

UFMG goes global

UFMG's Center for Vaccines Joins Global Consortium to Advance Cancer Research



CTVacinas, based at the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG), has joined an international consortium led by Brazil's Ministry of Health in partnership with the University of Oxford to develop next-generation cancer vaccines. The initiative represents a significant step in strengthening international scientific collaboration in one of the most promising areas of public health research. Established following a cooperation agreement between Brazil and the United Kingdom, the consortium brings together leading research institutions, hospitals, and scientific centers to advance three strategic areas: immunology and oncology research, the use of artificial intelligence to develop personalized cancer vaccines, and the acceleration of clinical trials.

Within the consortium, CTVacinas will play a key role in translating scientific discoveries into clinical applications. Drawing on its extensive experience in vaccine development and clinical trial design, the center will contribute to planning, regulatory processes, and the implementation of human clinical studies, helping accelerate the development of innovative cancer immunotherapies. The center was responsible for developing the first vaccine entirely created in Brazil to reach human clinical trials and is currently leading the implementation of the National Center of Competence in RNA Vaccines and Therapies. The institution is also set to become Brazil's National Vaccine Center, an initiative designed to strengthen the country's capacity to develop vaccines and diagnostic technologies and to enhance national scientific and technological capabilities. The consortium underscores the growing role of UFMG and its research centers in addressing global health challenges through international collaboration, scientific excellence, and innovation in transnational medicine.

UFMG Leads South America in THE Sustainability Impact Rankings 2026

The Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG) has been recognized as the leading university in Brazil and South America for sustainability in the Times Higher Education (THE) Sustainability Impact Ratings 2026, reinforcing its commitment to advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



The results, announced during the THE Global Sustainable Development Congress in Jakarta, Indonesia, place UFMG among the 201–300 best-performing universities worldwide out of 1,603 higher education institutions evaluated. The University is also ranked the second-highest-performing institution in Latin America and the Caribbean, highlighting its growing international reputation for promoting sustainable development through teaching, research, innovation, and community engagement.

UFMG has demonstrated remarkable progress since joining the ranking in 2024. In its debut, the University was placed in the global 401–600 band, already positioning it among the top 25% of institutions worldwide. In 2025, it advanced to the 301–400 band, placing it in the top 15%. The 2026 results represent another significant milestone,

with an overall score of 78.4 points and entry into the 201–300 global band, reflecting the University's ongoing efforts to strengthen sustainability across all areas of its mission.

The University contributes to all 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, with particularly outstanding performance in SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), where it ranks 74th globally, and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), where it ranks 86th worldwide. UFMG also achieved positions within the global 101–200 band in SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

At the national level, UFMG is the highest-ranked Brazilian university in eight SDGs, including: No Poverty (SDG 1), Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6), Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8), Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12), Climate Action (SDG 13), Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (SDG 16), in addition to its top-100 global performance in Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7) and Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (SDG 9).

Commenting on the achievement, UFMG's President, Professor Alessandro Fernandes Moreira, emphasized that sustainability is a core dimension of our institution. He noted that leading South America in implementing the UN 2030 Agenda is a source of pride for the entire university community and reflects the University's long-term commitment to generating positive social impact through knowledge, innovation, and public engagement.

UFMG Law School Represents Latin America at Prestigious International Law Moot Court in France



A team from the UFMG School of Law represented both the University and Latin America at the 41st Concours Charles-Rousseau, one of the world's most prestigious French-language moot court competitions in Public International Law. Hosted by Université Côte d'Azur in Nice, France, from 5 to 9 May 2026, the competition brought together 26 teams from six countries under the organization of the Réseau francophone de droit international (RFDI).

The UFMG delegation, the only Latin American team in the competition, included students Nara Ferreira Gomes Sales, Maria Clara Fragoso de Mendonça, Guilherme Eliazar Carvalho, and Gabriela Queiroz Gomes Galdino, coached by Maria Luísa Pardini Ribeiro. After six months of intensive preparation involving written memorials and oral

advocacy training, the team competed entirely in French before international panels of experts in Public International Law.

As part of the program, participants attended the opening RFDI colloquium on the future of international ocean governance, which featured a lecture by UFMG Law Professor Lucas Carlos Lima on biodiversity conservation in the jurisprudence of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. The 2026 case, argued before a simulated International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, challenged competitors to address complex issues involving maritime jurisdiction, illegal fishing, exclusive economic zones, and human rights at sea.

The UFMG team concluded the competition with a victory in its final oral round. Beyond the courtroom, the event offered valuable opportunities for intercultural exchange through networking activities, including the Nations Cocktail and the Gala Reception, thereby strengthening UFMG's academic ties with institutions worldwide. The delegation's participation highlights UFMG's continued commitment to academic excellence, multilingual legal education, and the internationalization of higher education.

Students from UFMG's Technical School are Selected for Academic and Cultural Exchange in China



Two students from UFMG's Technical High School (Coltec), Arthur Augusto Lara Matos and Miguel Ângelo Rodrigues de Araújo, have been selected to participate in a two-week academic and cultural exchange in China through the Mandarin at Coltec and Summer School program. Supported by the Confucius Institute, the initiative has been promoting Chinese language and cultural education at UFMG for the past 13 years.

The students will travel to Wuhan and Beijing, where they will take intensive Mandarin classes at the Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST), visit cutting-edge robotics laboratories, and explore the research center behind WeChat, China's leading multifunctional digital platform. The program also includes cultural activities in Beijing, featuring visits to iconic landmarks

such as the Forbidden City and the Great Wall of China.

The delegation will be accompanied by Coltec Professor Fernanda Peçanha Carvalho, who has coordinated the Mandarin and Chinese Culture course at COLTEC since 2013. The selected students earned their places through outstanding academic performance, advanced Mandarin proficiency, and excellent results in the Chinese Bridge international competition. They will be joined by Enzo Morrison Figueiredo Costa Jorge, a UFMG Physics undergraduate and Mandarin student at the Confucius Institute.

According to Professor Fernanda Carvalho, the program expands opportunities for students from a public institution by providing transformative international experiences that broaden their academic, linguistic, and cultural horizons. She also highlights the broader impact of the initiative, noting that international exchanges strengthen scientific cooperation, foster intercultural dialogue, and promote Brazil and UFMG on the global stage while encouraging mutual learning between countries.

4th UFMG Internationalization Showcase Highlights Global Learning Opportunities



The Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG) successfully hosted the 4th Mostra de Internacionalização da UFMG (UFMG's Internationalization Showcase) from 1 to 3 June, bringing together students, faculty, and staff for three days of presentations and workshops aimed at expanding access to international academic opportunities.

The event featured a series of informative sessions covering key aspects of international education. Participants learned about UFMG's student mobility programs, including exchange opportunities and application procedures, while dedicated presentations explored English language proficiency tests and their role in academic mobility and international admissions.

The program also addressed opportunities for postgraduate students through a session on the administrative procedures for cotutelle agreements, providing practical guidance for administrative staff interested in learning more about joint doctoral programs.

Language learning and international scholarships were also central to the event. Attendees had the opportunity to learn about French and Italian language study opportunities available at UFMG, as well as the McCall MacBain Scholarships, one of Canada's leading graduate scholarship programs, which offers outstanding students the opportunity to pursue Master's and professional degrees while developing leadership skills and community engagement. In partnership with Glazov State Engineering and Pedagogical University, UFMG hosted a three-day Russian Festival, offering the university community the opportunity to explore the Russian language, culture, and academic opportunities through a series of interactive activities.

By bringing together institutional experts and international partners, the 4th Internationalization Showcase reinforced UFMG's commitment to making international opportunities more accessible to its academic community. The event provided participants with practical information, encouraged academic planning, and highlighted the many pathways through which students can develop global competencies and engage in international education.

UFMG short film selected for Animafest Zagreb



TV entreaberta, an animated short film directed by Mateus Compart, a student in the Animation Cinema program at UFMG's School of Fine Arts, was selected to participate in the World Festival of Animated Film – Animafest Zagreb, held in Croatia in June.

Founded in 1972, Animafest Zagreb is the world's second-oldest festival dedicated exclusively to animation. It is part of the field's leading international circuit, alongside festivals such as Annecy, Ottawa, and Hiroshima, and is recognized as a qualifying event in the race for the Academy Awards.

The eight-minute film took three years to complete and reflects a broad collaborative effort involving approximately 120 people, including undergraduate students, alumni, recent graduates, and faculty members

from UFMG's Animation Cinema program. The screenplay was first developed in a course taught by Professor Mariana Tavares and later refined through practical workshops before becoming the final undergraduate project of a seven-member core team: Vitor Batista, Sarah Leite, Milu Scalia, Matheus Neilor, Artur Diniz, Letícia Terra, and Mateus Compart.

For Compart, the film's international selection marks an important recognition of the team's extensive work and expands the reach of a university-based production. He also emphasized the significance of presenting a UFMG short film at such a prestigious festival, strengthening the University's visibility in the international animation community.

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