors 75% of costs have been self-financed, with only a quarter of the costs paid from with subsidies from the Basque and Provincial Governments.

The coalition PNV-EA wins the immigrant vote

After counting the votes on polling night of the Basque Parliamentary election, came time to count the number of votes coming in from voters residing outside Euskadi. According to the ballot results tabulated by the Absentee Spanish Residents Center (CERA), participation among this group was 25% (out of a total of 38,270 potential voters). A majority of these votes, much like in the Basque Autonomous Community itself, went to the coalition PNV-EA. These are the results of the absentee voters living abroad: PNV-EA, 4,325 votes; PSE-EE, 2,391 votes; PP, 1,906 votes; Partido Comunista de las Tierras Vascas, 446 votes; and Ezker Batua-Izquierda Unida, 305 votes.

These votes were the last to be counted and were not decisive in terms of the distribution of seats in the Basque Parliament, which is as follows: PNV-EA, 29 seats; PSE-EE, 18 seats; PP, 15; EHAK-PCTV, 9; and 3 for IU-EB.

7% of their salary for solidarity projects

512 staff members from the Basque public university donate 7% of their paycheck each month to support development projects. This past May the University of the Basque Country Solidarity Fund delivered the money collected in 2004 to six cooperation programs selected by members of the organization. This year the amount collected came to nearly 90,000 euros. The projects include building schools in India under the Vicente Ferrer Foundation, and in Sierra Leona under the Chema Caballero Xaverian Missionaries program. Also selected was a program which promotes vocational workshops for street children in Brazil sponsored by Zutalur.



The largest commercial aircraft in history passes its first test flight

On April 27th the Airbus A380, world's largest passenger plane, completed its test flight. The "superjumbo" was built in the French city of Toulouse in a joint project between several countries, among them Euskadi. More than 30,000 people went to Blagnac airport to watch the maiden flight and to witness the enormous, four-engine aircraft take-off and land nearly four hours later.

The Airbus A380, designed to carry as many as 840 people between major airports, also has other advantages: it uses 15% less fuel than the Boeing 747 while offering a third more seating; it does not require a longer strip than any other commercial airline for take-off and landing; the noise from its four engines is four decibels below the competition and is able to fly a distance of over 14,800 kilometers without refueling.

The Basque aeronautics industry took part in this project through Gamesa, a manufacturer of structural parts of airplanes, ITP, an aircraft engine producer, and SK10. Another twenty companies from the Basque Autonomous Community were involved in either construction or the supply of materials, ranging from the internal piping system to the engines, structure and fuselage.

Only a half dozen passengers were aboard the maiden flight, including pilots, engineers and mechanics. The chief engineer for Spain, Fernando Alonso, was one of the six passengers. At the end of the test flight he reported on how manageable and easy to pilot the aircraft was. Before being authorized for full operation, expected for the second quarter of 2006, the Airbus A380 will go through a period of 2,296 hours of test flights.

Jazzaldia Donostia to celebrate its 40th anniversary with 75 concerts

The Donostia Jazz Festival, held this year from July 21st through the 27th, is one of the longest-standing jazz festivals in Europe. This year it will be celebrating its 40th edition, with 75 concerts by the brightest stars and the latest trends in jazz. As in previous years, for six days music lovers can enjoy free concerts in the streets of Donostia, the Kursaal terrace, the bandstand on the Boulevard and in a number of bars and nightclubs. But the most important concerts will take place in the Kursaal Auditorium and the "Plaza de la Trinidad."

This year's guests will include some of the most outstanding and successful performers from past editions, including Van Morrison, Keith Jarrett, Maceo Parker, Kenny Barron, Phil Woods, Bebo Valdés or Medeski, Martin & Wood, along some others who were very important the first years of the festival, including La Locomotora Negra, the polish drummer Zbigniew Lewandowski and Clunia with Maria Joao. Two special 40th anniversary projects will bring together musicians that one time or another have played in the Festival: a 40th Anniversary Big Band conducted by Bob Sands, featuring many of the Spanish musicians who have played in one of the previous 39 editions, and a Nonet led by San Sebastian's Iñaki Salvador, with some of the Basque Country's most talented musicians, most of whom got started at the Jazz Festival. A special tribute will be made to the man who did the most to raise the category of the Festival to one of Europe's finest: Charles Mingus.

Among the musicians that will play at Jazzaldia for the first time are: Joe Cocker, Gilberto Gil, Roberta Flack, Blind Boys of Alabama, Dave



Holland, Djavan, Eric Burdon, Benny Golson, plus Cedar Walton, who will be making a second appearance.

Along with these there will also be space for newcomers and future trends for a younger audience such as Antony & The Johnsons, Brazilian Girls, Philip Cohen de Gotan Project, BossaCucaNova, Nylon and Trio Exklusiv.

Tickets will be on sale starting April 25th through all the regular outlets: at the Festival office (Camino, 2. 20004 San Sebastián. Phone: 00 34 943 440 034. Fax: 00 34 943 421 117.

E-mail: jazztickets@donostia.org, through the Festival website (jazzaldia.com), or through the Kutxa ticketing services: ServiKutxa, TeleKutxa (00 34 943 411 200) and Kutxa.net.

As in previous years, two types of reduced rate concert ticket packets will be available: one for the concerts held in Plaza de la Trinidad, and another for the performances at the Kursaal Auditorium.

Euskaltel launches a women's mountaineering team

The Basque telephone company, Euskaltel, has presented Euskaltel Emakumeen Mendiko Taldea – the Euskaltel Women's Mountaineering Team. The squad, made up of Josune Bereziartu, Edurne Pasaban, Raquel Pérez and Sonia Casas, brings together experience and youth and is Euskaltel's way of combining the world of women and mountain climbing. In the words of the team's promoters, "this demonstrates how, in spite of the efforts, dedication and difficulties for women in such a predominately male sport, a project of this kind can be successful.

Josune Bereziartu and Edurne Pasaban are icons mountaineering and mountain climbing, with over 15 years of experience in this difficult high-risk sport. Sonia Casas and Raket Pérez have fewer years under their belts as mountain climbers, representing "hope and future." Each of the members of the team will continue with their own individual projects, but under the common banner of Euskaltel Emakumeen Mendiko Taldea – the Euskaltel Women's Mountaineering Team. "This project was not designed to organize a four-woman expedition, but does hope to serve as an example to other women trying to make inroads in the world of mountain climbing.

Euskaltel Women's Mountaineering Team will be involved in activities throughout 2005, which people can follow by logging on to Euskaltel's website at www.euskaltel.es. One such activity is a prize, which will be awarded in November to the best female mountaineering project of 2005. The team's logo, designed specially by the popular design company Kukuxumusu, represents women, technology and teamwork.

NERE PAGOLA

Bideogilea

Zine ikasketak egitera joan zen Nere Pagola donostiarra New Yorkera 1996an. Hasiera batean itzultzeko hegazkin biletea ere eraman zuen bere motxilan baina zorte handia izan zuen hara iritsi orduko: Gipuzkoako Foru Aldundiak beka eman zion eta urtero zozkatzen den Bizitegi Karta tokatu zitzaion. Beraz, han dabil oraindik ere, itzulpen lanak eta dokumentalak tartekatuz.



«New York is a city that's full of energy»

Nere Pagola landed in New York in 1996 with only \$2000 in her pocket and a return ticket. Her idea was to learn more about filmmaking and to live in a new environment. That summer she was awarded a grant from the Provincial Government of Gipuzkoa, and had a stroke of luck: She won the US Immigration Bureau's annual green card lottery, highly coveted by so many people living in the USA.

"My situation has changed a lot since then," said the Donostia-born 30-something living in New York. "For the first three years I studied production, and specialized in documentaries. I made a couple of short films and work on no-budget projects. I worked wherever I could, since the grant money wasn't enough to cover all of my study expenses." But in 1998 she managed to sell a documentary report project to

Canal+, through Igeldo Komunikazioa. The experience turned out to be good but exhausting: the budget was very low and the team limited. However, she managed to finish the project, which she herself created, produced, directed and edited. "I submitted new projects which were approved, but never got around to being made."

Somewhat tired from all her efforts, Nere Pagola began working for different publishing houses: "That's what I do now. In the past six years I've worked for some of the leading American publishers, including McGraw-Hill, Scott Foresman, Prentice May and Pearson, which are the ones that produce large-scale educational programs in Spanish. I've done all types of work: translate, edit, proofread, and, most recently, I've been working as a project manager, which I

enjoy because it has a lot in common with film production."

But she hasn't gotten rid of the movie and video bug, and all this time she's tried to keep abreast of the latest on the subject. Currently she is putting together mini-reports on cultural and current events for "La hora wiki" produced by Canal+, while also scheming up new projects. "I'm preparing a documentary to do in New York and I have an idea for another one which would be made in Donostia." Nere is anxious to get back to her home town.

"I keep setting dates, but then I put them off because NY is a hard place to leave. This city is full of energy. There's always something going on and you end up having the most amazing experiences. I feel like it's changed me or that it allowed me to be something I could never have been back home."



JULIAN IANTZI

Host with ETB

Euskal Telebistako zenbait programetako aurkezle da eta aurpegi ezaguna egin da Euskal Herriko etxeetan. Egun, “Basetxea Taberna” saioa gidatzen ari da baina beste proiektu batzuk ere baditu eskuartean. Beti ere telebista alorrean, azken urteotako lanbide bihurtu den telebistan. Ameriketara jaio zen Iantzi, Kalifornian, eta zortzi urte zituela itzuli zen Lesakara bere familiarekin batera. Joan etorriko bidaia egin zuten Iantzitarrek baina, oraindik ere, izaba-osabak eta lehengusuak dituzte itsasoaren beste aldean.

Between two continents

Up close Julian Iantzi is just like the guy we see on Euskal Telebista. We might say he plays his own character, or none at all, both on and off camera. He's optimistic, adventurous, jovial and talkative. Very talkative. With the same effusiveness and enthusiasm he shows on screen, he tells us in full detail what it meant to grow up in Woodland, California. This is the story of a boy from Lesaka, Navarra, who took a round trip journey. "People are always surprised when I tell them I was born in California They always say 'Oh, so, you're a foreigner?' And I say foreigner, no, just born somewhere else. Then they tell me how they could tell I wasn't from here because I'm tall and blonde. I always laugh because I'm the son of Angel Iantzi and Txelo Mitxelena, born and raised in Lesaka and about as

Basque as they come." The story of the Iantzi family and their American journey began many years ago, when Julian's father decided to go to the United States to work as a shepherd. He was there for 23 years, 13 as a shepherd and another ten working on a ranch. While he was there he married his sweetheart from Lesaka and they had three children, two sons and a daughter, all born in California. "We lived in Dixon, but our hearts were always here, because my parents never gave up the idea of coming back."

The decision to return to Lesaka was not easy because at that time there was a lot of money in shepherding; it was hard work but compared to the salaries in Euskadi at the time, the money was good. "My father always said that you could buy an apartment

here with the money you made in a year there." A important factor in deciding to come back was the fact that a large part of the family was in Lesaka and the children were school age. "My mother thought that once the kids became rooted in the United States it would be much harder because we wouldn't want to leave."

The family moved back to Lesaka, but changing schools was far from easy for Julian. "I spoke English and at home we spoke Euskara. I had a hard time because the teacher insisted I speak perfect Spanish, and she wasn't willing to help me at all." When they lived in California the Iantzi family was immersed in a Basque-speaking environment. The Euskal Etxeak played a pivotal role in their lives, providing them with virtually all of their social activities. "We did everything in Basque and with Basques – in Dixon, at the fronton in San Francisco, at different families' homes

For the past four years Julian Iantzi has been a familiar face on television. His wife encouraged him to audition for casting representatives from Euskal Telebista; but his first break actually came from the local Pamplona TV station, Canal4, where he worked on a program for a year. He has hosted several programs for Basque and Spanish TV, but it was with ETB that he became known to Basque audiences with on programs including "Basetxea," "Bergia gose," "Sorginen Laratza," "La flecha amarilla," "El conquistador del fin del mundo" and special gala events. Julian has also had the opportunity to host a series of programs on the life of Basque communities in the United States, as well as interviewing well-known researchers such as the Bieter family and representatives of different Euskal Etxeak, and narrate the life of several generations of Basques in the USA ... including the journey there and back of his own family.



A congress for joining Basque

A total of 49 presentations stemming from recent research on Basque-Navarra presence around the globe were featured at the II International Congress "Euskal Herria Mugaz Gaindi - The Basque Country beyond its borders," held in Vitoria-Gasteiz from May 3rd through 6th. A virtual seminar was also created, making it possible for all of the work presented at the event to be posted on the Internet in May so that online conferences could be informed and join the debate on the different subjects without having to leave their homes.

The seminar, which first made contact with researchers in May 2004, was organized by the Euskosare network of researchers studying the Basque-Navarra presence

around the world, the department of Medieval, Modern and American History of the University of the Basque Country, and the department of History and Geography of Ikaskuntza - Basque Studies Society.

The organizers were surprised at the number of historians presenting papers and at the number of people interested in attending. In fact, the congress had to be extended to three days instead of the initially scheduled two-day event. "The response was excellent," commented Oscar Álvarez, speaker and member of the organizing committee, "especially within the Basque Country. Until recently very few of us were concerned with these subjects, but fortunately it

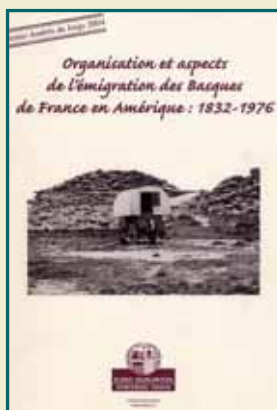
seems that interest is growing in the diaspora and the Basque presence around the world.

Although the original core group consisted of historians, in this edition participants included scholars from different sciences and disciplines, such as literature, political science and sociology. Papers were presented from the Basque Country, Catalonia, Castilla-León, Andalucía, Galicia, Argentina, Mexico, France, Italy, Japan, Canada, the United States, Colombia, Uruguay and Poland. The time frame was also broadened to include topics from the 15th to the 21st centuries.

"Until now," added Oscar Álvarez, "we were unaware to a great extent of the research that was being done, especially

Four books key to understanding history

• "Organisation et aspects de l'emigration des basques de France en Amérique: 1832-1976" won the Andrés de Irujo prize in 2004. Published in French, this book written by Claude Mehats takes a look at the reasons that motivated so many French Basques to emigrate to America in the 19th and 20th centuries. It also analyzes the presence of Basques in the Americas, the lifestyles of Basques and the effects of immigration on North and South America.



• "An Enduring Legacy: The Story of Basques in Idaho," written by brothers John and Mark Bieter Garmendia, the book is based on the story of the Bieter family, chronicling three generations of Basque presence in the state of Idaho. The pioneers arrived in 1890, lived a hard life as sheepherders, and never lost their traditions, language or culture. The second generation, born in Idaho, became full-fledged Americans and prospered, while remaining true to their Basque customs. The third generation is part of a subculture that is neither purely Basque nor American, but has held fast to its roots.



ETXEAK



News from around the world

on the other side of the Atlantic. Nobody knew how many of us there were and therefore we hadn't established any relationships. One of the reasons for setting up the network was to create a channel of communication, exchange and collaboration. Now we know what researchers are out there, what kinds of work they're involved in, and what the perspectives look like for the future.

This year the organizers implemented a virtual online seminar, in which the 49 presentations in the congress were presented, in addition to a dozen other papers in English, French, Spanish and Euskara, the four official languages of the congress. Throughout the month of

May, online conference participants had the chance to discuss various aspects related to the work presented. Participation in this online forum and access to the texts was also greater than expected. "There were a lot of students from the University of the Basque Country and other Basque universities, but we also received requests to take part in the online congress from places as far away as Ireland, Mexico and Argentina."

The actual Vitoria-Gasteiz conference attendees had the opportunity to take part in a guided tour of the Arta Nationalism Archive, during which Eduardo Jáuregui reported on the Basque-American collection,

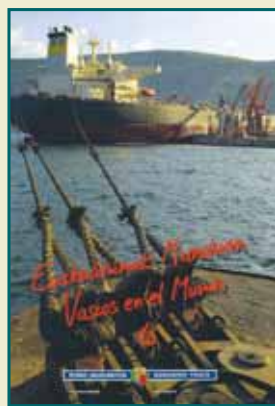
and gave an assessment of its importance to studies of this type and explained the conditions for accessing the archive.

Four books published by the Basque Government Central Publication Service were also presented, all of which are aimed at recovering a part of the history of the Basque people.

The outcome of these gatherings of people who have studied the Basque-Navarra presence around the world was considered "both positive and encouraging." The organizing committee would like to see another country host the third edition of the conference.

EUSKAL ETXEAK

• Issue 6 of the collection "Euskaldunak Munduan-Vascos en el mundo" is titled "Exilio." It is written by Jon Ugutz Lejarcegui, son of nationalist militant Víctor Lajercegui Larrondo, one of many Basques who went into exile after the Spanish Civil War, first to Cuba, then Argentina and eventually to Uruguay. The author uses the abundant collection of documents generated by his father's political work to link personal history with the history of the Basque people.



• Issue 7 of "Euskaldunak Munduan-Vascos en el mundo" includes two works that were shortlisted for the Andrés de Irujo Awards sponsored by the Office of the President. "Chile y los vascos," written by journalist Joseba Etxarri Lizeaga, is the chronicle of his journey to Chile at the end of the 20th century, in which he analyzes the presence of Basques and their influence on Chilean history. The second, called "Seberiano, un vasco universal", by Fabio Javier Echarri, describes the life of a priest from Gipuzkoa who has spent most of his life outside the Basque Country. Now 90 years old, he has lived in Chaco, Argentina, for over twenty years.





EUSKAL ETXEAK



Basque Centers gather in Euskadi

Euskal Etxeak delegates to the Third Congress of Basque Communities held in July 2004 decided to establish an annual Day of the Diaspora to be held simultaneously in all of the Euskal Etxeak and in different locations in Euskadi on a rotation basis. On April 23rd of this year 160 members from the Caracas, Puerto La Cruz and Valencia Basque Centers in Venezuela celebrated their annual rendezvous in the town of Galdakao, Bizkaia. The Basque clubs are part of the Simón Bolívar Basque Venezuelan Association,

presided by Amaya Zenarrutzabeitia Pikataza. After an emotional morning bathed in sunshine, mass was celebrated by Father Viana, who prayed for the eternal rest of of Kontxi Bilbao, Sabin Zenarutzabeitia and Javier Odriozola.

Lunch was held at a ciderhouse in honor of Ane Albaya and Iñaki Urzelay on their 87th birthday. **ZORIONAK!**

Also present were the Consul General of Venezuela in Bilbao, Yolanda Rojas Urbina, and the Director of Relations with Basque

Communities, Josu Legarreta.

On April 30th and May 1st 100 representatives from the Basque Centers of Madrid, Salou, Valencia and Valladolid, accompanied by the Director of Relations with Basque Communities and his assistant, Asier Abaunza, celebrated the Day of the Diaspora. A full program of activities took place in the towns of Azpeitia, Azkoitia, Ezkio, Ormaiztegi and Oñati.

The event got under way with an official reception at the Azpeitia Town Hall, including an auresku danced

in the guests' honor, and a reception presided over by the Mayor and the Councillor for Culture. Afterwards, the group visited the Sanctuary of Loyola and the town of Azkoitia, where the retinue was offered a warm welcome by the mayor. Highlighted among the many activities was a guided tour of the beautiful parish church, which boasts one of the finest organs in Euskadi. The official organist played several pieces for the visitors.

Dinner and a display of rural sports, Basque dance and music were organized by the Azpeitia Town Hall.

May 1st was set aside for a visit to the Zumalacarregui Museum in Ormaiztegi and to a 16th century farmhouse-cider press in Ezkio. After lunch at Aranzazu, the group visited the sanctuary and setting, enjoying the artwork, including sculptures by Oteiza, the apse by Muñoz and paintings by Basterretxea.

Oñati bid farewell to the group with an auresku and a guided tour of the first University of the Basque Country, built in the 16th century, and of the splendid parish church of San Miguel.

Eskerrik asko! Thanks for joining us!



EUSKAL ETXEAK



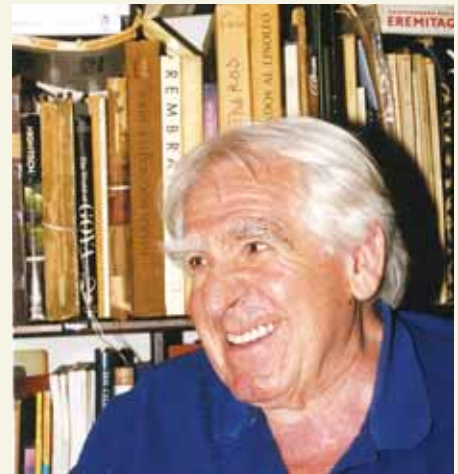
Subsidies for Basque Centers

The Directorate for Relations with Basque Communities is in the process of compiling additional documentation to complete the applications that have come in from over 100 Basque clubs in 17 countries. The subsidy allocation for 2005 is comes to 1,012,054 euros divided into two lots: 385,000 euros will be set aside for infrastructure and equipment costs, and another 627,054 euros to cover operational costs and activities.

After the deadline has passed for institutions to submit their four-year plans, applications will be rated and the first payment of the allotted amount will be made. We would like to remind applicants that it is impossible to cover all of the funding requested by the various centers (a total of three million euros).

Tribute paid to the memory of Mario Salegi in Aralar

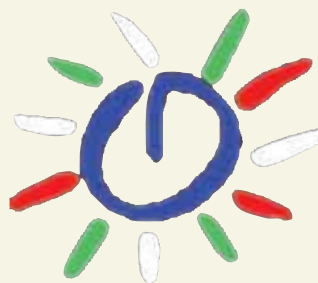
Basque writer and militant Mario Salegi passed away in New York on April 22nd at the age of 87. His memory was honored on May 8th in a heartfelt ceremony in the mountains of Aralar, a place Mario had become only too familiar with when forced to go into hiding from the Franco regime. His widow, Miriam Nurberg, came to Euskal Herria to lay his ashes to rest near the Aubia dolmen, together with a copy of his latest book "Verano del 36," which did not make it to the press before he died. Between family and friends, more than 200 people took part in the emotional event, which got under way with the sound of the txalaparta and an auresku in Mario Salegi's honor. Speakers paid tribute to his personal and political life, and the people raised their voices in song, including "Eusko gudariak" and "Hegoak ebaki banizkion." Soprano Ainhoa Arteta spontaneously led the



group in "Agur Jaunak," which brought the ceremony to a close. Miriam Nurberg spoke of the 54 she spent with Mario: "I've been very lucky, and am proud to have been able to share my life with him. Mario couldn't be anywhere else but here," she added, referring to the final resting place of Mario Salegi.

Gaztemundu 2005

This year's Gaztemundu program will be held in Vitoria-Gasteiz from July 5th through July 14th. A total of 35 teachers of Basque club txikis –children and teena-gers– will be accepted to the program. This year around 40 applications were submitted before the deadline. Candidates will be selected based mainly on their presentations and will receive official training at the facilities of the Basque Institute for Physical Education.



Subjects will include rural sports, leisure, activities for children, basic Euskara, and Basque music and dance, each taught by specialists in their respective fields.

The idea of training people in charge of Basque club children's groups came from the need to extend activities and programs for txikis. Although several Basque centers do have a children's section, most of them focus their activities exclusively on Basque dance.

PHOTO ALBUM

We've received so many fantastic pictures from our readers lately that we thought we should add several of them to our photo album this time.

We just wish there was enough space to include all of them. Thank you for your interest and support.



AMIGOS. I'm pleased to send you this picture for the photo album. From left to right: Antonio, Atanacio and Ciriaco Echarri. They came to Argentina in 1906 from Oteiza, Nafarroa, and had this picture taken of them dressed as gauchos (the first two). Antonio and Ciriaco settled in Chaco Province where they raised families; After the death of Atanacio's father, he went back to Oteiza to work the land. Regards, Fabio Javier Echarri - "Kotoiaren Lurra" Basque Center in Chaco. Resistencia, Chaco, Argentina.



The musician dressed in white playing the accordion is my father, Estanislao Aseguinolaza. The photo was taken in Idiazabal, Gipuzkoa, at a costume party in 1924, when he was 15 years old.

◀ The other photograph was taken on a ship when he emigrated to Argentina (Santa Fe) to work at "casa IMAZ," a general store, later turned into the school where his grandchildren Ignacio and Imanol now study (Escuela Técnica n° 388). "Julio I. Maiztegui."

My father, Estanislao, was born in Idiazabal in 1909 and married Ángeles Domínguez, born in Spain. Warm regards. Francisco Aseguinolaza (Argentina)



My father, Pedro Gerardo García Abaurre, sent this picture from Buenos Aires to his brother, Demetrio García Abaurre, who lived in the town of Falces, Navarra. My uncle wanted to see what his brother's family, my brothers and I, looked like.



◀ Hello. This is another picture taken in 1954 in Arrazola of my Aita, Antton Ereña De Oregi, with his friends from Arrazola, Aspe, Ariño (Valle de Atxondo). Best wishes!!! Mikel Andoni Ereña (Basque) (Bolivia)

S@rean

E-mail Txoko

This section is set aside for any comments, suggestions or interesting facts sent in by our readers. If there's anything we should include and haven't, or if you're curious about something and can't find the answer, here's your chance to let us know.



Dear Basques: I'm writing from Mexico because hatred, hunger and fear brought me here. I inherited my love for the Basque Country, because if there was anyone who loved that land, it was my aita. I was too young to remember the place but he never let his passion for his homeland fade. When my aita died I was heartbroken, and I lost part of my roots and identity. What remains with me is are his memories, his love for Deba and his photographs. He couldn't stay in Mexico and now rests forever in his beloved Deba.

His daughter, **Izazkun Astigarraga**

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Thank you for sending me Euskal Etxeak. This way I can keep up with culture and news in Euskadi. As for the document on the new political statute we know that these times are full of hope and expectations. We have the same faith here in Argentina as you do there that our nation will be decentralized and become effectively autonomous. Today, reading the presentation by Mr. Juan José Ibarretxe Markuartu, we are seeing the old excuses and historical delays being refuted by current politics. It reminds me of the lines of a poem: Pray that life be rewarded, just this once... for so much waiting... to finally resurge once in a lifetime, and find again the fondness that is sometimes lost... from much

waiting... Congratulations. Best regards,

Héctor Daniel Guezuraga

Río Cuarto, Argentina

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Agur Lagunok:

Zuen "Euskal Etxeak" hemen Tasmanian jasotzen dugu eta benetan pozgarria da etxetik horrenbeste kilometrotara aurkitzen geranok zuen berri jakiteak. Zorionak eman nahi dizuegu bihotz-bihotzez eta jaso ezazue besarkada handi bero bat,

Javier Alcorta eta

Lurdes Rementeria

@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@

Today a copy of Euskal Etxeak fell into my hands and I immediately thought that it couldn't be a coincidence. My name is Javier Villagrán López and I'm writing from the city of Viña del Mar, Chile. I am a teacher and psychologist by profession. For more than thirty years I've been working with a Basque priest from Berriatua, Kepa Bilbao Laca, running three schools which he founded here in my country. I've always made an effort to know about the culture of your country and share this information with our students. After so many years I feel a special kind of connection with the Basque people, which is what encouraged me to write. At first I thought I'd write simply to find out how to subscribe to this magazine. But then I thought

that it would also be a way of making new contacts to help become familiar with other aspects such as dance, music and anything else your country represents.

I've never been to the Basque Country, but I've seen its how beautiful it is on a television program that shows views of the fantastic scenery taken from a helicopter. My eldest son was there and now I see that his impressions were right. But I still want even. I hope that someone there will answer me and in this way open a door of communication so that we can share the beauty and reality of your country with the more than one hundred thousand children we teach.

In this corner of the world, in every event or ceremony, my students see the ikurriña (I think that's how it's written; if not, please accept my apologies) alongside the Chilean flag, and they ask me what it stands for. I think we this is a good opportunity for them to see who you are and what you are like.

The invitation is open. Thank you for your time. Sincerely,

Fco Javier Villagrán López

Viña del Mar (Chile)

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I'm writing from Argentina. My name is Raúl Antonio Tolosa and I've been getting Euskal Etxeak magazine for several months

now. I read it over and over again to learn about everything that's going on in the land of my ancestors.

My grandmother on my father's side was named Ormaechea, and she married a man with the surname of Tolosa. Hence, my Basque roots. I inherited the love for a symbol of the Basque land, the Argentine version of pelota played with a bat, which I play very often. I'm in charge of the pelota group at the Club Huracán de Tres Arroyos.

I'd very much like to visit your country. In Issue 65 of the magazine there was an article about four Basque-Argentines who visited Euskadi, and I felt I could identify with them. Coincidentally, one of them was called Raúl Eduardo Tolosa. I really enjoyed reading everything they talked about in the article and felt as if I had been there myself.

I've just received Issue 67 about the New Political Statute, and will start reading it right away. I like all of the subjects discussed in the different issues. In a future issue I'd love to see something published on the sport I'm so fond of, Basque pelota. Right now an Argentinean named Pablo Fusto is making a name for himself in the modality of pelota played with a bat.

Fondest regards from my hometown, Tres Arroyos.

Raul Antonio Tolosa



Patxi Eceiza

Restaurante Zaldiaran

Vitoria-Gasteiz (Alava)

Patxi Eceiza is chef de cuisine at Restaurante Zaldiaran in Vitoria-Gasteiz, opened in April 1984 under the management of Gonzalo Antón. Over the years Zaldiarán has made a name for itself in the world of haute cuisine, allowing it to create and organize a number of culinary competitions over the past 14 years. Some of the finest names on the Spanish and international panorama, including Ferran Adria (el Bulli), Martin Berasategui and Sergi Arola, have taken part in these gourmet events. Restaurante Zaldiarán has also been the winner of several highly-acclaimed awards, such as the National Restaurant Prize, the Spanish Dessert Championship, the Pil-Pil prize for the best creative cuisine and the best restaurant business, Restaurant of the Year, the Gold Medal of the City, and the 2003 Basque Prize for Tourism. The restaurant has been awarded one Michelin star. Eleuterio Perez is in charge of the dining room and Jose Luis Blanco the somelier.

FILLET OF WILD TURBOT WITH PORCINI MUSHROOM SAUCE POTATO RAVIOLI AND SMOKED GREEN ONIONS

PREPARATION:

Place the turbot in a hot pan skin-side down for a few moments. Add the juice from the citrus fruit to a frying pan and bring to a boil; when about half the original amount of liquid is left, add the oil and turbot slices and finish cooking over a low fire.

Place the mushrooms, oil and fish stock in another pan and boil for 15 minutes. Blend the mixture and pass the mixture through a fine sieve. The result is a creamy mushroom sauce.

For the potato ravioli, cut a large potato in half. Cut one half into thin sheets, preferably with a professional meat slicing machine. Place the potato slices in a frying pan with oil and sauté slowly for ten minutes over a low fire.

Cut the other half of the potato into 4 ml. cubes and slowly sauté together with the onion and diced tomato. When the vegetables have been reduced significantly, remove from the oil, finely chop the basil leaves and add to the mixture. Lay out the sheets of potato on an ovenproof tray, add the smoked salt, place the onion mixture over the potatoes, and top with another layer of potatoes, building a ravioli of sorts.



PRESENTATION:

Arrange the potato cubes on a serving dish and sprinkle with dried mushroom powder and chopped parsley. Place the ravioli to one side and make a circle design with the porcini mushroom sauce. Decorate the slice of turbot with a sprig of fresh herb.

INGREDIENTS

(serves 4)

1 kg. turbot, clean and cut in 4 pieces
100 ml. olive oil
juice from half a lemon
juice from half a grapefruit
juice from half an orange

Porcini mushroom sauce
100 g. porcini mushrooms
75 ml. olive oil
75 ml. fish stock

Ravioli
1 medium-sized green onion cut julienne style
1 medium-sized tomato, diced
1 large potato
150 ml. olive oil
smoked salt
5 basil leaves

Photo album



I was born in Buenos Aires on January 1st 1941. This picture of me was taken in Buenos Aires a few days before my first birthday, together with my Basque uncle, Pedro Arrasate. Warm regards:
Asunción Albina
Rumi Charola

DO YOU HAVE A PICTURE TO ADD TO THE ALBUM?

Attach it to an e-mail and send to the following address: euskaletxeak@ej-gv.es