

## STAKEHOLDERS MANAGEMENT IN A UNIVERSITY:

## ANALYSIS OF THEIR IMPORTANCE WITH AHP.

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### ABSTRACT:

At present, problems appear in every decision taken by people or companies. It is because each part has its own interests, normally different than each other, and they have to take care of them over the rest to achieve a high level of success in terms of following their objective. Literature about this topic is very extensive and varied. But it seems that research is mostly focussed on social field, talking about social objectives, mission and values of companies and institutions. In case of universities, the main concern is the change of directive from creating knowledge to keeping this knowledge and earn prestige and economic compensation.

This paper shows the management of a university focused on the relation with its stakeholders and how can they affect or influence in decisions, and moreover, it will be giving a critic point of view about the priorities between each one. Conclusions will be supported by an Analytic Hierarchy Process and contrasted with some experts in the field, with the objective of giving a vision of how can traditional management system of universities improve in the future and focus on its main mission as social creators of knowledge.

Key words: Stakeholders, Management, Project, AHP, University, Decisions, Importance.

Fields: Project Management, Stakeholders management, Making decisions.

## **RFSUMFN:**

En la actualidad, aparecen problemas en cada decisión tomada por personas o empresas. Esto se debe a que cada parte tiene sus propios intereses, normalmente diferentes entre sí, y tienen que cuidarlos del resto para lograr un alto nivel de éxito en términos de seguir su objetivo. La literatura sobre este tema es muy extensa y variada. Pero parece que la investigación se centra principalmente en el campo social, hablando de objetivos sociales, misión y valores de empresas e instituciones. En el caso de las universidades, la principal preocupación es el cambio de directiva de crear conocimiento a mantener este conocimiento y ganar prestigio y compensación económica.

Este documento muestra la gestión de una universidad centrada en la relación con sus grupos de interés y cómo pueden afectar o influir en las decisiones, y, además, dará un punto de vista crítico sobre las prioridades entre cada uno. Las conclusiones serán respaldadas por un proceso de jerarquía analítica y contrastadas con algunos expertos en el campo, con el objetivo de dar una visión de cómo puede mejorar el sistema de gestión tradicional de las universidades en el futuro y centrarse en su misión principal como creadores sociales de conocimiento.

Palabras clave: Stakeholders, Gestión, Proyecto, AHP, Universidad, Decisiones, Importancia.

Campos: Gestión de proyectos, Gestión de partes interesadas, Toma de decisiones.



## INTRODUCTION.

One of the most important tasks during strategy making is the management of the relationship between the many and usually competing demands of different stakeholders in relation to their strategic goals (Ackermann & Eden, 2011).

There is enough literature about the concept *stakeholder*, but not every author defines this topic in the same way. Some groups conceptualised them as "groups without whose support the organization would cease to exist" (Freeman & Reed, Stockholders and Stakehorlders; A New Perspective on Corporate Governance., 1983). In the other hand, it is also defined as groups affected by the organizations (Bryson et al., 2002; Freeman and McVea, 2001). Also, there are opener definition like "any group or individual who can affect or is affected by the achievement of the organization's objectives" (Freeman & McVea, 1983). Looking forward, the definition of *stakeholder* depends on their interests and the needs of organizations.

However, and focusing on the subject of this document, there is much literature with main topics related to universities. Normally, authors write about its objective about creating knowledge, how they changed since decades ago, their social mission and professional responsibility, and also, they always touch politic or economic topics.

So, it is hard to find articles that takes universities like a group of many stakeholders, where everything has to work as much harmonically as possible and how to achieve that. With this document is tried to show this not too much exploited field and also tried to answer some questions about the topic.

The good management of a University is what basically allow this institution to reach its objectives. Those objectives are in a situation of constant change due to the emergence of new competitions and new elements that collide with other traditional cultures or know-how achieved from the experience.

University as whole institution has a strong impact in terms of social and economic environment, because it can get prestige and economic remuneration from its main objective, that is the creation of knowledge and professional training. The attention at the main mission and purpose of a university exists since it is built, but not for its management model. The priority of the university changed when it started to be more important patent the knowledge of its members instead of looking for the social equality. That is why companies become an important stakeholder and they can influence decisions, because they get not very expensive skilled laborers with new ways of thinking from students and increase the prestige of universities because of their agreements.

While universities had their only mission as creator of knowledge without relationships with many stakeholders, its management model wasn't determinate. Every university was different, with its own management model based in make work its objective of creation of knowledge. Directives were mainly focussed on studies, research and teaching methods. That is why it is difficult to find researches about this field. Instead of this, nowadays, literature shows that there is a concern about management models because of fast and constant change of society, emergence of new competition, etc.



Despite of that, it seems that universities want to change or improve their management models and it can changes affect to their influences, interests and agreements. It is important to analyse the balance between that stakeholders of a university should have. At least, a university works like another organization dealing with new cultures, but it has not the same purpose and mission, characteristics and management systems. That is why this topic is treated in this paper. The main objective it to reach and show a management model of stakeholders of a university and its verification based on empirical research.

# MAIN CHALLENGES OF THE STAKEHOLDERS MANAGEMENT IN CONTEMPORARY PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

As R. E. Freeman said for first time in his tittle "Strategic Management: A Stakeholder Approach", the word *Stakeholder* refers to every person or entity that can affect or be affected by the activities of a company.

For the right working of every institution, the fact of having a good identification and classification of its stakeholders is crucial to make easier the process of taking decisions and avoid problems, as well as the study and determination of their needs and expectations.

Stakeholders can be classified taking into account their interest and influence:

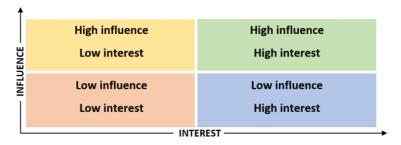


Figure 1. Influence / interest matrix.

Source: Own work based on content of Project Management master in UPV.

If every important decision taken by the university managers was taken as a project, the identification and classification of stakeholders will be carried out above all at the beginning of the project and it must remain active throughout the duration of the project. The fact of identify the stakeholders is not important only on the level of processes and project, but on strategic level as well.

In *PMBoK*, PMI defines stakeholder management in the last chapter (only from the fifth version) and is very connected to the communication management chapter in the project.



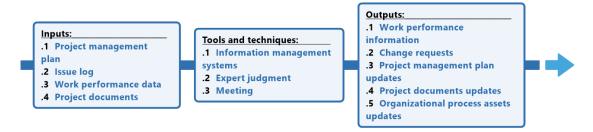


Figure 2. Inputs, tools and techniques and outputs of Control Stakeholder management process.

Source: Own work based on Pérez, A (2015), ¿Qué hay detrás de la expresión «Gestión de los Stakeholders»?

According to the *PMBoK*, stakeholders must be identified as soon as possible in the project's start process group, and then proceed to plan their management and subsequently execute the plan already in the execution process group. Moreover, there has to be a control of the stakeholders, to verify that their expectations and interests are being fulfilled, and if not, execute the necessary change requests. The process would be as the following table:

Table 1. Steps of the Stakeholders management process.

Start	Planning	Execution	Control and monitoring
ldentify stakeholders	Plan stakeholders management	Manage stakeholders participation	Control stakeholders participation

Source: Own work based on Pérez, A (2015), ¿Qué hay detrás de la expresión «Gestión de los Stakeholders»?

#### 1. Identify stakeholders:

- Identify all people or organizations that may impact or may be impacted by the project.
- Document the relevant information regarding their interests, how they will be involved in the project and how they can influence the outcome of the project.

### 2. <u>Plan stakeholder management:</u>

 Make a plan that will identify how all the steps needed to execute for the correct management of the stakeholders will be carried out.

### 3. Manage stakeholder participation:

- Communicate with Stakeholders and work towards their needs according to the plan defined in the previous process.
- Actively manage their expectations to increase the possibility of acceptance of the project and anticipate future problems.

#### 4. Control and monitoring:

 Constant communication with stakeholders to see their status, if they are seeing their expectations met. And if not, take the necessary actions to solve it, or even change requests.

It is important to highlight that this process is very important and it has to be different for each project and process. Moreover, it has to be aligned with the objective of the manager in order to follow the corporate strategy of the company.



## DIMENSIONS OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE STAKEHOLDERS.

Universities and stakeholders have a symbiotic relationship, because these relations indulge interests of each part. Universities need stakeholders to carry out part of their own services, like maintenance of facilities and infrastructures and repairs, teaching and research staff support and providing their students first opportunities for joining the labour market.

Also, this kind of relations can make universities take advantage from their competition. Better teaching guides, better infrastructures, larger research fields and tools, higher possibilities to get scholarships, etc, can make a student, employer or companies choose this universities. And the cycle starts again, more people, more knowledge, more prestige, more economic remuneration.

However, when there are many stakeholders, indulge every of them becomes a hard task. Every decision taken affects every stakeholder positively or negative. So, stakeholders are important, but relations with them are even more important. A good relation between a university and a stakeholder can make easier finding out a solution if a problem appears, and also, it can sometimes benefit to this stakeholder.

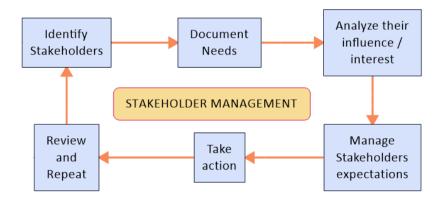


Figure 3. Flowchart of steps of Stakeholders management process

Source: Own work based on Dwevedi, P. (2017), How to control stakeholder management effectively: Are you a good project manager in controlling the stakeholder management?

For these reasons, it is important to know that each relation with each stakeholder is different and the fact of taking care of all of them is crucial. A good way for this is to think carefully about the strategy of the university and then make a stakeholders analysis, and keep those that their mission is more or less in the same direction. It also makes easier manage them and decreases the risk of discrepancies when a decision has to be taken.

Due to the large number of stakeholders within the management of a university, each with its own functions and interests, the university will be analysed as if it uses a management model based on public governance, an open organization in which all participate the different stakeholders providing their service and receiving an interest in return.

In the 21st century, the State and the public administration have the great challenge of deepen democracy, since social progress in these times is determined by the way in which public institutions are linked with citizens. The new position that they occupy in that relationship must be recognized, which in turn is conditioning the consolidation of the State in its other dimensions: social, law and justice. However, it is necessary to bring institutions closer to the



people and make the government's action translate into welfare for them for talking about democratization of the public sector.

Regarding the complexity of the modern state and its necessary link with citizens, it is necessary to understand that the democracy of this time, participatory and deliberative, is built on open processes, with people and regardless of any attitude of opacity. As Oszlak, (2015), states, "actually open government is not a new technological development, but a true philosophy of how to govern and what is the role that government and citizens play in public management and its results."

The objectives of open government should be focussed on the consolidation of the rule of law, the strengthening of democracy and the full recognition of the position of citizens in their relationship with the public administration, as Naser, Ramírez-Alujas & Rosales, (2017), states. They should also focus on achieving safe cities. Moreover, this tool should facilitate public management focused on citizens and institutions closer to people. It is clear that the functioning of the government has to constantly improve, the management instruments have to contribute to good governance, good administration and democratic governance.

Villoria, (2012), rightly affirms that at least four groups of ideas can be distinguished in open governments: i) welfare promoting government through regulatory capacity; ii) transparent government that is accountable; iii) government participatory and civic promoter, and iv) efficient government, collaborator and knowledge generator.

It is known that the efficiency of the public service, from its new conception, it is sized according to the development of societies, but also of what has been called social citizenship (Oszlak, 2015). This forces governments to rethink and redesign to reduce levels of tension that exist in that sense, and focus their structures on transparency, citizen participation, collaboration and information technology.

# AHP AS A METHOD FOR SUPPORTING THE ANALYSIS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF STAKEHOLDERS MANAGEMENT.

Find out which stakeholder is more important in different situations is a hard task. That is why it is very important this process and because of the choice, problems can appear or can be avoided. Even more when decisions have to be taken by not many people, without enough information and a lot of alternatives with qualitative aspects. That is why to make this process easier, there are numerous methods for taking decisions.

In this paper, the one that is going to be used is the *Analytic Hierarchy Process*, or AHP. This method is one of the most used methods to take decisions and it was developed by Thomas L. Saaty in the 70's to help to solve some determinated problems to Defense Department of the USA. The advantages of this method are:

- Facilitates reflection.
- Consider all the alternatives.
- Help structure the reasoning.
- Check the consistency.



Allows to achieve an objective and reliable result.

In short, experts determines their relative preference of one concept over another helped by pairwise comparison matrixes, and it also indicates the intensity of preference according to the scale.

#### **Hierarchy:**

AHP is a multicriteria decision method that helps to select between different alternatives based on selection criteria or variables, usually hierarchized, and usually in conflict with each other. The hierarchical structure from top to bottom would be: final objective, criteria and sub-criteria (maybe) and for last the alternatives. One of the crucial aspects of the method is to choose the selection criteria and subcriteria well, define them properly and that they are mutually exclusive.

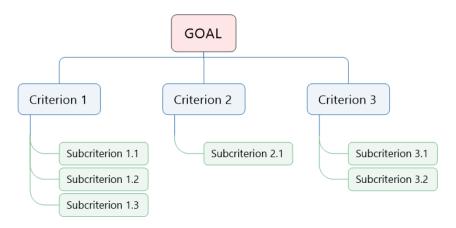


Figure 4. Multicriteria method structure. Source: Own work based on Saaty, T. (1980), The Analytic Hierarchical Process.

#### Paired comparisons:

The working of method is simple. It is about making paired comparisons following the fundamental scale, in each of the hierarchical levels. The Saaty Fundamental Scale is used to perform the paired comparison. This is one of the keys to the success of this method, because this scale allows us to transform qualitative aspects into quantitative aspects. It facilitates the comparison between the different alternatives and giving rise to more objective and reliable results. Another of the strengths of the method is to assess the consistency of experts' decisions to validate it as the best option.

In this case, data is going to be given from more than one expert. So, as Saaty states, final results will be the geometric mean of the results of each expert. The preferences of each expert will be known because of they have to fill up a questionnaire with the pairwise comparisons, and then, results will be calculated by SuperDecisions software.



Table 2. Coeficients for the intensity of importance in AHP.

Intensity of importance	Definition	Explanation
1	Equal importance	A is as important as B
3	Moderate importance	A is a slightly more important than B
5	Strong importance	A is significately more important than B
7	Very strong importance	A is strongly more important than B
9	Extreme importance	A is extremely more important than B
2, 4, 6, 8	Medium valors between the previous ones. It is necessary to clarify.	

Source: Own work based on Saaty, T. (1980), The Analytic Hierarchy Process.

To understand the method, how does it work and why results are truthful, there are some main concepts that should be clear.

### Priority:

After making all the comparisons, the final result is shown in a consensual manner, or the ordering of the alternatives. The result is based mainly on experiences, the issuance of judgments and the evaluation carried out by the participants in the process.

In this level of the hierarchical model it is possible to combine all the judgments, in which an ordering of the alternatives is established from the best to the worst. Moreover, results can be calculated with the arithmetic mean, that shows average values, and geometric mean, that choose the highest value and shows how far from it are the rest of the alternatives.

### **Inconsistency ratio:**

Consistency is defined as the coherence between the particles in a set. In decision making, it can be interpreted as coherence between consecutive decisions or related decisions. For the AHP, consistency is a statistical measure of how close a decision maker is to make logically related or randomly chosen decisions. Saaty proposed the inconsistency ratio (CR) to mesure that, from 0 for totally coherent matrixes to 1 for totally random matrixes, and also stated that a matrix can be accepted until  $CR \le 0.1$  (Saaty, 1980).

## Sensibility Analysis:

In some problems where a decision must be taken, it is recommended to find the efficient solution instead of the optimal solution.

There is no consensus on how to determine the "quality" of a decision method and reliability of the results obtained. Because of that, sensitivity analysis can be defined as the stability or behavior of the solution to minor modifications preferences occurred during the resolution process or with minor modifications in the values taken for the parameters. Some authors consider that as the efficiency of the multicriteria decision method.



# MULTIDIMENSIONAL MODEL DESCRIBING THE STAKEHOLDERS IN A TYPICAL UNIVERSITY.

To form the analysis model, three levels of importance will be taken according to the proximity of the constituents (criteria) and the interest groups that make up each one (subcriteria). The selection of each stakeholder has been done after long research through literature in the field and also because of author's knowledge. The chosen stakeholders are the ones that can affect in some way to universities and their management because of a normal decision.

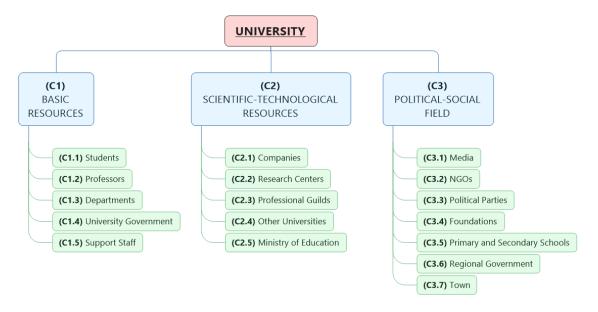


Figure 5. Classification of stakeholders of a university.

Source: Own work.

First criterion, **(C1) Basic Resources**, refers to the closest group of stakeholders to the university, that are those that make it possible for the university to carry out its main mission, which is the creation of knowledge, as well as those that works for its right internal management. These groups are:

- (C1.1.) Students: It is the most numerous group of the first criterion. Its objective is to
  acquire knowledge and skills to be able to play a role in their future work.
- (C1.2.) Professors: This group has the first function of transmitting knowledge to students. In addition, they must be up to date with the most efficient teaching techniques and be able to apply them.
- (C1.3) Departments: This group is responsible for managing the resources of the first criterion, whether human resources, material, economic, etc.
- (C1.4.) University Government: It is the maximum group of government and its attributions are to modify the statute and decide on the creation, modification or suppression of academic units, colleges and school.
- (C1.5.) Support Staff: This group performs temporary support work to the previous subcriteria.

Second criterion, **(C2) Scientific-Technological Context**, refers to the group of stakeholders who, with a similar or different purpose from that of the university, can benefit from the groups of the first level. These groups are:



- (C2.1.) Companies: These groups generally have their own mission different from that
  of the university. However, they can benefit from the knowledge generated in the
  university through future employees or collaborations.
- (C2.2.) Research Centers: These groups are responsible for research, development and
  possible implementation of new knowledge. Like companies, they can benefit from the
  knowledge generated in the university.
- (C2.3.) Professional Guilds: These groups are formed by people with the same studies
  after passing through the university. His interest is based on guaranteeing decent
  conditions for the proper performance of each profession.
- (C2.4.) Other Universities: These groups are formed by all universities and their objective is to be competent with respect to others in quality teaching, support and services.
- (C2.5.) Ministry of Education: These are official groups responsible for managing administrative tasks related to education and usually also for culture.

Finally, third criterion, **(C3) Political-Social Field**, refers to the group of stakeholders that have a totally different mission from the university, but somehow, they are related to it, either by proximity, by land use, by influence, etc. These groups are:

- (C3.1.) Media: These groups are responsible for disseminating the information. This can be related to university events and can also benefit from future employees.
- (C3.2.) NGOs: These groups are normally made up of normal people. They can have great influence on social issues, therefore, they can condition decisions about university management.
- (C3.3.) Political Parties: These groups aim to govern the country. Depending on the winning party, the way to govern is different, and this directly affects the curricula of the universities.
- (C3.4.) Foundations: These groups can be made up of companies or NGOs and their goal
  is to scholarship students either by necessity or by their academic record.
- (C3.5.) Primary and Secondary Schools: These groups are made up of centers where students acquire their knowledge before going to university. Therefore, the contents and teaching methods must be related to those taught at the university.
- (C3.6.) Regional Government: This groups govern the city where the university is located and can make unilateral decisions about its facilities or knowledge to be imparted, as well as influence its financing.
- (C3.7.) Towns: These groups have as interest the contribution of added value to their territory, the increase in population and university-related advantages. They can influence the infrastructure reforms of the university. This is a stakeholders list that can be found in the most of the universities. As it is easy to see in the next table, there are many things to have in mind at the time that a decision is taken. Moreover, it is impossible to satisfy every stakeholder. That is why it is very important to analyze properly the details of each decision and estimate its repercussions.

The process of taking a decision always is motivated by interests and looks for a purpose. Troubles appears when these purposes or interests are the opposite of the ones of some



stakeholders. In this case, each part has to try to negotiate and reach an agreement. Otherwise, the relationship or collaboration that exists between the parts can break.

After describing each stakeholder, next table shows the purpose of this one and what do they get from university. It is important to make it clear for helping experts understand what are they choosing for. And, because of that, results will be more truthful.

Table 3. Purposes and interests on university of Stakeholders.

No.	DESCRIPTION	PURPOSE	INTEREST ON UNIVERTITY
-	UNIVERSITY	Creation of knowledge.	Get prestige, collaborations
		Offer of quality services.	and finnancing.
C1	BASIC RESOURCES	Make the university achieve its	Good working of the
		purpose.	university management.
C1.1	Students	Acquire new knowledge.	Being prepared for the
		Acquire transversal competences.	future job.
C1.2	Professors	Provide knowledge to the students.	Create new knowledge.
		Apply teaching techniques.	Make the university manage
		Get money.	system work.
C1.3	Departments	Manage resources of the univerity.	Good management in
			university sub-levels.
C1.4	University Government	Decide, create and modify academic	Make a competent
		plan.	university.
C1.5	Support Staff	Support University employees.	Make the university manage
		Get money.	system work.
C2	SCIENTIFIC-POLITICAL	Develop products.	Benefits about knowledge
	CONTEXT	Offer services and get money.	created.
			Make collaborations.
C2.1	Companies	Offer services and get money.	Benefits about students as
			future employees.
C2.2	Research Centers	Create knowledge.	Benefits about students as
		Offer services and get money.	future researchers.
C2.3	Professional Guilds	Guarantee quality conditions for a	Benefits about students as
		proper performance of the job.	future members.
C2.4	Other Universities	Creation of knowledge.	Get prestige, collaborations
		Offer of quality services.	and finnancing.
62.5	NAiniston of Februarian	Be competent with other universities.	Conducation of advantion
C2.5	Ministry of Education	Manage education administrative	Good working of education
63	DOLUTICAL COCIAL	tasks.	system.
C3	POLITICAL-SOCIAL	Different purposes.	Influence on decisions of
C2 1	FIELD	Provide information.	the university.  Provide information about
C3.1	Media	Provide information.	
62.2	NCO	Hala an againtingues	new knowledge. Check about universities
C3.2	NGOs	Help on social issues.	social policy.
C3.3	Political Parties	Govern the country.	Change academic plan.
C3.3	Political Parties	Govern the country.	Manage the financing.
C3.4	Foundations	Give scholarships.	Benefits of the knowledge
C3.4	i outiuations	Give scriptarsilips.	of the best students.
C3.5	Primary and Secondary	Creation of knowledge.	Get prestige, collaborations
(3.5	Schools	Cication of knowledge.	and finnancing.
C3.6	Regional Governments	Govern provinces.	Change academic plan.
23.0	negional dovernments	Govern provinces.	Influence on infrastructures.
C3.7	Towns	Live in harmony.	Influence on infrastructures.
C3.7	TOWITS	Live in narmony.	initiaence on initiastructures.

Source: Own work.



# ASSESSMENT OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFICIENT STAKEHOLDERS MANAGEMENT.

After receiving the questionnaires from experts (Annexe 1) and write the information in the software, the priorities of each expert have been calculated. Then, the geometric mean of each priority has been found (Annexe 2) and they have been written again in the software to get the final priorities (Annexe 2). Next tables show priorities for criteria and subcriteria, organized from higher to lower.

First, according to criteria priorities, it is clear that **(C1)** Basic resources is considerably more important than **(C2)** Scientific-technological resources, and it is also much more important than **(C3)** Political-social field.

Table 4. Priorities of criteria.

CRITERIA	<b>PRIORITIES</b>
C1-BASIC RESOURCES	0,4929
C2-SCIENTIFIC-TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES	0,3748
C3-POLITICAL-SOCIAL FIELD	0,1323

TOTAL 1,0000

Source: Own work.

Otherwise, according to subcriteria priorities, first (C1.1) Students and then (C1.2) Professors are clearly more important than the rest. In the other hand, importance of (C3.3) Political parties is minimum.

Table 5. Priorities of subcriteria.

SUBCRITERIA	PRIORITIES
C1.1-STUDENTS	0,1977
C1.2-PROFESSORS	0,1601
C2.5-MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	0,1054
C2.1-COMPANIES	0,1024
C2.2-RESEARCH CENTERS	0,0803
C1.3-DEPARTMENTS	0,0546
C2.4-OTHER UNIVERSITIES	0,0524
C1.4-UNIVERSITY GOVERNMENT	0,0520
C3.6-REGIONAL GOVERNMENT	0,0394
C2.3-PROFESSIONAL GUILDS	0,0344
C1.5-SUPPORT STAFF	0,0285
C3.7-TOWN	0,0278
C3.1-MEDIA	0,0159
C3.5-PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS	0,0154
C3.4-FOUNDATIONS	0,0133
C3.2-NGOs	0,0109
C3.3-POLITICAL PARTIES	0,0095

TOTAL 1,0000

Source: Own work.



This result shows that in a normal situation, if a decision for the university affects to all these stakeholders, it should be taken thinking, first of all, about students and professors, looking for as best consequences as possible for them. Also, if the decision affects stakeholders negatively, the less bad consequences should be for students and professors.

## CONCLUSION AND FUTURE RESEARCH.

Analytic Hierarchy Process is a useful tool to help making decisions in different situations. Very often, decisions that are crucial for future developments must be taken. In addition, decision makers assume huge responsibilities and, in many times, they have to rely on experts to advise them. And also, sometimes there are different agents with conflicting interests that must be combined to reach a solution.

In this paper, AHP has been used to help decision makers when they have to manage the stakeholders of a university and they have to decide about any topic that can affect to those stakeholders. Moreover, data used for getting the results has been given by some experts in the field. And according to the results, in a normal situation, decisions should benefit students before the rest of the stakeholders.

These results make sense because without students and professors, universities cannot carry out their main objective as creators of knowledge. Moreover, according to results, students and professor are notably more important than the rest, so achieve a good relation between them could be synonymous with success. As Spilt, Koomen, & Thijs, (2011) states, "According to theoretical models of relationships, teachers' emotional involvement with students in the classroom is driven by a basic psychological need for relatedness or communion."

Nowadays, it is impossible to imagine a university with the only objective of knowledge creators. All of them have many symbiotic relationships with a lot of stakeholders, from where all of them receive some benefits from each other. In this research, it can be found the priorities that should be considered.

In any situation that a decision maker has to deal with many stakeholders, the processes of identify them and their interests, plan their management and manage and control their participation can be the difference between fail and success, and of course, avoid future problems.

Otherwise, this research also can help not only in taking decisions related to universities but with their future development. In this paper, university's management model has been described as a model close to public governance, whose objectives are focussed on the consolidation of the rule of law, the strengthening of democracy and the recognition of the position of citizens in their relationship with the public administration. So, the fact that the students should be the highest priority makes sense if a university wants to follow this open government model.

There are many thigs to write about in this field. Next research should light up ways to reach management models closer to public governance and methods to strengthen relationships between students and professors.



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### ANNEXES.

- ANEXXE 1. Template for questionnaires and questionnaires filled up by experts. PDF file. (Annexe 1. Questionaires.)
- ANEXXE 2. Priorities results got from the software SuperDecisions and Microsoft Excel. PDF file. (Annexe 2. AHP Results)
- ANEXXE 3. Priorities calculations with the software SuperDecisions. SuperDecisions file. (Annexe 3. AHP Analysis)
- ANEXXE 4. Geometric mean calculation with the software Microsoft Excel. Excel file. (Annexe 3. Extra calculations)