



Advances in the 19th c. Biosanitary Sciences in Spain through the Complutense University Theses

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The build-up of a database is shown below for the registration and treatment of Pharmacy theses submitted to the Universidad Complutense de Madrid during the second half of the 19th century, being highly valuable useful for the History of Science studies in Spain

INTRODUCTION

Theses are important information tools to learn the level of research and scientific knowledge of a country. In Spain during the second half of the 19th century only the Universidad Central (now Universidad Complutense de Madrid), granted the doctor's degree. The significant number of theses submitted allows for the creation of a database containing those ones read in the Biosanitary areas such as Pharmacy, Medicine and Sciences.

METHODOLOGY

The study begins with the theses of the Faculty of Pharmacy because of their limited number and also because we had previous partial publications.

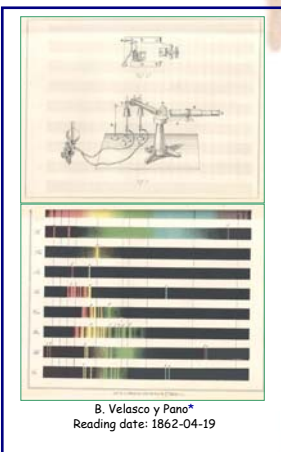
The database is created from the "Libro de Grados" of the Faculty of Pharmacy, containing theses from 1852 until 1900, with the following items: student name, reading date and marks.

To check the theses it is necessary to compare the list included in our CISNE catalogue, with the collection of theses preserved in the Archivo Histórico Nacional (AHN) and with the Spanish union catalogues of most interest for our study: CCPB and REBIUN.

Once a thesis is localized, its title, subjects, publication data (if published), the catalogue numbers and the explanatory notes are added to the list.



First thesis of Pharmacy
J.B. Muñoz y Pitaluga*
Reading date: 1852-11-04



B. Velasco y Pano*
Reading date: 1862-04-19



A. del Busto y Marcos*
Reading date: 1897-06-27

*See CISNE Catalogue

REFERENCES

Catálogo de tesis doctorales de la Facultad de Farmacia de la Universidad Complutense. Madrid: Biblioteca Universidad Complutense; 1998

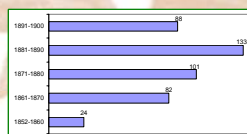
Tabasco, MD, Mosso, MA., Rosa, MC., Esteban, LM. Investigación de las fermentaciones a través de las tesis doctorales de la Facultad de Farmacia de la Universidad de Madrid (1845-1954). In: Actas del XVII Congreso de la Sociedad Española de Microbiología. Granada: 1999

Miguel Alonso, A. Los estudios de doctorado y el inicio de la tesis doctoral en España, 1847-1900. In: Archivos Universitarios e Historia de las Universidades. Getafe: Instituto Antonio de Nebrija de Estudios sobre la Universidad; 2003

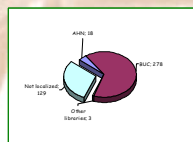
Gete Benavente, P. La Historia de la Farmacia en la España del siglo XIX a través de las tesis doctorales que tratan del tema y que se conservan en el Archivo de la Universidad Complutense de Madrid. Alcalá de Henares: Universidad; 2005

RESULTS

The data collection shows the following results:

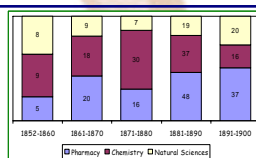


1. According to the "Libro de Grados" of the Faculty of Pharmacy, between 1852 and 1900, 428 theses were submitted with a chronological distribution.



2. Out of the 428 theses submitted, 299 were localized, 278 of which are in the Biblioteca de la Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Central Services and Faculties, 18 in the AHN and only 3 in other libraries, making up a total of 299 theses. The remaining 129 are not localized.

Regarding the 299 theses localized, different laws throughout the years have allowed the first theses until 1868 to be printed, keeping most times several copies. Between 1868 and 1882, the copies preserved are mainly manuscripts, and between 1882 and 1900 the prevailing theses are the ones printed.



3. The resulting database has led to a publication in due course, with the following organization: data ordering by submission date, alphabetical indexes (author/title) and subjects index.

A subject table has been created *ad hoc* for this study, split into three big sections: Pharmacy, Chemistry and Natural Sciences; and 21 subjects, showing a total result of 129 theses of Pharmacy, 110 of Chemistry and 63 of Natural Sciences.

CONCLUSIONS

The database and its subsequent publication, still in a printing stage, will allow us to present a documental richness unique in Spain and follow the evolution of the scientific knowledge in our country in such an interdisciplinary field as it is Pharmacy and Therapeutics.

The chronological organization of the subjects lists allows the researcher to easily reconstruct the advances in each specific field, as it has been done with specific subjects like history of the Pharmacy and Microbiology.

Further on, we will work on the collections of the Faculties of Medicine and Sciences (Natural Sciences Section) in order to complete the study.



R. Moragas y Ucelay*
R.d.: 1889-04-11

Galium Sempervivens