

Career Development Plan-Year 2

Name of fellow: José Luis Gasch Tomás

Department: Instituto de Historia (IH), Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)

Date: December 1, 2015

1. Goals achieved during the first year.

I was contracted in December 1, 2014, as Experienced Researcher 1 (ER1). In this year, I have achieved several goals.

1.1. Major accomplishments

One of my main planned tasks and work was the building of a conceptual model of a relational database which holds data on Iberian shipwrecks coming from historical, archaeological and environmental sources. This model and database must serve as a basis for a GIS model for Iberian shipwrecks, timber provenance and mercantile wood-trade route. The model of the ForSeaDiscovery database is finished, and only small changes are expected to be made when I test the database by entering data. I, with the two other ERs of ForSeaDiscovery, have started entering data coming from the DynCoopNet database and archeological evidence from the Associated Partner Filipe Castro's database and archeological campaign carried out in Ribadeo (June, 2015). This has been made by coordinating work with all the fellows of ForSeaDiscovery and by planning several models which have been discussed with them, especially with the ERs and scientific coordinators. Planning and coordination work entailed the elaboration of several questionnaires to be filled by the fellows of ForSeaDiscovery with data about the information that they expected to produce and use in ForSeaDiscovery.

Another planned task was to open an own research line, within the framework of ForSeaDiscovery, which deals with shipbuilding and timber trade during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. I have recently started this research line. It deals with shipbuilding in the Spanish Empire and the use of Baltic and American timber in Hispanic shipbuilding during the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. One of the main parts of the research aims to answering the question why American and Baltic timbers were massively used in Hispanic shipyards on both sides of the Atlantic. In the former case, Havana became one of the main Hispanic shipyards in the eighteenth century. Furthermore, some Caribbean woods such as mahogany (*Swietenia sp.*), guayacán (*Tabebuia sp.*) and Spanish cedar (*Cedrela sp.*) were imported in Iberia for naval purposes. In the latter case, Baltic timber, especially pine, was imported in Iberia from the sixteenth century onwards. Introducing both American and Baltic timber – and not merely one of them – allows using a new global perspective which can shed new light on Hispanic shipbuilding during the early modern era.

1.2. Training

- Intensive Training Course: “History of Wooden Shipbuilding & Books and treatises on Shipbuilding”, CSIC (Madrid, Spain), 14/01/2015-16/01/2015.
- Intensive Training Course: “Historiography and Archive Research”, University of Groningen (The Netherlands), 06/05/2015-08/05/2015.
- Intensive Training Course: “Application of Geographical Information System (GIS) to Maritime History and Archaeology”, CSIC (Madrid, Spain), 13/10/2015-16/10/2015.

I have trained my skills in database management by modeling a database for ForSeaDiscovery with ER2 and ER3 and coordinating work regarding the production of data for the database with the fellows of Work packages 1 and 2. Furthermore, I have trained my skills in GIS management by working with ArcGIS in CSIC and in Southampton during my secondment with Maritime Archaeology Trust (see below).

1.3. Conferences

- Attended the conference *La Economía política de los imperios. Una visión global sobre la introducción e impacto de nuevos productos*, organized by Universidad Pablo de Olavide and la Escuela de Estudios Hispano-Americanos, Seville (Spain), 15/12/2014-16/12/2014. In the conference I presented the paper “El consumo de artículos orientales en México y Sevilla durante la época moderna”.
- Attended International Conference *Connected Oceans 2015 – New Avenues of Research in Maritime and Oceans History*, University of Porto (Portugal), 08/06/2015-12/06/2015. In the conference I presented the paper, with Koldo Trápaga and Ana Rita Trindade, “The ForSEADiscovery project”.
- Attended *International Symposium on Boat and Ship Archaeology. Baltic and Beyond (ISBSA14)*, organized by National Maritime Museum in Gdansk (Poland), 21/09/2015-25/09/2015. In the conference I presented, with Ana Crespo Solana and María José García-Rodríguez, the poster “Development of a GIS for Iberian ships in the Age of Discovery in ForSeaDiscovery project”.
- Attended International Conference *Cultura Marítima en México: espacios marítimos y proyecciones culturales*, organized by Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH) in Campeche (Mexico), 22/10/2015-23/10/2015.
- Public lecture “Bosques flotantes para los imperios ibéricos: Ecología y Globalización en la Edad Moderna”, organized by Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH) Templo Mayor (“Main Temple”) of Mexico City (Mexico), 27/10/2015.

Participation in these conferences, alongside my secondment (see below), have been the main way to networking with colleagues with work on my scientific field.

1.4. Teaching

- Lecture on “The GIS-Oriented ForSeaDiscovery database design” (1.5 hours) in the Intensive Training Course “Historiography and Archive Research”, University of Groningen (The Netherlands), 08/05/2015.
- Guest chair to coordinate the debate “Fellow meeting and plenary discussion” (1.5 hours) in the Intensive Training Course “Historiography and Archive Research”, University of Groningen (The Netherlands), 08/05/2015.

- Lecture on “Practical lessons – Database and GIS” (1.5 hours) in the Intensive Training Course: “Application of Geographical Information System (GIS) to Maritime History and Archaeology”, CSIC (Madrid, Spain), 16/010/2015.
- Lecture, with Sara Rich and Peter Groenendijk, on “Dissemination of the Underwater Cultural Heritage” (2 hours) in the Intensive Training Course: “Application of Geographical Information System (GIS) to Maritime History and Archaeology”, CSIC (Madrid, Spain), 16/010/2015.

1.5. Secondments

Research secondment with Maritime Archaeology Limited in collaboration with the Maritime Archaeology Trust and the University of Southampton at in Southampton, UK. During my secondment I developed of research activities within the framework of ForSeaDiscovery and improved my skills in database management and GIS.

1.6. Work in archives

- Work in *Archivo General Militar of Madrid* (General Military Archive of Madrid) and *Archivo del Museo Naval de Madrid* (Archive of the Naval Museum of Madrid) to compile primary sources and information on shipbuilding and management of forests during the early modern era. Work has been developed in the spring of 2015.
- Work in the *Archivo Municipal de Ribadeo* (Municipal Archive of Ribadeo, Spain) and *Archivo Municipal de Mondoñedo* (Municipal Archive of Mondoñedo, Spain) to compile information about the galleon of Ribadeo, which is one of the shipwrecks sampled by ForSeaDiscovery during the archaeological campaign of June, 2015. I developed archival work during the archaeological campaign.
- Work in the *Archivo General de Simancas* (General Archive of Simancas) to compile primary sources and information on shipbuilding and the galleon of Ribadeo. Work has been developed during a week, November, 2015.

1.7. Dissemination

- Article which was accepted in a journal before my contract with ForSeaDiscovery but has been recently published: José L. Gasch-Tomás: “Transport costs and prices of Chinese silk in the Spanish empire, c. 1571-1650”, *Revista de Historia Industrial*, 60, 2015, pp. 15-47. Impact index (JCR-Social Sciences Citation Index): 0.167.
- Academic book manuscript under review in *Cambridge University Press*.
- One article in peer review process: José L. Gasch-Tomás, “Shipbuilding in Times of War. Contracts for the Construction of Ships and Provision of Supplies in the Spanish Empire (c. 1580 to 1650)”, currently under review in *International Journal of Maritime History*.

Furthermore, I have participated in the blog coordinated by Sara Rich (ER2) entitled *Research fellows of ForSEADiscovery. Reporting live from archives, forests, labs and shipwrecks*.

2. Goals to achieve during the second year

During the second year of my contract, I will focus my work more on the management of the ForSeaDiscovery database and my research line than on the participation on conferences.

1.1. Major accomplishments

The major goal to be achieved during the second year is to complete the model of the database and to enter most data produced by fellows in it. By doing this, I expect to achieve one of the main goals of my work, which is to model and work with a database and historical GIS of ForSEA discovery project which might be useful for future research. Furthermore, I expect to consolidate my research line on shipbuilding and ecology opened last year by compiling more archival sources and publishing one or several articles on this issue.

1.2. Training

I will participate in forthcoming intensive courses on wood anatomy (9 to 11 Dember, 2015) and nautical archaeology (May 2016). Moreover, I also plan to attend one or several courses at the University of Groningen during another research secondment (see below).

1.3. Conferences

I plan to participate in one conference, IKUWA (Australia), in 2016. I will send a proposal of paper before the deadline of the call (February, 2016). However, I do not rule out the possibility of participating in other conferences which might be of interest for my work in ForSeaDiscovery and career.

1.4. Secondments

I plan to have a secondment at the University of Groningen in February and March, 2016. In Groningen, I will continue my work on the ForSeaDiscovery database while also attending one or several courses on database management software or on any other software related to Digital Humanities; work the Sound Toll Register online (STR); make use of the library, especially to consult works on the economic history of northern Europe which are not so easily accessible in Spain; and participate in the academic life at the the Faculty of Arts of the University of Groningen by attending seminars, workshops, conferences, and whatever university event which might be of interest.

1.5. Work in archives

I plan to continue work on compilation of primary sources and information on shipbuilding and the Galleon of Ribadeo in the *Archivo General de Simancas* (General Archive of Simancas).

1.6. Dissemination

Apart from the article which is currently under peer review , I plan to write an article on the main results of my own research line on shipbuilding and ecology during the early modern era, and another article on the galleon of Ribadeo, which I expect to write in collaboration with other fellows of ForSeaDiscovery. The journals to be sent the articles will be selected according to the precise topic of the articles and the corresponding publishing strategy. Furthermore, I plan to continue my collaboration in the blog *Research fellows of ForSEADiscovery. Reporting live from archives, forests, labs and shipwrecks.*