The Autonomous University of Yucatan (UADY) was founded as the National University of the Southeast during the government of Felipe Carrillo Puerto in response to the project of creating three national universities: a North one in Monterrey, a West one in Guadalajara and a Southeast one in Merida. On February 25, 1922, the governor of state signed the decree creating the institution. Its first rector was Dr. Eduardo Urzaiz Rodríguez. On November 5, 1938, the State Congress changed the name of the National University of Southeast to the University of Yucatan and on September 1st, 1984, autonomy was given, with the endorsement of the state and federal authorities, becoming the Autonomous University of Yucatan, UADY.

The university has an academic staff of 1,689 teachers (760 full-time) with the ideal profile to perform their duties at different educational levels. 96% of the full-time professors have a graduate degree, which places us above the national average of 92%.

UADY has a student population of 26,000 students who are distributed in two high school programs (35%), 45 undergraduate programs (59%) and 62 graduate programs (5.7%). Of all its educational programs, 60% are recognized by different accreditation agencies for their excellency.

It is important to mention that around 60% of the student population in UADY have some degree of Mayan heritage, which is reinforced at all educational levels with two core courses, one on Mayan culture and a second one on social responsibility.

In addition to the social service requirement for all students (which consists of 480 hrs.), UADY students are involved in numerous voluntary programs that involve interaction with communities in all the Yucatan State.
We welcome and invite students in study abroad schemes or short stays to involve themselves in regular classes and Spanish or Mayan language courses. In the southeast region, we are the university that receives the most exchange students as a result of the renowned quality of our programs and educational processes, and, the attention students receive during their stay. In 2017 we received 302 students from 42 national institutions and 263 students from 54 international institutions.

The fact that 96% of our full time professors have graduate degrees has enabled UADY to strengthen the academic staff and its organization in academic and research groups during the period 2014-2017. The latter is a university asset since it enables to offer a quality education with the highest national and international standards and to develop a solid research system, which contributes to the advancement of knowledge and the achievement of UADY’s vision for the year 2022.

UADY has strong research programs in areas that are important in the region and surrounding states and countries. Tropical diseases such as dengue, chikungunya, or external and internal parasites, cardiovascular and obesity related diseases are of high importance. Engineering and alternative energy sources, urban planning and the preservation of colonial and archeological areas also excel. The management of natural resources, agro-ecology and veterinary medicine and biology, including marine, have solid research working groups. In social sciences, we have a very solid program in anthropoligical sciences, education and psychology. UADY welcomes faculty collaboration not only in teaching, but also in research activities.

UADY has been recognized due to the excellence and committed work of the university community. These distinctions include the Yucatan Award for Quality 2015, an Award for Excellence of our Confucius Institute in 2016, and the Interamerican Award in Educational Innovation in Higher Education in 2016, among others. In 2017 UADY received the Yucatan Entrepreneur Award, as the Educational Institution that promotes the entrepreneurial spirit. In this same edition, two more prizes were obtained for the University in the categories of Innovative Entrepreneurship and Women Entrepreneurship.

UADY is a comprehensive university with a strong social commitment situated in the safest region of Mexico, with excellent communication by air or roads, and with a social, academic and cultural background that makes it a unique university, which always welcomes and encourages visits from students, staff and academics from all parts of the world.

For more information
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