6.
Creating an inspiring learning enviroment

The key element for the UNITA learning environment is the Virtual Campus. The Virtual Campus is defined as an integrated set of digital services selected and made available to all the stakeholders of the educational community of the six UNITA universities. It provides these actors with a unified entry point to access digital services and contents. It also offers a virtual place to exchange and collaborate with the virtual campus users and with other communities in relation to UNITA or its members.
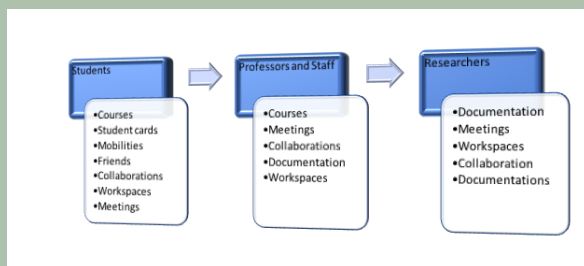

Figure 6.1: UNITA Ciber-ecosystem

The UNITA virtual campus is not just a tool but part of UNITA's sustainable development strategy. The main stakeholders involved in this cyber ecosystem are, internally, the UNITA students, professors, researchers, and staff, and externally, the interested parties like associated partners, GEMINAE partners, life-long learners, and other actors.

A European University is a real challenge, especially when dealing with the connection amongst students, professors, researchers, and administrative staff. Five countries and more than one location per University make the Virtual campus an essential structure to be successful. At this point, the virtual campus is at an initial design stage. The initial requirements have been identified and the implementation has started. Once finished, students will connect with professors for lectures, courses, and documentation. Teachers will be able to do collaborative research, teaching and training, and non-teaching staff will use it for meeting the administrative needs of all other categories.

The Virtual Campus will make it possible for a UNITA student to have access to UNITA courses from any university, without any geographical barrier. Example of the potential of the Virtual campus are:

   - Thematic working groups will be facilitated. This will ease and improve international cooperation and collaboration.

   - Students will be able to prepare, decide and get recognition about study programs from other international universities.

   - The interaction and access to UNITA services among students and staff will be enhanced using mobile technologies.