



Universitat de Barcelona

# Report on the academic year 2011-2012

The University of Barcelona



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The University of Barcelona

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# Foreword



It is my pleasure to present the latest edition of the University of Barcelona Report on the Academic Year. On the pages that follow, you will find a general account of the activities, initiatives and achievements of our institution over the academic year 2011-2012.

During this period, our work has been guided by five principal concerns: a commitment to society, a focus on people, the pursuit of quality in teaching and research, innovation through internationalization, and conscientious economic management. These concerns are reflected in the choice of core areas for the University of Barcelona Management Plan 2009-2012, which has recently received its third positive assessment and is producing the results we had hoped for, thanks to the commitment of the entire university community.

This year, efforts to modernize and improve the efficiency and transparency of our financial management structures have focused on completing the implementation of SAP across the university and on integrating internal control procedures with management processes. We have also carried out extensive work in other areas, in particular the introduction of best practices for environmental management and gender equality, ongoing dialogue with stakeholder groups concerning provisions for social responsibility, which form the basis of the UB's Report on Social Responsibility, transparent monitoring of governance mechanisms through the Management Plan, and broad institutional reflection on governance at the university, which has led to the first dedicated report on this subject in the whole of Spain.

As a research institution, the UB has continued to lead the field, supported by the work of its two campuses of international excellence, the BKC knowledge campus and the HUBc health sciences campus. In the area of teaching and learning, our adaptation to the European Higher Education Area is now fully realized, and our students continue to show faith in the wide range of courses we offer.

I invite you, then, to read this report on the academic year, in which our students, teaching staff and administrative and service staff take centre stage, together with the society to which our service is dedicated.

Dídac Ramírez  
*Rector of the University of Barcelona*



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“What distinguishes the UB from other universities is its international prestige, its leadership in teaching and research, and its extensive background in the humanities and sciences.”

**Joana Casanovas Lloro,**  
student, Communication  
and Cultural Industries

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# 1

## A university spanning the centuries and serving the community

Strategic vision of the  
University of Barcelona

Summary of basic figures

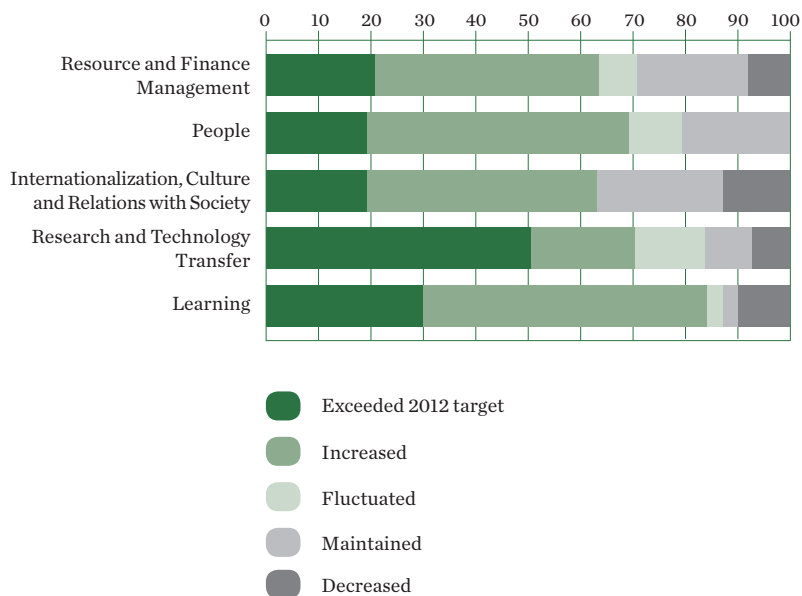
Territorial distribution  
of the UB: the campuses  
and the centres







## Strategic vision of the University of Barcelona



The **University of Barcelona's Management Plan** sets out the guidelines for the strategic actions to be undertaken by the rector's executive council and governing bodies in six main blocks. It establishes a series of 44 objectives and some 200 actions to achieve these, grouped in five core areas: **Learning; Research and Technology Transfer; Internationalization, Culture and Relations with Society; People; and Resource and Finance Management.**

The results for 2011 were assessed using 127 indicators, 34% of which indicated successful achievement of the objectives set for 2012 and 58.3% of which indicated either an improvement or a maintained standard relative to previous assessments.

The University's strategic vision focuses on constantly improving the UB's international standards of scientific output and teaching quality and on becoming the university of choice for students, teachers, researchers and socio-economic stakeholders.

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The HUB<sup>c</sup> health campus of the University of Barcelona, which hosts projects to the value of 14.8 million euros, is part of a project that aims to modernize education.

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*El Punt Avui*  
19 March 2012

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“I had a special interest in the University of Barcelona: it’s the foremost public university in Catalonia, it has a strong international presence, and it’s part of a phenomenal city.”

Lila Gonçalves Oliveira, student,  
European Master on Work,  
Organizational and Personnel Psychology

A number of substantial achievements have been made within the framework of the UB’s Management Plan. These include ongoing, institution-wide adaptation to the requirements of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), successful efforts to maintain the university’s position as a leading research institution, the promotion of mobility and international relations, advances in the promotion and recruitment of university staff, greater budgetary stability across the UB and most of the foundations in the UB Group, distancing the institution as a whole from viability problems and staff cuts, and the implementation of SAP as the financial management across the entire university community.

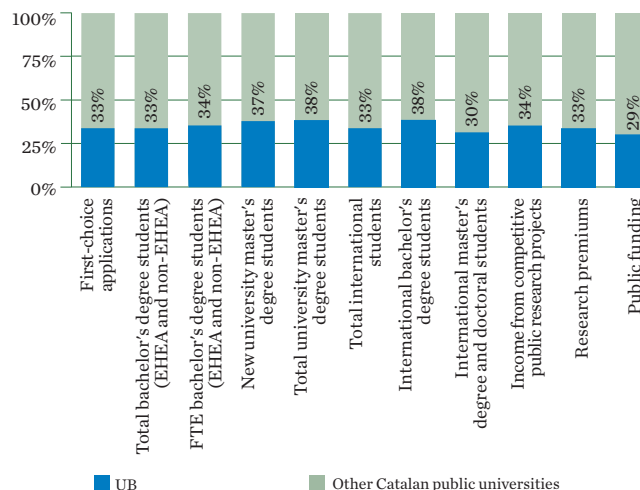
This strategy has been bolstered by the work of the campuses of international excellence. The BKC has continued its efforts to improve the research infrastructure available to the university commu-

nity, in particular through unique projects such as the creation of a multi-purpose laboratory at the Faculty of Chemistry. The activities carried out by the HUBc health sciences campus have focused primarily on talent attraction and the transformation of the surrounding area.

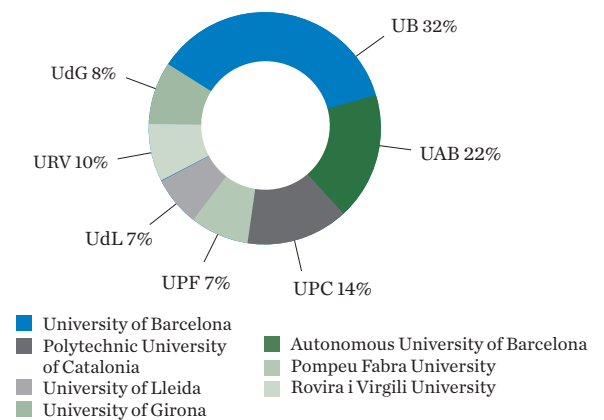


Historic Building

### The UB in the Catalan public university system Academic year 2010-2011



### New EHEA bachelor's degree students in the Catalan public university system. Academic year 2011-2012.





A university spanning the centuries and serving the community

Faculty of Philosophy and Faculty of Geography and History

## Summary of basic figures

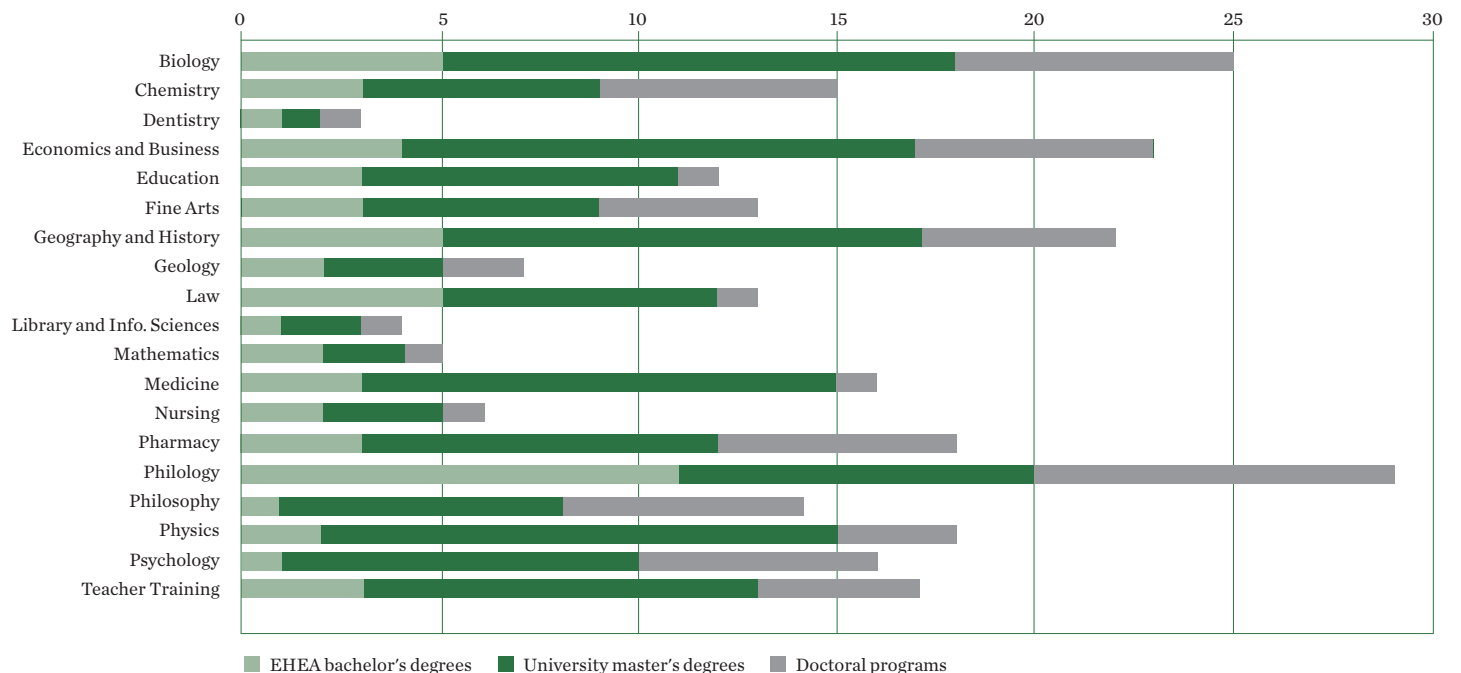
### Structure

Constructed area (m <sup>2</sup> )	602,381
Faculties and university schools	19
UB-affiliated centres	5
Departments	106
UB research institutions and centres	24
Research institutes and observatories in which the UB participates	8
Inter-university institutes	2
Documentation centres	3
Research observatories	10

### Course offerings in the academic year 2011-2012

EHEA bachelor's degrees	65
Non-EHEA bachelor's degrees	6
University master's degrees	150
Doctoral programs	71
Doctoral programs with quality awards	31
Postgraduate courses	306
University extension courses	53
Corporate lifelong learning courses and open courses (IL3)	470

### EHEA bachelor's degrees, university master's degrees and doctoral programs







“New students are young, enthusiastic, capable and well-trained in new technologies. As teachers, we have to make good use of these competences and train students in accordance with their skills in order to make the most of their potential.”

Creu Palacín Cabañas,  
tenured lecturer, Faculty of Biology

### The students

	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
EHEA bachelor's degree students	10,762	22,328	31,531
New EHEA bachelor's degree students	7,914	10,911	11,014
Non-EHEA bachelor's degree students	38,073	26,227	15,915
New non-EHEA bachelor's degree students	4,061	804	725
Full-time-equivalent bachelor's degree students (EHEA and non-EHEA)	38,536	39,814	39,471
University master's degree students	4,993	5,235	5,484
New university master's degree students	3,101	3,366	3,240
Doctoral students	3,627	4,229	4,681
Postgraduate students (UB-specific courses)	9,520	10,175	8,577
University extension students	1,304	1,229	925
Lifelong learning students (IL3)	28,535	24,019	17,371
Students at affiliated centres (non-EHEA bachelor's degrees, EHEA bachelor's degrees and university master's degrees)	3,376	3,219	3,164
International students (under exchange agreements)	1,660	1,829	1,926
UB students abroad (under exchange agreements)	893	1,072	1,187
Students in extra-curricular placements	1,898	1,831	2,237



	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Non-EHEA bachelor's degree holders	7,108	7,510	8,016
Master's degree holders	1,326	2,136	2,115
PhD holders	503	469	467

Mundet Campus



Faculty of Law

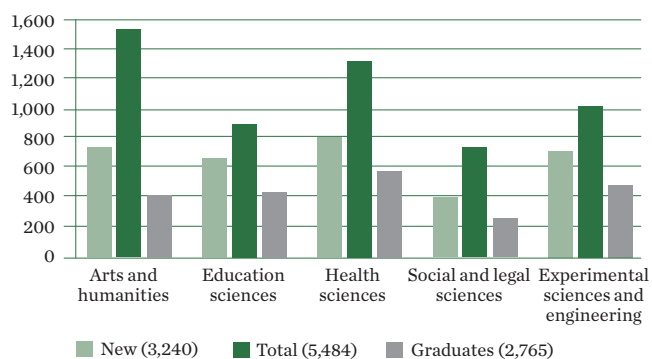
### Non-EHEA bachelor's degree students and official bachelor's degree students by study area

	New enrolments	Total	Graduates
Arts and humanities	2,581	9,260	1,244
Education sciences	1,617	5,357	555
Health sciences	2,056	9,083	1,513
Social and legal sciences	3,903	17,228	2,203
Experimental sciences and engineering	1,582	6,518	867
<b>Total UB centres</b>	<b>11,739</b>	<b>47,446</b>	<b>6,382</b>
UB-affiliated centres	784	2,921	378
<b>Total UB</b>	<b>12,523</b>	<b>50,367</b>	<b>6,760</b>

### Other students

	2011-2012	% women
School of Modern Languages	5,284	64.0
Institute of Hispanic Studies	2,239	67.9
Catalan courses	1,540	69.2
Summer courses	1,169	61.1
Institute of Education Sciences	9,314	69.0
Courses for Senior Citizens	3,663	78.0
University of Experience	283	64.0

### University master's degree students by study area<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> This does not include students at UB-affiliated centres.

### Virtual Campus

	2011-2012
% of teaching material available in electronic format <sup>1</sup>	83.1
Users	80,804
Library users	15,606,581

<sup>1</sup> Bachelor's degree and master's degree subjects.



“I think the fact that the UB is an institution with hundreds of years of history proves that for all those years it has worked alongside society and evolved with it.”

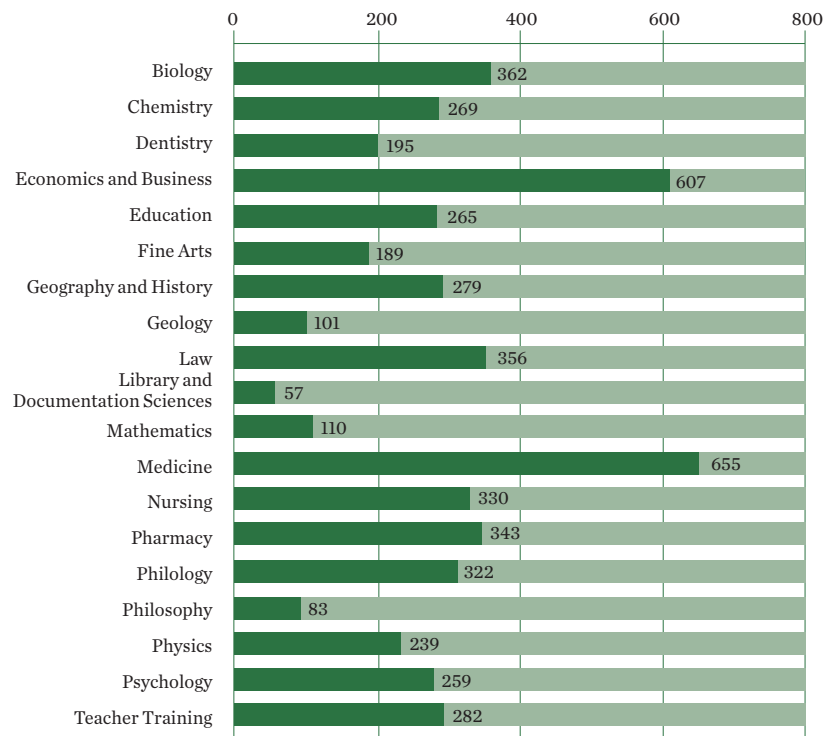
Sílvia Soriano Romero,  
administrative and service staff,  
Pharmacology and Pharmacognosy Unit

### Teaching and research staff (TRS)

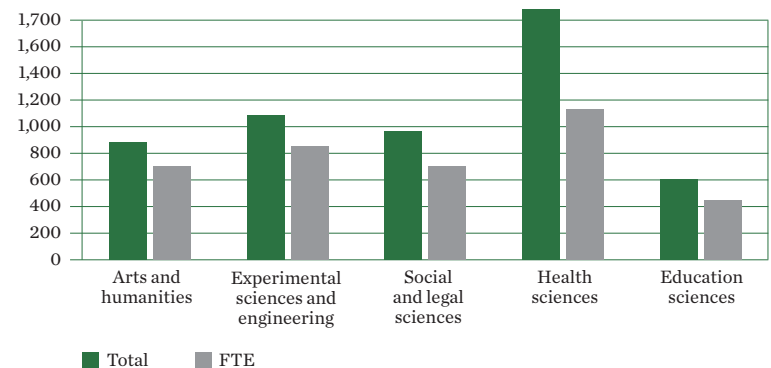
		% women
<b>Total TRS</b>	<b>5,306</b>	<b>44.4</b>
University professors	593	21.6
University school professors	26	57.7
Tenured university lecturers	1,295	43.6
Tenured university school lecturers	237	56.1
Contracted LOU professors	1	0.0
Tenure-track 2 lecturers	266	46.6
Tenure-track 1 lecturers	206	58.3
Temporary lecturers	19	68.4
Temporary full-time lecturers	66	66.7
Adjunct lecturers	1,503	47.6
Adjunct medical lecturers	487	43.7
Assistant lecturers	93	58.1
Other researchers	202	49.5
Emeritus lecturers on the early retirement plan	248	45.6
Others	64	32.8
<b>Full-time-equivalent TRS</b>	<b>3,861.5</b>	<b>44.5</b>
<b>TRS with permanent affiliation<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2,484</b>	<b>40.6</b>

<sup>1</sup> This includes lecturers, tenure-track 2 lecturers, non-publicly-contracted temporary lecturers and contracted LOU professors.

### TRS by faculty/school



### TRS and full-time-equivalent TRS by subject area



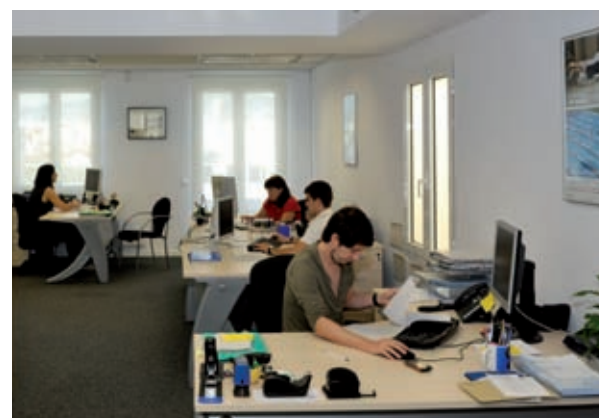
### Teaching improvement and innovation

	2011-2012
Consolidated teaching innovation groups	71
Teaching innovation groups	7
Financed teaching innovation projects	107
TRS participating in ICE training courses (%)	55.2

### Internationalization

	2011-2012
Number of international agreements	1,730
Number of international students	9,759
Number of international teaching staff	187

	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Teaching and research staff (TRS)</b>				
Total TRS	4,853	4,995	5,247	5,306
Full-time-equivalent TRS	3,767	3,809	3,881	3,862
TRS with permanent affiliation	2,594	2,552	2,526	2,484
<b>Administrative and service staff (AdSS)</b>				
Total AdSS	2,294	2,348	2,448	2,294
Civil service AdSS	1,047	1,055	1,096	996
University-contracted AdSS	1,247	1,293	1,372	1,298
<b>Ratio AdSS/TRS</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>0.43</b>



### Administrative and service staff (AdSS)

		% women
<b>Total AdSS</b>	<b>2,294</b>	<b>64.7</b>
<b>Civil service AdSS</b>	<b>996</b>	<b>81.9</b>
Group A	61	
Group B	183	
Group C	466	
Group D	279	
Group E	7	
<b>University-contracted AdSS</b>	<b>1,298</b>	<b>51.7</b>
Group I	317	
Group II	244	
Group III	491	
Group IV	225	
Temp. employees	21	
<b>Ratio AdSS/TRS</b>	<b>0.43</b>	

### Services and activities

	2011
<b>Library</b>	
Monographs	1,484,794
Journals and periodicals	57,098
Loans	934,775
Single-user reading desks	6,525
<b>UB Sports subscribers</b>	<b>8,168</b>
<b>Grantholders in services</b>	<b>408</b>
<b>Accommodation in halls of residence</b>	
UB halls of residence	910
UB-affiliated halls of residence	775
<b>UB Alumni members</b>	<b>7,091</b>

“Right now I think the university should contribute to society by providing the common sense that comes with knowledge. It should strive to adapt to social changes and adopt a bold and fair stance towards people’s problems.”

Creu Palacín Cabañas,  
tenured lecturer,  
Faculty of Biology

### Research and technology transfer at the UB

	2009	2010	2011
<b>Income generated by research and technology transfer (in thousands of euros)</b>	<b>108,680</b>	<b>81,206</b>	<b>76,339</b>
Research projects <sup>1</sup>	76,715	55,887	52,107
Research projects – FBG contracts	15,129	9,642	6,850
Infrastructure	1,605	-	1,659
Other grants	9,515	11,632	11,217
UB agreements	3,750	2,390	2,503
FBG agreements	1,966	1,655	2,002

<sup>1</sup> This includes the University of Barcelona, the August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS), the Bellvitge Institute for Biomedical Research (IDIBELL), the Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC), the Institute

of Biomedical Research (IRB), the Catalonia Institute of Energy Research (IREC), and the Barcelona Science Park Foundation (PCB).

Research activity	2011
Consolidated research groups (as recognized by the Catalan government)	243
Priority patent applications	18
International patent applications (PCT)	22
Newly-created technology-based companies	3
Doctoral theses read	566

Barcelona Science Park Foundation	2011
Personnel	2,105
Private companies in the PCB	57
Public companies	26
Research groups and scientific services	84

Evolution of research activity	2009	2010	2011
TRS participating in R&D projects (%)	62.1	69.0	75.5
Contracted research doctors	141	154	231
Research-support AdSS	245	264	316
Research grant holders	979	989	907
Active research projects	625	657	720
Scientific publications <sup>1</sup>	3,679	3,723	4,068

Science and Technology Centres	2011
Internal users (principal investigators)	453
External invoicing (in thousands of euros)	4,848
Value of scientific equipment (in thousands of euros)	41,110

<sup>1</sup> Collated by the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI).





“The University of Barcelona has become a leader in today’s society and a model of efficiency and of good management of public resources, which are quite scarce at the moment.”

**Mercè Guisado Benjumea**,  
administrative and service staff,  
Secretary’s Office for Students and Teaching Staff at  
the Faculty of Library and Information Science

The League of European Research Universities (LERU) met yesterday at the University of Barcelona to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its creation and discuss future challenges and priorities. The heads of the so-called G21 of research defended the central role that the university should have in this field.

*El Punt Avui*  
11 May 2012

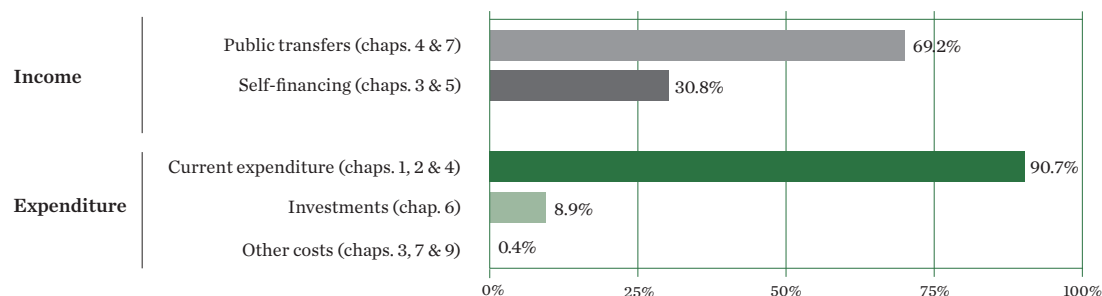


### Budget 2012 (in thousands of euros)

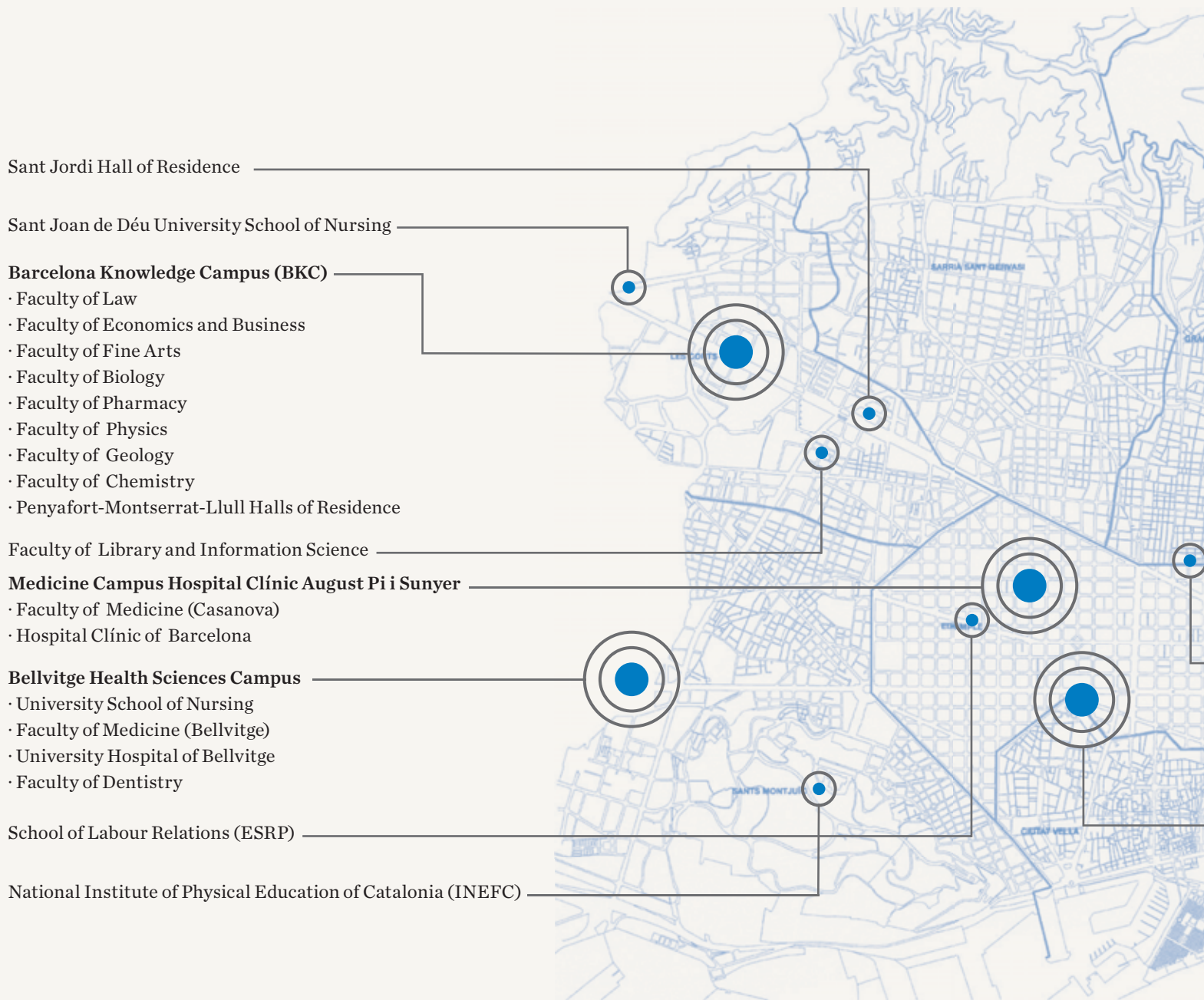
Income	368,225
Chapter 3. Fees and other income	103,220
Chapter 4. Current transfers	232,685
Chapter 5. Additions to capital	10,112
Chapter 7. Capital transfers	22,208

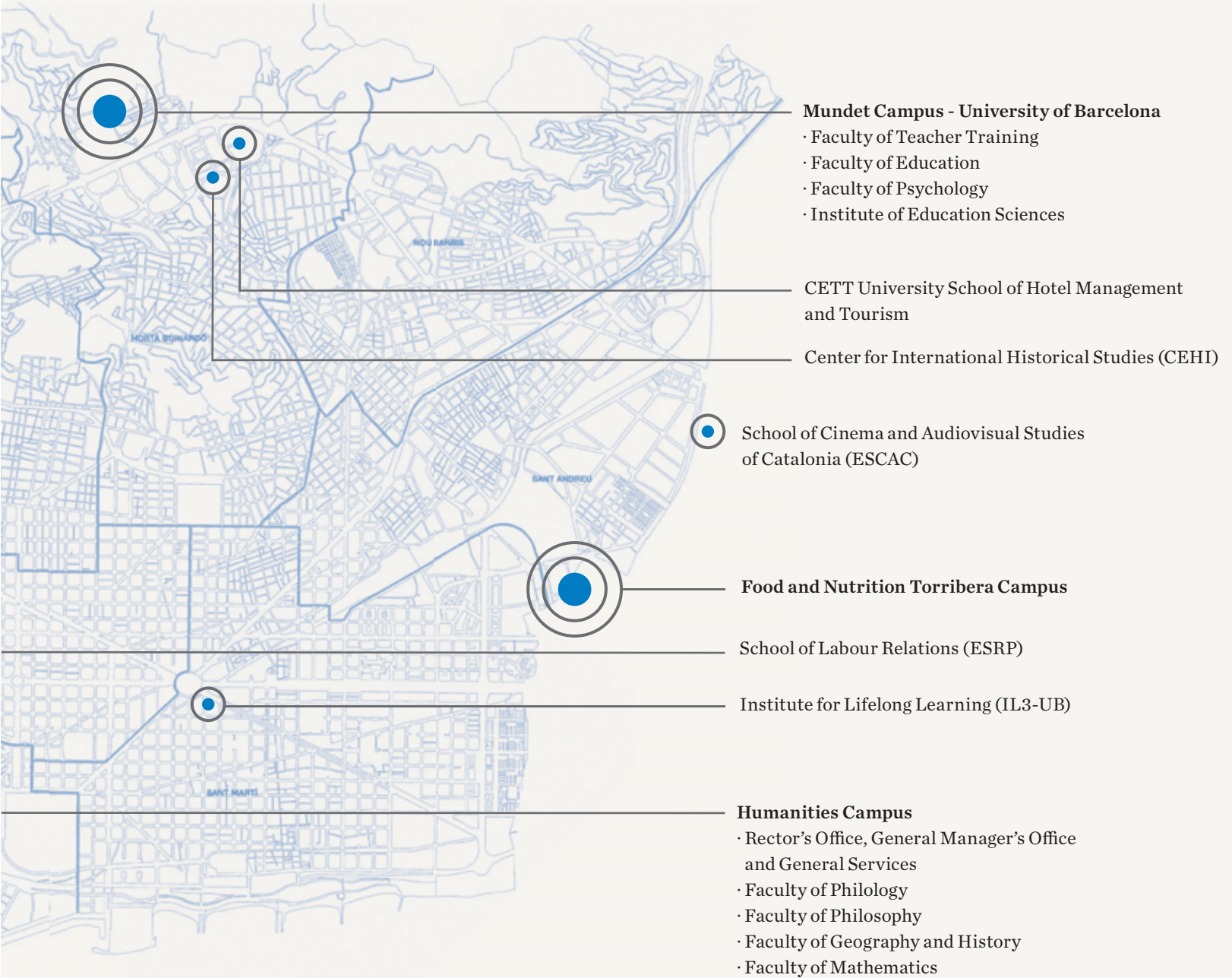
Expenditure	368,225
Chapter 1. Staff costs	265,353
Chapter 2. Acquisition of goods and services	60,580
Chapter 3. Financial costs	361
Chapter 4. Current transfers	8,076
Chapter 6. Acquisition of assets	32,645
Chapter 7. Capital transfers	205
Chapter 9. Financial liabilities	1,005

Evolution	2010	2011	2012
Budget (in thousands of euros)	379,341	379,410	368,225



# Territorial distribution of the UB: the campuses and the centres









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“The principal strength of the UB lies in its human resources. The success of an institution is the result of the synergy among all its members; each individual must approach his or her role with the utmost professionalism and dedication.”

**Luis Escribano Sánchez,**  
administrative and service  
staff, Office of Research  
Management

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# 2

## A university focused on people

Services for the university  
community

Institutional and cultural  
activities

Student services





“The key challenge in teaching continues to be creating a university community made up of the teaching staff and students. The university community *is* the university.”

Josep Maria Esquirol Calaf,  
tenured lecturer,  
Faculty of Biology

## Services for the university community

The University of Barcelona has continued to work actively to ensure transparent management, by implementing a good practices policy in all its areas of operation. In the area of **social responsibility**, a second report has been published that examines the dialogue established with stakeholders and uses indicators and results to highlight developments in this period. The UB's internal control function has been strengthened by the introduction of a new computer system for economic and financial management. As a result, this function has been fully integrated into UB management processes, and is therefore carried out with a full guarantee of quality and efficiency.



In the area of gender, the **Equality Committee** supported all those who expressed a need for assistance, information or problem resolution within the university community. The University of Barcelona hosted the Fifth Meeting of Spanish Universities' Units, Observatories and Offices of Equality, which was attended by a hundred people from thirty Spanish universities.

Committees in the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Economics and Business have drawn up protocols to prevent, detect and act against sexual harassment, as well as harassment due to gender, sexual orientation and gender identity. The Library and Information Science and Law committees have been actively involved in proposals resulting from a study carried out by the League of European Research Universities (**LERU**) to review all of the documents that refer to gender.

Various actions have been carried out to raise awareness and provide information on gender equality and gender violence. Talks have been given at Badalona City Council, the conservatory of the Liceu in Barcelona and the University of Seville. The Equality Committee attended meetings, seminars and conferences organized by UB faculty committees and meetings organized by the Women's Institute of Madrid. In addition, the Committee began talks with the Catalan government's Catalan Women's Institute.



Meeting of Spanish Universities' Units of Equality

Our commitment  
to the  
environment

63%

selective waste collection  
of total waste generated  
in 2011

The **Ombuds Office** is an independent, autonomous institution charged with defending the rights and freedoms of the student body, teaching and research staff, and administrative and service staff. As described in its annual report, its institutional and internal actions involved responding to one hundred and twenty-two requests for intervention.

As a part of the University of Barcelona's promotion of a culture of respect and humanization, its **Office for Conflict Resolution and Mediation** has continued to foster, maintain and safeguard this culture. The aim of the office is to facilitate dialogue, resolve conflicts and carry out mediation so that the parties to a conflict can enter into voluntary discussion in a context of mutual respect and equality.

In the area of **occupational health and safety**, the administrative unit Health, Safety and Environmental Issues (OSSMA) pursued eight main lines: health and safety at work, risk assessment and control, emergency preparation and response, occupational health, waste management, sustainability, social assistance, and other specific subjects.

In the area of **risk prevention**, the Governing Council approved the University of Barcelona's Plan for the Prevention of Occupational Risks. This Plan will ensure that all procedures include prevention measures, all those involved in a procedure will have the required training and information, and all hierarchical levels will include prevention in every activity that is carried out or delegated.



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The Vatican stages in Barcelona its winning format for dialogue between believers and nonbelievers, as the climax of the Barcelona program *Art, Beauty, Transcendence*, which comprises three academic dialogues between religious faith and secular culture. These three events [among others] are to be held at the University of Barcelona.

*La Vanguardia*  
20 February 2012

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University School of Nursing

Work is being carried out on the UB's **self-protection plans**. They will be designed and adapted over a period of several years, as established in the schedule. The Directorate-General of Civil Protection of the Catalan government has approved and homologated plans for buildings in the Faculty of Physics, the Faculty of Chemistry and the Faculty of Law, as well as Building 690 of the Faculty of Economics and Business and the building for the Faculty of Philosophy and the Faculty of Geography and History.

A website has been created for the **Social Welfare** unit, to provide information for the university community and links to resources offered by the Catalan government and other public organizations. In addition, a brief guide has been drawn up with general suggestions for helping classmates with disabilities. Other guides provide more specific suggestions according to the type of disability.

From the perspective of **occupational health**, the UB continued to implement health vigilance, primarily involving specific check-ups in various faculties or of certain staff groups according to job category, at the request of the Health service. Check-ups were also given at the request of employees or to meet research project requirements. The check-ups were carried out to assess factors including psychosocial risks, work-related accidents, maternity protection and special sensitivity.

In the area of **the environment**, the UB focused on drafting an institutional sustainability plan involving the Delegate Committee of the Senate, the OSSMA coordination office and the Rector's Delegate Commissioner's Office for Sustainability. The environmental activity has been focused on the drafting of the Sustainability Plan by the Senate Delegated Committee, coordinated by OSSMA and the rector's delegate for Sustainability, which has





“Universities give us a wealth of knowledge that acts as the basis for continued growth and prosperity as a society.”

M. Dolors Barsó Romeu,  
administrative and service staff,  
Thin Section Service



culminated with an initial version presented in the Senate on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2011. After the incorporation of amendments and suggestions, it was approved in the Senate on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2012. It is organized into 10 strategic lines and 135 actions to be developed in the coming years.

OSSMA has been in charge of comprehensive sustainability management in this new framework of planning, and has worked in the areas of waste management, mobility, information provision, external consultancy and awareness raising in the university community, among others.

OSSMA also assisted the Institutional Activities and Protocol unit in organizing guided visits to the gardens of the Historic Building.



The president [of the Government of Catalonia] yesterday presented the Generalitat de Catalunya Gold Medal, the highest honorary distinction of the Catalan Government, to the linguist Antoni Badia Margarit for his outstanding career in linguistics and his contribution, through influential academic activity, to furthering Catalan language and culture throughout the world.

*La Vanguardia*  
5 May 2012

## Institutional and cultural activities



The **Doctors' Senate** which has a membership of 952, awarded the fifteenth annual prize for doctoral theses to **Dr Carlos Mas Moruno** (Department of Organic Chemistry, Faculty of Chemistry), for his thesis 'Design and synthesis of peptides that neutralize bacterial endotoxins as therapeutic agents for the treatment of septicemia'.

**Awards and honours** received by the members of the university community during the academic year 2010-2011 include the following:



The official opening of the academic year



Board of Trustees' Prizes

- **Honorary doctorate, University of Girona**, Encarna Roca
- **Gold Medal of the Catalan government**, Antoni Maria Badia i Margarit; Josep Maria Ainaud de Lasarte
- **Award of the City of Barcelona**, Saida Palou; Txuma Sánchez; Oriol Fontdevila
- **Cross of Sant Jordi**, Francesc Granell; Josep Maixenchs
- **Severo Ochoa Award for Biomedical Research**, Elías Campo
- **National Award of Excellence**, Blanca Lozano Miralles; Iago Giné; Teresa Català
- **National Prize in Research**, Ernest Giralt
- **National Prize in Chemistry**, Claudi Mans
- **Catalan Prize in Economics**, Germà Bel
- **ICREA Academy Award**, Dr Montserrat Guillén; Dr Joan López-Moliner; Dr Modesto Orozco; Dr Lothar Schulte
- **Narcís Monturiol Medal**, Elías Campo; Genoveva Martí
- **Vanguardia Award for Science**, Elías Campo; Carlos López Otín
- **Medal of Honour of the City of Terrassa**, Josep Maixenchs
- **Collaboration in research awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics**, M. Pilar Ruiz Lapuente
- **Women, Science and Technology Special Prize**, Pilar Bayer; Isabel Cacho; Carme Jordi
- **Prize of the Economic Society of Friends**

“This stage of my university career is marked by a deep commitment; I strongly identify with the UB’s values of excellence, its fighting spirit and its work ethic. This is also reinforced by the importance of developing a critical and proactive attitude that the UB continuously promotes.”

Lila Gonçalves Oliveira, student, European Master on Work, Organizational and Personnel Psychology

- of the Country (SEBAP), Xavier Sáez; Joaquim Solà; Montserrat Termes
- **Star of Europe Award**, Francesc Granell
- **One of the twenty best articles of the year in the Journal of Biological Chemistry**, Francesc Villarroya
- **Honourable mention for staging Science in Action**, Margarita Becerra; Javier Romero
- **Best claimant’s memorial in the international competition Foreign Direct Investment International Arbitration Moot**, Alberto Madero Rincón; Farazally Rojid; Junianto James Losari
- **International Year of Forests Special Prize**, Pol Tarrats Sada
- **First woman to be invested in the Spanish Royal Academy of Jurisprudence and Legislation**, Encarna Roca
- **Normal School Award of the Catalan Government**, Coordinated by Josep M. Puig Rovira

In a meeting on 3 November 2011, the Jury of the **Board of Trustees’ Prizes** awarded the José Manuel Bleuca Prize to Dr Marta Recasens Potau and the Ramon Margalef Prize to Dr Jorge Echevarría López. Some prizes are awarded jointly with the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation. Of these, the Antoni Caparrós Award for the best knowledge or technology transfer project was received by Dr Josep Perelló Palou, and the Senén Vilaró Award for the most innovative company was given to the company ENANTIA, SL.



Tribute to José Pizarroso



Tribute to Fabián Estapé

The University of Barcelona paid **tribute** to the geologist **Oriol Riba** (*in memoriam*), the surgeon **José Pizarroso** (*in memoriam*) and to Professor **Anna Roigé** (*in memoriam*) of the Department of Public Health, Mental Health and Perinatal Nursing and the former general secretary of the University. In addition, a tribute has been paid to Dr **Fabián Estapé** (*in memoriam*), who was rector of the University of Barcelona (1969-1971 and 1974-1976).





[A ceremony] held at the Aula Magna of the University of Barcelona saw the official inauguration of the Pierre Cardin Chair at the University School of Cinema and Visual Communication of Catalonia (ESCAC). Before the event, Cardin gave a lecture on his role as a cultural producer.

*La Vanguardia*  
28 January 2012



As part of the UB's program of **institutional activities**, the official opening of the academic year 2011-2012 was celebrated. Dr **Josep Maria Martí**, lecturer in the Department of Design and Image, Faculty of Fine Arts, gave the opening address entitled 'Roots of Creativity and Praise for the Crafts'. Also during this academic year, the UB Gold Medal was awarded to the **Vicente Ferrer Foundation**.

In 2011, **guided tours** of the UB's Historic Building continued to be offered, to present the significant historical and artistic heritage of the University. The number of visits totalled 120 or over 1,600 people.

The Historic Building hosted the following **exhibitions**:

- 5-9 September 2011: '**Mots amb arrels: els noms de lloc ens parlen**' (Words with roots: place names tell us something), organized by the Catalan government's Department of Territory and Sustainability on the occasion of the ICOS International Conference on Onomastics.
- 12-30 September 2011: '**Metro-Harraga**', organized by the UB Solidarity Foundation and the Muga Sociocultural Association.
- 10 October - 19 December 2011: '**Concòrdia and heritage: treasures of Catalan heritage**', put together by Pilar Mateo and Eva Marín and organized by the UB Office of the Vice-Rector for Arts, Culture and Heritage and the Faculty of Pharmacy, to mark the fifth centenary since

*Concòrdia dels apotecaris de la ciutat de Barcelona* (The Book of Concordia of the Apothecaries of Barcelona) (1511) was published.

- 28 November - 15 December 2011: '**The Saint Sophia Cathedral in Kiev. A photographic exhibition**', organized by the Consulate General of Ukraine in Barcelona.
- 9-19 December 2011: '**Pacific Solutions Congress. Exhibition of Sculptures**', coordinated by Jaime de Córdoba, lecturer in the Faculty of Fine Arts, and organized by the UB's Australian Studies Centre for the congress of the same name.
- 30 April - 10 May 2012: '**Joan Fuster: figura de temps**' (Joan Fuster: figure of time), coordinated by Antoni Martí Monterde, lecturer in the Department of Romance Languages, on the occasion of the International Symposium of the same name.
- 18 May 2012: '**Turkish art: painting and sculpture**', organized by the Consulate of Turkey in Barcelona and promoted by the UB's Office of the Vice-Rector for Arts, Culture and Heritage.
- 23 May - 11 June 2012: '**La Barraca, theatre and university. Yesterday and today of a utopia**', coordinated by Antoni Galmés, a lecturer in the Department of Art History, and organized by Acció Cultural Española.
- 12 June - 27 July 2012 and 12 June - 14 September 2012: '**Time, space and innovation**', curated by Ángel Orensanz and promoted by the Office of the Vice-Rector for Arts, Culture and Heritage.



In the **25th Concert Cycle**, thirteen concerts were held in the Paranymp Hall in the Historic Building. The Christmas concerts featured Symphony No 2, op. 52, “Lobgesang” by Felix Mendelssohn. The Cycle closed with the University’s orchestra performing works by Pau Casals i Defilló.

The concert ‘Catalan Spring 2012’, part of the **International Festival of Russian Art and Culture**, was organized by the World and Culture Association of Russia, with funding from the Russian Federation’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Other concerts included that of the **Pharmacy Choir**, which performed **Fauré’s Requiem**, the **Concert of the Consulate of Turkey in Barcelona**, as part of the Day of Synergy of Painting, Sculpture and Classical Music, and the final rehearsal of a **charity concert to raise money for the Theodora Foundation** in Switzerland and Spain, performed by the Mediziner Orchester Bern.

Various other **cultural activities** took place, such as the **4th UB Film Cycle**, entitled ‘New viewpoints within a new film scene’; the **Second UB Contemporary Dance Cycle** called ‘Semantics of movement’, and the **Barcelona Poetry Classroom’s 18th Conference on Poetry and Interracial Culture**, entitled ‘Catalan poetry, intimacy and history’, led by the poet Jordi Virallonga, a lecturer in the Department of Spanish.

In addition, the **Fifth UB Stage Festival** was held, with theatre projects carried out in various UB

faculties. The **UB’s first Winter Festival of university theatre** took place. This event is designed as a kind of theatre “marathon”. The Romea Foundation for Performing Arts, the Institute for Research on Medieval Cultures (IRCVM) and the University of Barcelona organized an eight-hour **dramatized reading of *Tirant lo Blanch*** on Saint George’s Day at the Teatre Romea.

The **First International Convention on Joan Maragall** was organized as one of the activities to mark the hundred and fifty years since this poet’s birth and the centenary of his death. In addition,



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UB Sports organizes gentle activities for senior citizens, by which it encourages sporting habits, because UB Sports serves the city, and is open to all.

*El Periódico de Catalunya*  
18 August 2012

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a colloquium entitled ‘Every language sees the world through its own eyes’ was led by Herta Müller, the Nobel prize winner, and chaired by Marisa Siguán and Dieter Lamping, professors of German in Barcelona and Mainz, respectively.

Other notable activities include the projection of the slogan ‘Acabem amb la pòlio’ (Stamp out polio) onto the façade of the Historic Building and the signing of a cooperation agreement with the Association of Pharmacists of Barcelona (COFB). A participative installation was set up in the Philosophy, Geography and History Library as part of the project **Add to My Library** by London artist Christina Mitrentse. The project involves an ephemeral metalibrary based on a list of favourite books compiled by university visitors.



Colloquium with Herta Müller, the Nobel prize winner

The UB’s **Virtual Museum** has created a new virtual visit to the archeological site of Oxyrhynchus. Three new collections have been added to the museum: the Relació de Duoda Art Collection and Research Forum; the Josep Artigas Collection, which presents some of the work of this graphic designer from Barcelona; and the Oriol Martorell Collection, comprised of part of the archives of this eminent musical director and teacher. In addition, files have been added to the Faculty of Biology’s Scientific Instruments Collection, the Art Collection, the Fine Arts Collection and the Pavelló de la República Library Collection. At the 13th Universeum Network Meeting, the University presented the poster ‘Virtual museums. An open window to the world. The city of Oxyrhynchus’ (University of Trondheim).

To develop and implement the document and archive management system and to conserve and disseminate the UB’s documentary heritage, various activities have been carried out in the area of **Document and Archive Management**. For example, a new application has been introduced to register items that are borrowed or returned; intermediate archives have been created for the Humanities and Diagonal Campuses; several projects have been completed to assess, inventory and describe documents; and a document and archive management system has been set up for the Faculty of Library and Information Science. The **Historical Archive** collaborated on various exhibitions held outside the University of Barcelona and produced and published *Les colònies d’infants evacuats*



“The UB offers such a wide variety of activities it would be hard not to find one you like: everything from languages, a choir, gospel and theatre courses to every sport imaginable in the UB athletic program. It also offers many different online courses.”

Jennifer Montoliu Górriz,  
student, Medicine

(Summer Camps for Evacuated Children), to mark seventy-five years since the Spanish Civil War.

The creation of the **UB Voluntary Service** has led to the University's involvement in various voluntary activities, such as the Red Cross Youth's toy collection campaign, the Gran Recapte food collection campaign in collaboration with Barcelona Food Bank and the Marató de la Pobresa, through signing the Catalan Public Universities' Manifesto *Per la inclusió social i en suport a la Marató de la pobresa* (For social inclusion and in support of the fundraising Poverty Marathon). In addition, the UB participated in the Ninth Study Solidarity Olympics in collaboration with the United Nations Association of Spain, in which it was ranked first in study hours and number of students.

In the same vein, the UB continued offering **Courses for Senior Citizens** (AUGG), drawing a total of 3,663 students, with 3,386 attending classes in the UB's own classroom spaces.

**UB Sports** has 100,000 m<sup>2</sup> of facilities in which over fifty different sports are played, making it one of the largest and most varied physical and recreational activity centres in Catalonia. The facilities were created in 1957 and constitute a real green space for the city, used by around 1,200 people every day.

This academic year, UB Sports has focused on three main areas: ongoing improvements to the facilities, the promotion of physical activity and sports within the university community, and opening the service up to the surrounding area and society.





Our commitment to sport

107

medals won by UB competitors in the university championships



It has achieved excellent results in terms of participation, trophies and prizes. A total of 1,377 sports people make up the hundred and fifty teams involved in UB leagues, which cover fifteen different sports. UB teams won 16 medals at the Spanish university games, and 91 medals at the championships of Catalonia. Our ongoing financial assistance program for high-level sports people supported 142 students and involved 80 teaching staff, who acted as tutors.

As a result of UB Sports' dedication, the Spanish Sports Council and the Women's Institute have

recognized the UB as the third best university in the promotion of sports among university women.

As a Health Promoting University and in collaboration with the Commissioner for Society and Ageing, UB Sports offers specific activities related to physical exercise and well being to all university staff.

The **UB Solidarity Foundation** focuses on cooperation development, the promotion of human rights and the culture of peace, social action and volunteerism. It draws on the collaboration and involve-



ment of members of the university community. Projects include water management and improvements to local governability in Morocco, rural development and efforts to build lasting peace in Colombia, and improvements to food sovereignty in Senegal. Joint work continues in the area of human rights research, dissemination and protection in collaboration with the Pontifical Xavierian University of Cali, Colombia. In addition, the Foundation is still working with the National University of Vietnam on a project to improve industrial wastewater management. The Foundation has begun a joint project with various Bolivian universities to construct a public policy observatory in the country. In the area of building peace and protecting human rights, promoted by the UB Solidarity Observatory and the Paula program, the Foundation and the Institute of Education Sciences awarded prizes for research projects conducted by students in upper secondary school on the subject of peace. The Foundation also hosted a series of events under the banner *Tardor Solidària*, held in all the faculties and schools of the UB to build awareness in its areas of focus.

## Student services



### Student information and orientation

The Student Support Service (SAE) provides assistance to all UB students, offering information, advice, assessment, support and help while they study at the UB and in the job placement process. The SAE is particularly committed to assisting students with special needs, ensuring that they receive equal opportunities and are fully integrated into the university community. The SAE also offers information and guidance to secondary-school students in their selection of a degree and aids the transition from school to university life.



### Information and orientation activities for prospective and incoming students

In addition to providing activities and services to prospective students to help them make the transition to university life, SAE assists incoming students with the tools needed to adapt to university education. A total of 10,300 people (students and the general public) benefited from activities to facilitate access to universities and to find out more about the University of Barcelona.

The UB presented its course offerings at the **Ensenyament** fair. It also participated in the Futura fair on master's and postgraduate courses, the Student and Employment international fair in Pamplona and the Aula fair in Madrid, among others.

Some faculties and schools have designed specific activities for secondary school students to demonstrate the content of their courses in a hands-on way. Participating faculties include Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Geology, Library and information Science, Psychology, Biology, Geography, History and Philology. Notably, 1,323 students registered for the 'Fem Química al Laboratori' (Let's do Chemistry in the Laboratory) activity in the Faculty of Chemistry.

Various schools and faculties took part in the **Open-House Days**, to provide information on degree offerings and guidance on the process of transition from secondary school to university. A total of 3,344 students participated.





Throughout the academic year, groups of upper secondary school and vocational training students visited the University as part of the ‘**Apropa’t a la UB**’ (Come to the UB) activity, involving a total of six hundred students. In addition, the ‘**La UB s’apropa**’ (The UB comes to you) activity took place, in which UB lecturers visited forty-five secondary schools in Catalonia to give students guidance.

The UB collaborated with the Barcelona City Council in the organization of talks by lecturers from various UB schools and faculties at Youth Information Points in Barcelona. Through Facebook, the UB answered over three hundred students’ questions. Activities were carried out to provide information about science, including ‘Afternoons with science and chocolate’ and ‘The voice of trees’.

In the area of **prizes and competitions**, the Faculty of Geology organized the **First School Crystallization Competition**. In this science dissemination project, secondary school teaching staff received training on crystallization and then applied their

knowledge in the classroom. Subsequently, an event was organized in the style of a science congress, where the crystals that students had grown were judged and the winners selected. The UB also held the **third annual Ferran Adrià – Gallina Blanca** prize for the best upper secondary school research projects in food and nutrition, which drew thirty-one submissions.

In the area of **courses and workshops**, the Faculty of Library and Information Science organized the course ‘Beyond Google’, for students who gained a place at the university via the process for applicants over 25, 40 and 45 years old. As a result of an agreement between the UB and Projecte Home Catalunya, the fourth **anti-drug abuse day** was held, entitled ‘Alcohol’.

In the **Welcome Program** for incoming students, the UB’s faculties and schools provide information on enrolment, services and other topics of interest to this group. International students are given relevant information and short stay cards, when necessary.





In the **accommodation program**, the University collaborates with the Viure i Conviure homeshare program and the the Caixa Catalunya's Lloguer Solidari project. The UB is the Spanish public university with the most students registered in the homeshare program. The UB housing website continued to expand, increasing the number of residences, estate agencies and accommodation-related portals. The aim was to improve the services for students so that they can find housing that meets their needs.

At the beginning of the academic year, the first edition of the **News Bulletin** for Future Students was published. This lists all the activities for incoming students, as well as information of interest and links to web pages. The **student agenda** contains information on activities and services, useful telephone numbers and addresses.

### Information and documentation

The **student information line** manages information requests about the UB's education offering and services, made via the various channels (face-to-face, electronic mail, telephone assistance). In 2011, the service responded to 43,888 queries.

Students can use the **MónUB student portal** to gain access to a wide range of online applications such as electronic mail, self-enrolment, transcript access,

grant applications, validations, and other information and services of interest. This year, the average number of monthly visits stood at 1,312,267.

The **self-help resources room** of the Student Support Service (SAE) provides document support for vocational and professional activities undertaken by SAE. During the academic year, 75 documents were added to the collection, including bringing together monographs, company databases and specialized journal subscriptions.





“The University of Barcelona provides students with the skills and knowledge they need to enter the labour market. It demands a level of responsibility, diligence and creativity that helps us to learn every day.”

Marisa Farré Rull,  
student, Communication  
and Cultural Industries

### Careers advice

The **Feina UB** program provides career counselling and advice to students in a variety of ways. Activities include a job bank, external placements in companies and institutions, job fairs, company presentations, and information on grant calls to obtain work placements abroad, through the Leonardo program, ARGO and FARO.

This academic year, a new model of educational cooperation agreements was approved by all faculties and schools, in accordance with the latest Spanish regulation, which has also been adapted to the university environment.

Through the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities (CRUE), a cooperation agreement was signed with the Santander Bank and the Spanish Confederation of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises. The agreement enabled sixty-one students to carry out paid placements in small and medium-sized companies.

The job bank received 2,918 job offers from companies and institutions and 3,082 new students and graduates signed up. These figures bring the total since 2005 to 26,640 students and graduates and 14,664 companies, which accounted for 37,959 job postings.

In this academic year, a total of 130 students carried out in-company placements abroad. One hundred

and nineteen students came to the University of Barcelona on placements. Of these, 44 were from international universities, 39 from other universities in Spain and 36 were secondary students.

The **University Orientation Program** helped students design their professional career and develop and strengthen their skills. The Program also provided advice on job searches.

The **Training in Professional Competences** program attracted 1,273 students with its 43 face-to-face courses and online Job Hunting Techniques course.

The **Club de Feina** job club received 1,037 visits. Of these, 502 people received guidance from the counsellors and made use of the technical tools and other resources available, while 535 attended the sixteen talks organized by the Club. Club de Feina continued to offer individual interviews to students from all schools and faculties, to provide guidance on job hunting, personal development, continuing education or course changes, and for secondary school students (from upper secondary or vocational training levels) to assist in decisions on university courses.

UB schools and faculties also carried out **careers activities** for professional development. Careers days for incoming students continued to be offered by some faculties, and specific professional guidance activities and talks were organized, such as the simulation of brief job interviews, a talk on job opportunities abroad, and a talk on how to write a curriculum.



### The UB Unit Integration Program

The **UB Unit Integration Program** supports diversity and offers assistance for UB students with special needs, aiming to provide equality of opportunity to the entire student body.

Once again, the University of Barcelona had the greatest number of students with special educational needs in the area of higher education offered face-to-face in Catalonia. The UB enrolled 116 new students with some kind of disability in the academic year, bringing the total to 555.

The UB devised a series of **personalized plans** aimed at students with special educational needs, and prepared a catalogue of actions and resources to provide assistance with their academic development. To meet the needs of these students, the UB also carries out various activities through the **Fem Via** program. These include the design of welcome plans, the provision of advice and support during studies, initiatives to promote accessibility, awareness raising actions, and careers advice. In addition, technical and personal assistance is provided,

including interpreters, students to provide support to individuals needing help to follow classes or get around the campuses, digital recorders, FM transmitters and receivers for headphones, carbonless notebooks, and adapted software programs.

With respect to other services and institutions, the UB prepared numerous reports on the adaptation of course syllabuses and access to teaching content, on raising awareness of specific issues, and on the removal of architectural barriers to increase the accessibility of faculties and schools. The UB manages financial assistance from the Agency for the Administration of University and Research Grants (AGAUR). It also collaborates in the coordination of the National Network of Disability Support Services at Universities (SAPDU) and with institutions such as the Adecco Foundation, the Prevent Foundation, FSC Inserta, the Universia Foundation, the Manpower Foundation, Sifu and Ecom to offer our students a range of job opportunities for individuals with special needs.

Collaboration continued with the Hospital Clínic of Barcelona as part of the agreement signed in the



“Today’s society is evolving at an extraordinary rate. Professionals entering the job market must have the ability to work and lead this highly dynamic process in an increasingly globalized context.”

Daniel Navajas Navarro,  
professor, Faculty of Medicine

academic year 2010-2011 to provide state-regulated educational activities and intellectual and cognitive stimulation for UB students between 18 and 30 years old who need to spend long periods in hospital. A similar agreement was made this year with the Catalan Institute of Oncology (ICO).

### Student participation

On 26 April 2011, elections were held to select student representatives for the various governing bodies in which they participate: the UB Senate, each faculty’s or school’s management board, and the academic councils for each degree. There was a notable rise in the number of candidates and in participation, which stood at 10.16%.

### UB Alumni

After two years of providing services for graduates, UB Alumni has over seven thousand members and a Council of Notables, currently made up of 48 leading figures from the world of culture, the arts, economics, politics and more.

Since its inception, UB Alumni has created 27 clubs segmented by professional interest, sector, function or region, run by over one hundred volunteers and



Valentí Fuster at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual UB Alumni Symposium

increasing the University of Barcelona’s presence in wider society. The clubs help former students to find others with similar professional interests, thus promoting networking among the community of UB alumni. Over the last year, one particular focus was to create international clubs in cities such as New York, Paris or countries such as Portugal to increase the influence of UB graduates.

The UB Alumni agency continued to work with the Grup Promotor de l’Emprenedoria Social de Catalunya, a Catalan group promoting social entrepreneurship, and organized a total of 81 activities, sponsored by the various clubs or the agency itself. The events attracted the participation of more than 2,000 people.





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“The teaching staff has to impart knowledge, skills and abilities, and our attitudes must convey respect for others, a strong work ethic, and solidarity with society. This helps us to prepare high-quality professionals and responsible citizens.”

**Creu Palacín Cabañas,**  
tenured lecturer,  
Faculty of Biology

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# 3

## A university at the forefront of education

Academic course offering

Additional academic  
opportunities

Support services for teaching

“Above all, we have to cultivate a passion for knowledge and professionalism and the values associated with them. The use of reason, argument and dialogue is linked to the advancement of knowledge, and the university must always transmit a commitment to reflection.”

Josep Maria Esquirol Calaf,  
tenured lecturer,  
Faculty of Biology

## Academic course offering

With the design and approval of the new **EHEA bachelor's degree** Communication and the Culture Industry, the UB has completed its EHEA plan of bachelor degree studies within the framework of the European Higher Education Area, consolidating its offering of 64 EHEA bachelor's degree courses for the academic year 2012-2013, with the discontinuation of the Basic Medical Sciences course. In addition, the university has worked on the definition and establishment of tools and an internal quality assurance system (IQAS) for the new curricula, enabling us to measure performance and quality on a regular basis.

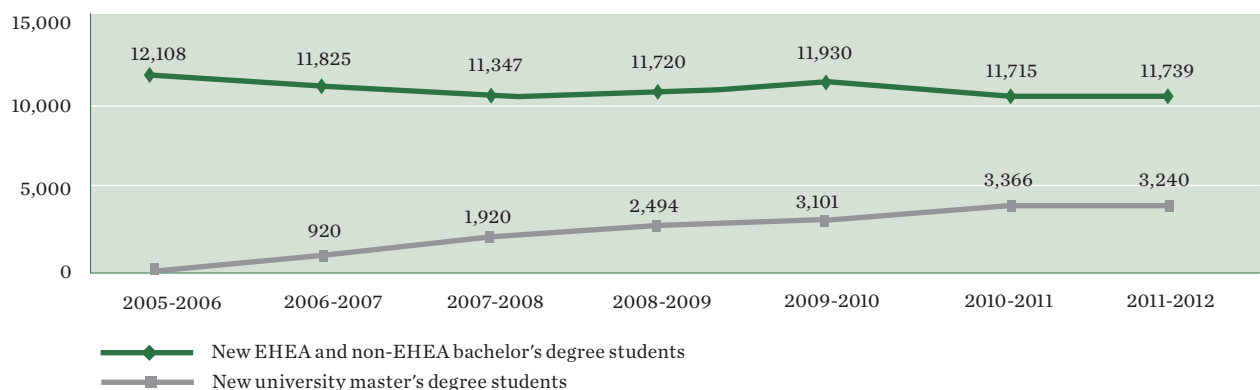
In the area of **non-EHEA undergraduate degrees and official bachelor's degree courses**, the UB received 16,377 first-place applications for 10,494 places during the academic year 2011-2012, putting the demand ratio for places at 1.56. The highest

[The ESCAC, a university school affiliated to the University of Barcelona], is confirmed as the largest breeding ground for the Spanish film industry, with the final projects of 13 students [fourth-year students of the degree in Film and Audiovisual Media] to be screened at the San Sebastian Film Festival.

*El País*  
30 August 2011

numbers of first-choice applications were received in Medicine (1,772), Business Administration and Management (1,388), Nursing (974), Primary Education (951) and Psychology (806). The total number of enrolled students in UB schools and faculties stood at 47,446, including 11,739 first-time students.

New students enrolling in non-EHEA degrees, bachelor's degree courses and university master's degree courses





Education adapted to the EHEA

33,853

students enrolled on the 65 bachelor's degree courses offered in 2011-2012 (including UB-affiliated centres)

A total of 150 **university master's degree courses** were offered, adapted to the requirements of the European Higher Education Area. Enrolment on these courses stood at 5,484 students, with an additional 243 at UB-affiliated centres. By numbers of students, the most popular courses were Teacher Training in Obligatory Secondary and Upper Secondary Education, Vocational Training and Languages (281), Women, Gender and Citizenship (153), Advanced Chemistry (118), Critical and Emergency Care (141) and Management of Cultural Heritage (105). These numbers include 1,620 international students (28.3% of the total), who come predominantly from Latin America and, in the case of Europe, from Italy.

The total number of students enrolled in non-EHEA degree courses and EHEA degree courses stood at 6,382, while the total number of students in university master's degrees courses reached 2,765.

The UB also submitted proposals for new university master's degrees, and other existing ones were approved, which brings the total expected offering to 138 university master's degrees for the academic year 2012-2013.

The UB offered 137 **UB-specific postgraduate diplomas**, 32 courses offering **certificates of attainment** and 137 **UB-specific master's degree**



Historic Building

**courses**, with 3,204, 287 and 5,086 students respectively, 19.1% of which were international students.

The UB's **university extension** program offered 53 courses with 925 students enrolled.



Our commitment  
to international  
reach

28.3%

of university  
master's degree  
students are  
international

### Students in UB-specific master's degree courses, postgraduate diplomas and extension courses

Study area	Master's degrees	Postgraduate courses	University extension courses
Arts and humanities	160	78	243
Social and legal sciences	943	548	159
Experimental sciences and engineering	100	125	199
Health sciences	1,649	677	86
Education sciences	257	169	8
ICE	134	65	–
IL3	1,843	1,829	204
UB-Affiliated centres	–	–	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,086</b>	<b>3,491</b>	<b>925</b>



Faculty of Law

### Grants and other financial aid

The UB received and managed 17,153 applications for **general and mobility grants for students to pursue non-EHEA degree courses, bachelor's degrees and university master's degrees**. A total of 9,696 awards were made. Total grant funding stood at 27,863,528 euros. Of this amount, 10,298,415 euros corresponded to tuition exemption, 1,905,716 euros went to general mobility assistance, and 1,418,052 euros provided special mobility assistance. The remaining sum of 14,241,345 euros assisted the purchase of books and helped to cover students' travel costs, accommodation and other expenses.

In addition, the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport awarded 163 **department collaboration grants**, for a total of 440,100 euros. A total of 408 **collaboration grants for services and units** were awarded, amounting to 1,938,603.51 euros in funding, and the **DRAC program (Vives Network)** awarded 39 grants.

The Spanish financial assistance program for student mobility, **Seneca**, awarded 57 grants totalling 263,820 euros. With respect to other **mobility programs**, 443 grants were awarded

Our commitment  
to international  
reach

33.6%

of doctoral  
students are  
international

### International reach of the student body<sup>1</sup>

Studies	International students	% of total
Non-EHEA bachelor's degrees	802	4.9
Bachelor's degrees	2,040	6.0
University master's degrees	1,620	28.3
Doctoral programs	1,572	33.6
UB-specific master's degree courses, postgraduate diplomas and extension courses	1,799	17.9
Master's degrees	1,198 (23.6%)	
Postgraduate diplomas	444 (12.7%)	
University extension courses	157 (17.0%)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,833</b>	<b>11.2</b>

<sup>1</sup>This includes students at UB-affiliated centres, ICE and IL3.

within the European Union, 22 for the rest of the world, and 62 for specific student exchanges. In addition, 2 exchange grants were awarded in relation to the Eurolife university network for master's students in Biomedicine. An additional 25 Santander international mobility grants provided 83,000 euros in financial assistance for students involved in international exchange programs.

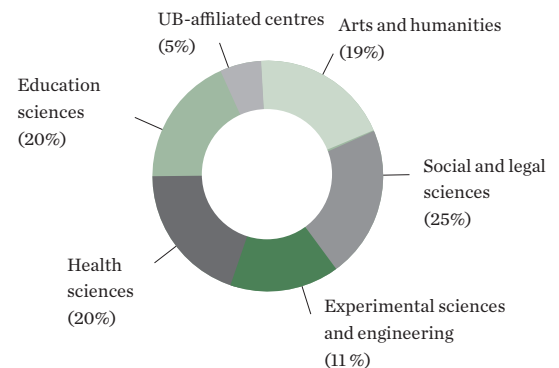
In the context of the **SICUE national mobility program**, the UB signed bilateral agreements with 48 Spanish universities and offered a total of 3,048 places. The University of Barcelona ranked second in Spain for participation in and financial support for national mobility programs.

The UB welcomed a total of 1,926 visiting students on **short placements**: 1,746 took part in interna-

A presentation of medals and diplomas of sporting merit was held at the Aula Magna Enric Casassas of the faculties of Physics and Chemistry, University of Barcelona, honouring 140 university athletes who are completing their studies.

*Mundo Deportivo*  
2 March 2012

### Grant awards for non-EHEA degree courses, bachelor's degrees and university master's degrees



## Grants

Grants awarded	Number	Amount (€)
General and mobility	9,696	17,565,112
Department collaboration	163	440,100
Seneca mobility grant program	57	263,820
Collaboration with the UB	408	1,938,604

Other financial aid	Number
DRAC program	39
Mobility program	465
Specific exchange programs	62
Eurolife network grants	2
Santander international mobility grants	25

tional exchange programs, while 180 received international exchange grants.

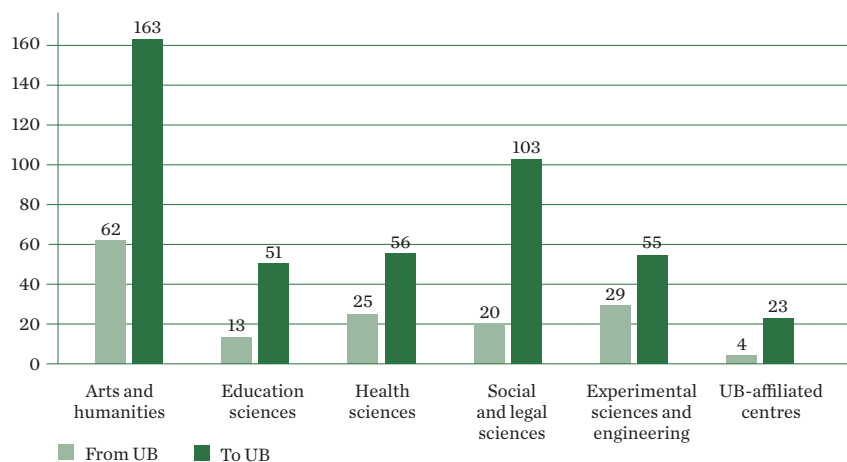
A total of 32 mobility grants for university master's degree students provided 41,730 euros in financial assistance. The breakdown of recipients was: Artistic Creation: Realisms and Environments (2), Crimi-

## International students on short placements at the UB

Exchange programs	Students
Interuniversity Centre for Development (CINDA)	13
Erasmus	1,156
Erasmus Mundus Action 1: Joint degrees	12
Erasmus Mundus Action 2: Associations	10
Coimbra Group	4
Bilateral agreements	125
Specific US programs (Study Abroad)	321
Individual applications	180
Grants and financial aid	
MAEC-AECID	83
Carolina Foundation	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,926</b>

nology and Sociology of Criminal Law (1), Conservation and Restoration Project Management: Collections and Heritage Ensembles (1), General and Applied Ecology (3), Environmental Management and Restoration (1), History and Culture of Food (6), Biomedical Engineering (1), Music as an Interdisciplinary Art (8), and Psychogerontology (9).

## Students in the SICUE national mobility program



“In terms of the teaching staff, the University of Barcelona provides all of the means required for my education: excellent teachers, hospital practicals... I think, looking to the future, that having access to all of this will make me a strong professional.”

Jennifer Montoliu Górriz,  
student, Medicine

## Additional academic opportunities

The UB’s **Institute of Lifelong Learning (IL3-UB)** has continued to work to **change the methodology of teaching practices** by shifting toward professionally-oriented activities. The aim is to improve participants’ employability by increasing their work experience during training.

The formation of a **teaching and professional senate** is one of the main ways of ensuring that the new model is implemented. This initiative involves the creation of a space for information, training, cohesion and display for all teaching staff at the Institute.

As part of a professionally oriented approach with course offerings focused on employability, the **tutorial model** was redefined, as was the contribution of the tutor to each of the stages in which he/she is involved (design, teaching and concluding the program).

The teaching model could only be developed with the support of technological learning environ-



Mundet Campus

ments. One of the IL3-UB’s main objectives was the development of the **Education Platform**, to incorporate new collaborative social trends into the learning environment. To achieve this, work was carried out in the following areas: the creation of a new IL3 community, the promotion of videoconferencing as a key learning tool, the implementation

### IL3 students

Type of course	Open courses			Corporate solutions	
	Students	Courses	Hours	Students	Courses
Face-to-face learning	2,692	117	2,824	75	5
Blended	667	34	370	746	27
Distance	9,478	239	7,555	3,713	48
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,837</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>10,749</b>	<b>4,534</b>	<b>80</b>



“One of the highlights of the UB is its School of Modern Languages, which offers a lot of different language courses to help students who, like me, want to improve in a second language. These courses are fairly inexpensive for people who study at the UB.”

Marisa Farré Rull,  
student, Communication  
and Cultural Industries



of a new system for creating class groups and coordinating student enrolment, and the completion of the second stage of migration to Moodle 2.2.

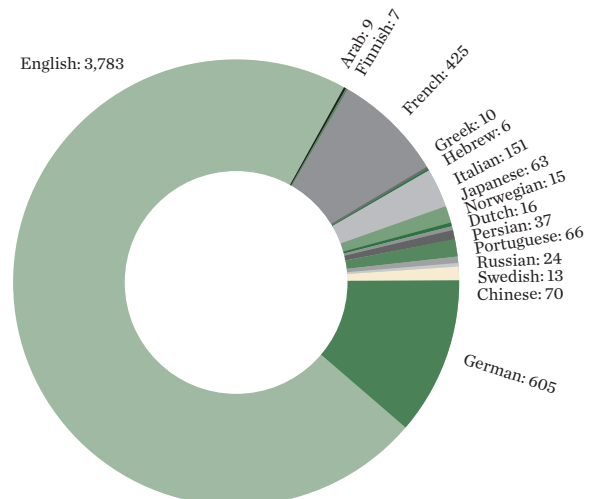
In the area of **Corporate Solutions**, the IL3 continued to work towards the objectives established in the academic year 2010-2011. These include improving the school’s general standing and creating new opportunities for training projects in companies and organizations that have at least 250 employees. As a result, the number of visits to new users has increased. This has helped to promote the Corporate Solutions IL3-UB brand (in more than two hundred and fifty organizations) and led to the creation of various specific training projects for companies. This activity has also had an impact on client management, leading to the identification and creation of new training programs to meet objectives and the continuation of existing programs with increased client loyalty.

The **School of Modern Languages (EIM)** offers foreign language instruction to the university community and to public and private institutions. It has a wide range of courses and over six decades of experience. Tailored programs are available for the workplace, within the context of the Council of Europe’s Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

In the **Educational Programs** area, the school offered periodic courses in 16 languages during the academic year, including Arabic, Chinese, Dutch,



Students at the School of Modern Languages.  
Academic year 2011-2012



## Our commitment to language education

# 16

foreign languages taught in the School of Modern Languages



English, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, Persian, Portuguese, Russian and Swedish. The total number of participants was 5,284 students and 70 teachers. In addition, the EIM carried out 4,482 level tests, 12 credit recognition examinations, 128 language accreditations and 286 official examinations.

In the **corporate solutions** area, the school taught a total of 67 courses specifically tailored to meet each group's needs (31 for outside companies and 36 for members of the university community). The number of students stood at 533.

For sixty years, the **Institute of Hispanic Studies** has been providing education in Spanish language and culture to visiting students. The institute organizes and delivers Spanish courses to students taking part in the Erasmus program or studying at the UB under other bilateral agreements, as well as running examinations for the Diploma in Spanish as a Foreign Language (DELE) offered by the Cervantes Institute. The Institute also designs, organizes and teaches courses for groups with specific needs or requirements.

During this academic year, enrolment in the Institute reached 2,239 students. Of these, 383 students were Erasmus exchange participants, while 680 students took part in the 60th edition of the Course in Hispanic Studies, Language and Culture for Non-Spanish Speakers. A total of 16 intensive language courses attracted 333 stu-

dents. Other courses on offer included Spanish as an instrumental language and Spanish for specific purposes, for example Spanish for Economics and Business, Conversational Spanish, Written Spanish, Reading Short Texts in Spanish, Spoken Spanish for Everyday Situations and Spanish for Negotiations in Professional Contexts. Lastly, 343 candidates enrolled in DELE preparation courses.

**Catalan Language** learning provided by the **UB Language Services (SL)** took the form of year-long, one-term and intensive summer courses at the CEFR levels A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 and C2. Successful students can receive official certificates of accreditation from the Catalan government as well as recognition of free-elective ECTS credits. Catalan language training is also available to members of the teaching and research staff (TRS), with a view to sitting the official language examination for university teaching staff. Administrative and service staff (AdSS) can attend specially designed courses and sit the official Catalan language examinations. A total of 110 courses were offered in 2011-2012, attended by 1,338 students.

Under the **UB's Plan for Languages**, the Virtual Campus introduced a new self-access activity for learning languages with the help of the Rosetta Stone program. The activity began in the previous academic year and is aimed at students, teaching and research staff and administrative and service staff. In the 2011-2012 academic year, it attracted

Our commitment  
to society

283

students in  
the University  
of Experience

the participation of 1,200 individuals from different groups (946 students, 116 AdSS, 89 TRS and 29 others). Self-access language centres promoted conversation groups in English, with the participation of 1,290 students; French, with 22 students; German with 30 students; as well as 19 international students of elementary Catalan. Participation in language exchanges totalled 276 students, and involved 14 languages.

During the summer, the UB held the sixteenth annual **Els Juliols** summer program. A total of 703 students enrolled in 22 summer courses led by 316 teachers.

In parallel, the UB organized the fourth annual **University of Barcelona International Summer School (UBISS)**, a program featuring a range of courses in Spanish and English. Students representing 19 nationalities took part. In addition, the UB was involved in the fourth annual Summer School on the 'Management of Creativity in the Innovation Society', run jointly with HEC Montreal, and the course 'Sexual Orientation Law', run jointly with Whittier Law School and the Williams Institute at the UCLA School of Law in Los Angeles. In total,

466 students and 183 teaching staff took part in 12 courses.

One of the fundamental purposes of the University is to make knowledge and culture available through university extension courses and lifelong learning. In this pursuit, the UB completed the second year of our programs offered under the new **University of Experience (UdE)**. The programs are aimed at anyone over 55 years of age and there is no educational prerequisite. A total of 283 students enrolled, of which most were women and the average age was close to sixty. In this edition, the School of Modern Languages organized a lifelong learning course in English and UB Sports organized a physical activity course and a Chi Kung course. The UB took part in FiraGran and the fourteenth edition of the Saló de la Gent Gran de Catalunya.

#### Students involved in additional academic opportunities. Academic year 2011-2012

School of Modern Languages	5,284
Hispanic Studies	2,239
Language Services (SL)	1,540

“One of the best resources we have is the library. It has excellent academic resources, facilities, support staff, services, and virtual access options like the scientific journal database.”

Lila Gonçalves Oliveira,  
student, European Master  
on Work, Organizational  
and Personnel Psychology

## Support services for teaching

The **Learning and Research Resources Centre (CRAI)** spans eighteen libraries and seven cross-university units to provide access to information resources and services and **collaborate in learning and knowledge creation**.

CRAI supports teaching and research staff in the management and provision of information resources and services that help them in their work. This includes advice on the creation of materials, publication of materials, copyright issues, the use of teaching platforms and tools, and **teaching and research innovation**.

This year, CRAI began a pilot project to foster the **dissemination of scientific publications** by our teachers and researchers, and continued work on the **expansion of the digital library**, adding new collections to the Memòria Digital of Catalonia and the Cervantes Virtual Library.



### CRAI – Library collections

Reserves	Total	Acquisitions in 2011
Books <sup>1</sup>	1,484,794	36,651
Periodicals <sup>1</sup>	57,087	24,418
Databases	370	–
Other materials	117,106	4,872
<b>Services</b>		
Library users		5,229,492
Loans		934,775
<b>Inter-library loans (UB document request service)</b>		
Requests issued		8,046
Requests received		26,837
Catalogue queries received		28,018,038
Online periodical queries received		592,668
<b>Facilities</b>		
Total surface area (m <sup>2</sup> )		38,518
Single-user reading desks		6,525
Computer terminals for public use <sup>2</sup>		723
Photocopy machines		35
Microform readers/printers		69

<sup>1</sup> Includes paper and online formats added by acquisition or donation.

<sup>2</sup> Includes laptop computers.





“The teachers are required to have thorough knowledge of the subject they teach and to use the best teaching methods to stimulate learning. They must also have the skills required to motivate students to study and carry out their own research. The student’s responsibility is to be fully involved in the learning process and to become increasingly independent in their learning habits.”

Margarida Peya Gascóns,  
tenured lecturer,  
School of Nursing



In addition, all CRAI libraries continued to run desks to welcome incoming students, and there was an exponential increase in the participation of CRAI trainers in official UB courses to provide students with information skills.

CRAI drew on the resources of the UB’s libraries to prepare and collaborate in **exhibitions and project** of interest both within and outside the University.

The University of Barcelona sees teaching quality as one of its primary objectives. The **Teaching Improvement and Innovation Program (PMID)** is committed to continuous improvement in teaching, giving impetus and support to teaching innovation and activities that enable the exchange of teaching experiences. The objectives of the program are to

stimulate teaching innovation by giving financial assistance and methodological support to teaching innovation projects; to provide structure and cohesion to teaching staff at the University who are involved in teaching improvement by recognizing and consolidating teaching innovation groups; and to contribute to the dissemination, exchange and extension of experiences in teaching innovation and improvement.

To mark twenty years since the first call for teaching innovation projects (PID) at the UB, a **Teaching Innovation Conference** was held, with the participation of around forty Spanish universities.

The UB provides financial support for **teaching innovation projects (PID)**. In 2011, 107 projects received a planned total of 60,000 euros to pursue teaching innovation. A total of 850 members of the teaching staff are involved in these innovation projects.

With respect to **innovation groups**, 71 consolidated teaching innovation groups received accreditation, and 7 teaching innovation groups achieved recognition. A specific call for funding for consolidated teaching innovation groups took place.

The **Institute of Education Sciences (ICE)** provides academic and cultural training for individuals who undertake educational tasks. The Institute performs this service through encouragement, constant guidance, and an analysis of the work of



the university, in order to improve performance. The ICE analyses the training needs of teaching staff and devises proposals in response to this analysis, promotes and fosters educational innovation, provides guidance and advice on research, coordinates its own research activities, provides consultancy services, publishes materials and disseminates good practices, and creates training materials in various media. Enrolled students numbered 9,314, attending courses taught by 409 educators.

In the area of **teaching assessment**, the UB continued to use its **online student questionnaire** for the student body on subject content and teaching methodology in EHEA bachelor's degree and university master's degree courses. Across the different modules and semesters, a total of 138,526 individual questionnaires were collected, representing a response rate of 22%.

The UB also maintained its paper-format **opinion survey** on non-EHEA degree courses. This survey

was given to 967 groups of students and the response rate was 33.4%. Consequently, a total of 21,971 surveys were completed and processed.

This year also marked the ninth formal **assessment of teaching activity at the UB**, with the participation of 80% of tenured UB lecturers in assessment procedures, of which 98.2% were favourable.

#### ICE activities

Training activities	Students enrolled
Lifelong learning for teachers in early childhood, primary, secondary, and vocational education and for teachers in other related areas of community education	4,657
Online training	600
University teacher training	3,884
Postgraduate courses and master's degrees	173
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,314</b>



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“One of the fields with the most potential and in which the UB is very strong at the moment is biomedicine. The UB should define strategic actions to achieve its full potential in teaching, research and innovation in biomedicine and healthcare.”

**Daniel Navajas Navarro,**  
professor,  
Faculty of Medicine

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# 4

## A university leader in research

Research

Technology, knowledge  
and innovation transfer

Doctoral studies



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The CAVE virtual reality project put forward by the University of Barcelona, with researcher Mel Slater, allows for the creation of a 3D environment that permits the user to view and participate in a computer-generated artificial world.

*El Mundo*  
30 November 2011

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## Research

**B:KC** Barcelona  
Knowledge  
Campus



The UB remains committed to being a quality research-intensive university. Every year, the UB strengthens its position as the leading university in Spain in terms of scientific output. It is also among the top European universities in this area, as shown by its membership of the League of European Research Universities (LERU) since 1 January 2010. The University of Barcelona was selected to host LERU's 10th anniversary last May. This event placed the UB among the elite universities worldwide, as delegates from the best universities in Australia, China, Europe and the United States attended. International reach is essential to maintain excellence in research.

Despite the current climate, the UB has opted to boost research, and to optimize and invest the resources needed to maintain and improve the level of excellence in the experimental sciences, health, social sciences and the humanities. In 2011, a total



LERU'S 10th anniversary

of 187 predoctoral fellows joined the UB in the FPU, FPI, FI and APIF calls for grants, and this year thirty-four new APIF grants were announced. Collaboration grants were continued and research support technicians were maintained, co-financed by the Funds for the Promotion of University Research and the research group. The UB has focused on incorporating new talent by boosting the numbers of researchers in the Ramón y Cajal, Juan de la Cierva and Beatriu de Pinós programs. In 2012, there were 79 researchers in these categories. In addition, thirty-six grants to strengthen research activity were awarded to the most dedicated researchers; forty-seven grants were given for the organization of scientific meetings; and thirty-one grants were awarded to foster participation in international research projects. The implementation of the work plan for academic staff (PDA) is a great step forward, as it helps assess UB lecturers' commitment to research, so that departmental tasks can be delegated more effectively.

In terms of internal funding mechanisms, program-contracts have been maintained with university schools, faculties and institutions, and a considerable amount of funding has been received through the ICREA program (ICREA Senior and ICREA Academia). Some UB institutes have been assessed externally with a view to improving the use of resources. At the international level, our researchers have maintained their ability to obtain competitive funding. This is reflected by the increase in financing between the Sixth and Seventh EU



“The University of Barcelona can be characterized by its desire for constant improvement, by its compulsion to learn and by its capacity for interdisciplinarity and cooperation – qualities that are essential in research.”

**Rut Pedrosa Pàmies,**  
student, doctoral program  
in Marine Sciences



Framework Programmes. In the calls for European Research Council starting and advanced grants, six UB projects were accepted, of which three are currently in the second evaluation stage. The Horizon 2020 program marks the start of a new phase for Europe, and the UB's membership of LERU means that it is in a good starting position. This year, the UB took part in thirty-four LERU meetings, four of which were organized by the university itself. At some of these meetings, participants contributed actively to the European Union's Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs) and European Innovation Partnerships (EIPs) for the future.

In terms of infrastructure, the UB acquired facilities with financial assistance from the Ministry that amounted to a million and a half euros. The UB Science and Technology Centres carried out an optimization and restructuring process to improve the quality and competitiveness of their research infrastructure. Furthermore, the UB has joined various Spanish and international networks and continued to work on research infrastructure in conjunction with the Barcelona Knowledge Campus (BKC) and the Health University of Barcelona Campus (HUBc).

There has been a notable improvement in the main indicators of scientific activity in the area of social sciences and the humanities, in the number of projects, publications, six-yearly salary increments, and the number of teaching staff who are actively involved in research.

In addition, the number of publications in open access journals increased. The UB already held a leading position in this area in the Catalan university system and has addressed this area of activity through a number of channels, including collaborations with the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and ongoing work with LERU; indeed, the development of open access in research was the interdisciplinary topic covered by the third LERU Doctoral Summer School, held during this academic year.

Activities that highlight the University's social reach include the publication of UB research in the media

“The University of Barcelona’s greatest strength in research are the people who make up the research groups: the quality and educational capacity of veteran researchers combined with the competitiveness and rigour of the more recent members.”

Creu Palacín Cabañas,  
tenured lecturer,  
Faculty of Biology

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A study published in *The Journal of Neuroscience* co-authored by Carlos Costa and Jordi Escera Faidella, lecturers of the Department of Psychiatry and Clinical Psychobiology, University of Barcelona, among others, reveals that the rhythmicity of sound plays a fundamental role in the auditory system’s diminishing neuronal response to repetitive stimulation. Data obtained by the research team shows that our neurons relax when we are certain not only of what sound we will hear but also of when it will be heard.

*Diario Médico*  
20 December 2011

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via the Atomium Culture platform, work in progress to redesign the research website, and the University’s position on issues such as gender, technology transfer, open access and research assessment, as described in joint publications with LERU, of which ten were written this academic year. UB students also participated in LERU activities such as the Doctoral Summer School (two students) and the Bright Students Conference (ten students).

Under the UB Management Plan, the University has fostered the creation of new research centres and institutes, to strengthen our interdisciplinary focus and coordinate the research of groups whose work is related to one another. At present, the University has 11 research institutes, 2 university institutes, 11 research centres and special research centres,

### UB research institutes, research institutes in which the UB participates, and associated research institutes

#### UB research institutes

- Institute of Biomedicine of the University of Barcelona (IBUB)
- Institute of Cosmos Sciences (ICC)
- Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (IN2UB)
- University of Barcelona Institute of Theoretical and Computational Chemistry (IQTUB)
- University of Barcelona Biodiversity Research Institute
- Water Research Institute
- Research Institute of Applied Economics (IREA)
- Institute for Research on the Brain, Cognition and Behaviour (IR3C)
- Institute for Research on Medieval Cultures (IRCU)
- Nutrition and Food Safety Research Institute (INSA)
- Geomodels Research Centre

#### Research institutes in which the UB participates

- AgriGenomics Research Centre (CRAG)
- Centre for Ecological Research and Forestry Applications (CREAF)
- August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS)
- The Catalonia Institute of Energy Research (IREC)
- Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC)
- Institute of Biomedical Research (IRB)
- Bellvitge Institute for Biomedical Research (IDIBELL)

#### University research institutes

- University of Barcelona Institute of Mathematics (IMUB)
- University Institute of Ancient Middle East Studies (IPOA)

Scientific output **4,068** scientific publications collated by the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI)

10 observatories and 3 documentation centres. In addition, the UB participates jointly with other institutions in 7 research institutes, an observatory and 2 interuniversity institutes.

As part of the program-contract, the Vice-Rector for Research allocated 1,149,568.07 euros to research centres, 624,599 euros to UB research institutes and 90,041.60 euros to observatories and documentation centres.

The UB held a **call for grant applications** for social sciences and humanities research projects. A total of 19 awards amounting to 150,000 euros were allocated for this purpose. In addition, 47 awards totalling 55,060 euros were given for the organization of scientific meetings.

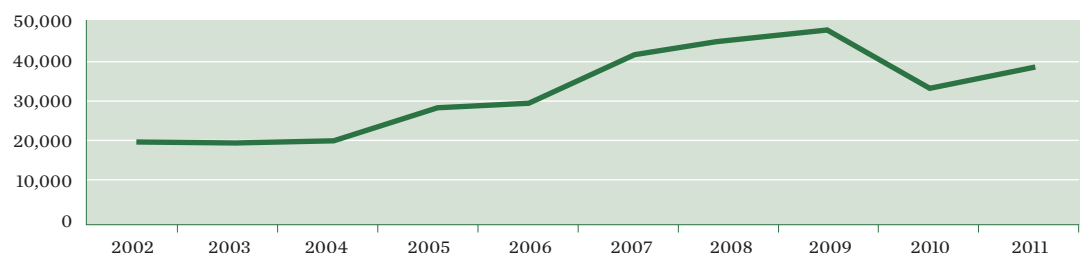
As part of the Incentive Program to strengthen research activity, the University of Barcelona gave 36 financial assistance awards to support research activities in strategic areas pursued by the UB's own teaching and research staff.



**Income for UB research in competitive calls**

	Calls	Amount (€)
Projects and special activities	403	24,915,435
Infrastructure	13	1,658,849
Grants	209	11,216,998
<b>Total</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>37,791,282</b>

**Evolution of income from research activity in thousands of euros**







UB Science Park

Within the National Agreement on Research and Innovation and the new Research and Innovation Plan, the following **research groups** were involved in the 2009 call for grants: 243 consolidated research groups, 22 emerging research groups, 14 project-specific groups, 33 groups managed by IDIBAPS, 10 managed by IIDIBELL and 16 by other participating institutions.

With respect to the **scientific output of UB researchers**, the international databases of the Institute for Scientific Information recorded 4,068 scientific publications. Of this total, 3,429 figured in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCI), 522 appeared in the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) and 117 featured in the Arts & Humanities Citation Index (A&HCI).

In 2011, **income from research** at the 19 UB faculties and schools stood at 37,791,282 euros for a total of 625 research activities. This amount includes national and European projects, infrastructure and other funded projects. Of special note are eight projects with the ICREA Academy pro-

gram aimed at creating financial and other incentives for research excellence among research staff in the public universities of Catalonia. The eight ICREA Academy projects represent 3.5 million euros.

The total number of signed **agreements** stood at 421, while the income from research-related agreements, which numbered 102, stood at 2,503,420 euros.

In 2011, the UB signed 18 European projects as part of the **Seventh Framework Programme of the European Commission**, for a total amount of 4,922,676.18 euros.

The **Barcelona Science Park (PCB)** promotes innovation and knowledge transfer by focusing on the relationship among the University, public research organizations and businesses. It is an environment in which public research and business innovation share the same space and have common objectives. The PCB has worked for over ten years to create a quality environment,

## Research and technology transfer

# 76,338,729

euros of UB Group income from research and technology transfer



with a commitment to infrastructure and advanced services that add value and provide competitive advantages to its users. As a result, it now houses more than 2,000 professionals, 57 private firms, and 26 institutions and other public organizations, and brings together 84 research groups and scientific services in support of research.

Most of the building work on the **PCB's infrastructure** has been completed, to provide a total floor space of over 86,000 m<sup>2</sup>. In 2011, a new, 15,000 m<sup>2</sup> car park was opened, with 14 charging



### UB Group income from research and technology transfer

<b>Research projects</b>	<b>52,107,358.86</b>
UB	24,915,435.16
IREC	1,522,310.00
IDIBAPS	16,616,871.12
IDIBELL	5,847,162.64
IBEC	1,585,882.86
IRB	1,619,697.08
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<b>1,658,849.09</b>
<b>Other grants</b>	<b>11,216,997.75</b>
UB agreements	2,503,420.01
FBG agreements	2,002,421.62
FBG contracts	6,849,681.73
<b>Total</b>	<b>76,338,729.06</b>

points for electric cars. A new cafeteria/restaurant was fitted out, and the new laboratories in the Cluster Building were equipped to house some of the research activities of the companies Laboratorios Esteve SA and Kymos Pharma Services.

Of the 92 users housed in the PCB, 3 are large research institutes, 7 are research centres, 16 are other organizations, 57 are companies and 9 are PCB-associated entities.

The PCB provides cutting-edge infrastructure for **scientific research** in the fields of biomedicine, biotechnology, nanobioengineering and pharmaceutical chemistry. In total, it is comprised of seven technology platforms and three scientific support services.

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Scientists at the University of Barcelona have discovered that the brain stem, the part of the brain that connects the cerebral hemispheres with the spinal marrow and previously thought to be passive, is involved in language disorders, such as dyslexia and speech impediments.

*La Vanguardia*  
27 January 2012

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The **National Centre for Genome Analysis (CNAG)** has completed work on its DNA sequencers, which has allowed it to achieve a sequencing capacity of up to 600 Gbases/day. This makes the CNAG one of the three leading centres in Europe for sequencing capacity.

The CNAG offers a wide range of genomic applications and its members have developed new protocols to optimize costs and increase the quality of the results. As part of its scientific activity, in 2011 the CNAG continued to contribute to the success of Spanish involvement in the International Cancer Genome Consortium, through its participation in the chronic lymphatic leukaemia project.



#### PCB – Santander Bioincubator 2011<sup>1</sup>

Research data	
Number of research projects in competitive calls	10
Value of research projects in competitive calls (in thousands of euros)	2.58
Number of publications	14
Industrial property data	
Number of trademarks	6
Total applications for patents	9
Number of patents in use	22

<sup>1</sup> Information on companies in the incubator and in the post-incubation period.

The CNAG collaborates in other sequencing projects in areas as diverse as rare and minority diseases, host-pathogen interactions, the preservation of endangered species, evolutionary studies and the improvement of species of interest to agriculture, in collaboration with scientists from universities, hospitals, research centres and biotechnology companies. Currently, the CNAG is participating in 13 competitively-funded research projects, mostly European, and has established collaborations with 36 institutions, both public and private, that are interested in large-scale sequencing projects.

In the area of **innovation**, notable projects include the **PCB – Santander Bioincubator**, a space designed

“The technical staff must provide quality support for research and teaching by employing personnel with backgrounds that are appropriate for the task at hand – people with a broad knowledge of the field in which they work and a commitment to continuous innovation and renewal.”

M. Dolors Barsó Romeu,  
administrative and service staff,  
Thin Section Service

to facilitate the creation of new technology-based companies. The Bioincubator provides scientific and technological infrastructure and business management advice for development and growth in the initial stages of a company’s life span. In 2010, the Bioincubator was home to 18 companies at different stages of maturity. By 2011, eight companies had left the project and begun a “post-incubation” period, in which they continued their activity in the PCB. Two companies were no longer in business and three new companies had joined the third-generation group. Consequently, in 2011 there were a total of 11 companies in the PCB-Santander Bioincubator.

One of the principal activities carried out as part of the **Red Emprendia** network was the Allotjament d’Empreses program to house businesses. The aim

of this program is to support small and medium-sized university spin-offs that form part of the network, and to increase the knowledge and skills of their entrepreneurs, technicians and professionals. In addition, the Aprenta a Emprendre enterprise learning program began, which aims to foster entrepreneurship and the creation of businesses through the organization of short training exchanges between companies in the network.

Other research and innovation-related projects include: the **consultancy and training service** that the PCB provided for the design and creation of the Future City Science and Technology Park in Ecuador; the launch of the **Barcelona Business Ready** program as the first business centre in Spain that is specialized in life sciences; and the **Summer School on Medicines**, organized by the PCB, the Toulouse Cancer Campus, and the Paul Sabatier University in France, with the collaboration of Biocat, the University of Montreal and the Montreal InVivo cluster.

The LinkedIn group **Comunitat PCB** was created to facilitate communication and network projects among members of the PCB community and to increase the competitiveness of companies and public research institutes housed in the PCB. In this area, the ABCEurope project met the target of setting up the Tools of Science Europe portal, to boost the high added value technology offer among European small and medium-sized biotechnology companies.



UB Science Park





In the area of scientific **scientific communication and dissemination**, the PCB has continued to carry out projects aimed at fostering scientific culture in society at large and stimulating informed social debate on research topics, particularly in the life sciences, through the media, the website, and communication activities aimed at the public. A total of 4,579 people participated in activities organized in this area. As part of the **Research in Society** program, in which participants attend PCB-sponsored activities, new portals were set up to reach schools that cannot be present in person. The online activities were based on two European education projects: Nanoyou, a dissemination and education project on nanotechnology; and Xplore Health, a module on drug development. In 2011, the Nanoyou portal received 156,596 visits from over seventy countries, including Spain, Italy, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Portugal, the United States, Japan, India, Australia, Turkey, China and Canada.

The **Science and Technology Centres (CCT)** provide advice on experimental techniques and are equipped with the latest scientific instruments to support research and innovation in the fields of chemistry, materials science and the biosciences. Their mission is also to act as intermediaries in university-business relations and to promote innovation and technology transfer through agreements and research, development and innovation projects with industry. The CCT also participate in training through the organization of technology courses and

seminars and the Centres are members of international and European research support networks.

The CCT constitute one of the most extensive mid-sized science and technology infrastructure facilities in Spain and in Europe, with highly-qualified technical staff, and the broadest range of characterization technologies. These are grouped in technological units which include all kinds of microscopy and advanced characterization techniques, nuclear magnetic resonance, mass spectrometry, chemical spectroscopy, high-performance biotechnology, radiological protection, and animal facilities.

The CCT brings together a total of 36 technical units, which occupy more than 12,000 m<sup>2</sup> on four of the UB's six campuses, and have a staff of 170 highly qualified technicians.

In the area of **accreditation and certification**, the CCT renewed the ISO 9001:2011 certification held by the former SCT since 2005. In compliance with the quality standards underpinning accreditation and certification, the CCT carried out a **user satisfaction survey of public institution clients**, on which it was given the final score of 8.42 out of 10. The animal experimentation units and the radiological protection unit are in the process of obtaining ISO accreditation.

In addition, the CCT renewed the Xarxa IT TECNIO accreditation (originally obtained in 2001). This

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A dating of rock paintings located in 11 caves in northern Spain has determined that they are so old that they may not be the work of modern humans but of Neanderthals. One of the authors of the work, Joao Zilhao, [is an] ICREA researcher at the University of Barcelona.

*El Periódico de Catalunya*

15 June 2012

Published in *The Guardian*, 14 June 2012

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accreditation, which was created by ACCIÓ, brings together all the main experts in applied research and technology transfer in Catalonia.

The CCT is entered in the Catalan government's Register of Agri-food Laboratories as a recognized lab. It also obtained recognition from the **US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)** as a contract laboratory for drug trials.

During 2011, the CCT continued to grow and consolidate user numbers: in total, it had nearly **1,200 different principal users** in research groups affiliated with the UB or with other public institutions or private companies. Its industry clients are from a wide range of sectors, including the pharmaceutical, cosmetics, chemical, environmental, health, food, automotive and energy sectors.

The CCT carried out work for **453 principal researchers** in projects managed by the UB (affiliated to 57 different departments), for 434 principal researchers at 89 other public institutions and for 283 clients from a total of 232 companies in the private sector, including 196 based in Catalonia and 60 who were first-time users. Maintaining the trend of recent years, the majority of these private-sector clients came from small and medium-sized companies.

CCT **income** for projects and services provided in 2011 rose 12% over the previous year to **4.8 million euros** (excluding VAT). By **economic sector**, the highest levels of work came from pharmaceutical companies (44%), chemical products for food (19%), scientific, technology and biotechnology research (29%), minerals and metallurgy (1%) and health-related laboratories and associated consulting (6%).

During 2011, the CCT consolidated the growing trend of staff participation in **value-added projects**, solving analytic problems beyond the standard provision of services in a total of 60 projects for 32 private-sector companies and 20 research groups from various public institutions.

Of particular note is the **CCT facility for nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) imaging**, which is recognized by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation and managed directly by the CCT. An annual grants program helps researchers gain access to the high-field NMR equipment, and

“One of the UB’s greatest strengths is research. Having great researchers and scientific equipment as well as some of the best science and technology centres in Spain are the foundations on which the UB’s success lies.”

Luis Escribano Sánchez,  
administrative and service staff,  
Office of Research Management

### Science and Technology Centres (CCT)

Personnel	170
Value of scientific equipment (in millions of euros)	41.11
Surface area	12,000 m <sup>2</sup>
External companies	232
Users	1,170
Internal users (principal investigators)	453
Total income (in millions of euros)	4.85

In the area of university-business **contracts and agreements** in 2011, the CCT took part in the CDTI project, as part of the large-scale project ‘New approach to the antioxidant capacity in vivo of various fruit extracts and the search for applications to improve human health’. In addition, the CCT is working with the Bioibérica company to carry out nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy. It has made a quality agreement with Boehringer Ingelheim Spain and a confidentiality agreement and subsequent service provision contract with the Private Foundation for Textile Innovation in Igualada.

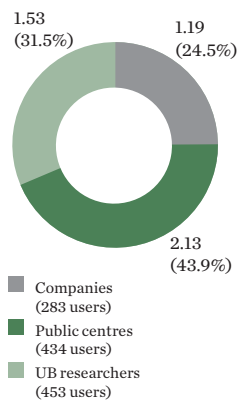
enables the facility to enhance and expand its equipment portfolio.

In collaboration with the **Barcelona Knowledge Campus (BKC) campus of international excellence**, and as part of the University 2015 Strategy, the CCT planned a temporary placement program to enable some 23 students in vocational or advanced-level training to join various CCT units. The students will receive six months of training in a leading science and technology centre.

To **inform** researchers of newly installed equipment, the CCT organized a series of **informative and training activities**. In 2011, the **first meeting of the Spanish Molecular Interactions Network** was held. The aim of this Network is to bring together and increase the critical mass of groups and researchers who use techniques such as surface plasmon resonance, calorimetry and related techniques.

In addition, the CCT made a cooperation agreement with Expogràfics for the use of images from the Electron Microscopy Unit in a travelling exhibition entitled ‘Vida Diminuta’, shown at the CosmoCaixa in Madrid and Barcelona. An agree-

**Total income 2011  
(millions of euros)  
by user group**





ment has been made with the National Art Museum of Catalonia (MNAC) to analyse, identify and characterize constituent and added materials in samples from works of art.

Finally, since 1994 a specific cooperation agreement has been signed annually to maintain and operate the Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory of the Catalan government's Department of Culture.

Internationally, as part of the **European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures**, the Electron Cryo-Microscopy Unit participated with one of the associate centres in the Instruct-FP7.EU program. The Confocal Microscopy Unit participated in the Euro-BioImaging program as a member of the Spanish Network on Optical Microscopy (REMO), while the Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Unit took part in the NMR project for Structural Biology (Bio-NMR).

The **UB's Bioethics Committee (CBUB)** assesses and prepares reports with mandatory guidelines on bioethics and evaluates the ethics of research

projects at the Barcelona Science Park. Sixty-eight reports were drawn up in 2011. In addition, CBUB collaborated with AGAUR to assess the ethics of applicants for Beatriu de Pinós grants, which are awarded by AGAUR (123 research projects). It was also involved in organizing the eighth Meeting of the Network of Ethics Committees in Universities and Public Research Centres in Spain, organized by the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC).

In 2011, CBUB began to evaluate the ethics of and, where necessary, authorize research for doctoral theses that involves experiments with humans or human tissue samples. The aim is for trainee researchers to become aware of and respect the basic ethical requirements in research.

The CBUB's educational tasks include providing information and advice on request for UB lecturers, researchers, departments and faculties, to comply with the Committee's communiqué on student participation in research and on the UB's research practices.



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A leukaemia drug patented by the University of Barcelona has been the first from Spain to pass the initial phase of a clinical trial.

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*El Periódico de Catalunya*  
28 February 2011

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## Technology, knowledge and innovation transfer



The **Bosch i Gimpera Foundation (FBG)** is the UB Group body that contributes to achieving the **third mission of the University**. It is a pioneer in building rapid, direct connections between the University and the new requirements and realities of society. The FBG forms a link between the University, business and society to transfer UB research results to Group UB entities in different ways: research on contract, collaborative research, valorization and patent licensing, and the creation of knowledge-based companies.

In the area of **research on contract**, in 2011 the FBG continued to carry out activities to encourage companies and institutions to collaborate with UB research groups. In particular, knowledge transfer has been fostered in the humanities and social sciences, which is why two of the seven symposiums organized this year were aimed at these sectors.

The **contracts and agreements** established by researchers with the private sector or through public calls in Spain or Europe represented a total income of 28,849,478.58 euros from 686 contracts.

In terms of the **management of research projects** funded by the European Commission, over 200 proposals were presented in 2011, of which 38 were funded amounting to 12.21 million euros. The UB coordinates four of these projects.

In the area of **valorization and patent licensing**, seven license agreements were signed for a total of



166,400 euros (corresponding to 12 license agreements in 2011 and previous years), seven patents have entered national phases in Europe, the United States and Japan, and four software technologies have been registered in the intellectual property records, with the business secret deposited with a public notary.

### FBG contracts and agreements

	Number	Amount (in thousands of euros)
Projects	353	8,924
European projects	38	12,209
Collaboration agreements	241	2,002
Program and service management	54	5,715
<b>Total</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>28,850</b>



UB Science Park

The following **technologies** were **licensed** in 2011: automated quantitative analysis of ultrasound to detect neonatal brain damage; smart software for gathering clinical data; regulation of the production of taxol and other taxanes in cell cultures of *Taxus baccata*; the therapeutic use of peptides that activate Pi3K; new immunotherapy compounds; prolyl oligopeptidase enzyme inhibitors and the synthesis of maleimide oligonucleotides.

A total of 18 priority patent applications were made and fifty invention proposals. Nineteen joint ownership agreements have been negotiated and signed with other institutions, and 11 UB technologies have been selected in Genoma España's Inno-cash program.

Entries in the ACCIÓ Valortec Contest included 84 projects from all of the Catalan universities and research centres. Of these, two UB projects that had been supervised by the FBG won first and second prize: Lightelligence by Dr J. Carreras (the Catalonia Institute of Energy Research), and NanoWire-Less by Dr D. Prades (Faculty of Physics). In addition, the UB technologies enerGmotion (electric energy generator from small oscillations), Wide ALZ treatment (multifunctional Alzheimer's disease-modifying compound) and a cold-resistant plant were selected for the Aeschylus philanthropic platform, which is promoted by the Catholic University of Leuven as part of LERU. These technologies are available to potential philanthropic investors.

### Valorization and patent licensing 2011

	Number
Invention proposals	50
Priority patent applications	18
International patent applications (PCT)	22
National phase patents	7
Active transfer projects	96
Projects with valorization support	15
License agreements	7

The FBG **supports entrepreneurs and the creation of knowledge-based companies** within the UB Group. In 2001, the FBG provided advice on 36 projects that addressed new entrepreneurial projects and business plans, Bioincubator companies and participating companies. With the FBG's support, the companies VCN Biosciences (created in 2009 by researchers from the Catalan Institute of Oncology) and ImmunNovative Developments (a UB spin-off founded in 2010) obtained 1.2 million euros in Neotec loans, and the company Iproteos (a UB spin-off established in 2012) received Inncoopora-TU and Inncoopora Torres Quevedo grants. The Endoasic Technologies business project, which is supervised by the FBG and associated the Faculty of Physics, won second prize in the BioEmprenedor XXI program.

In 2011, three companies (of which two are spin-offs) joined the **Bioincubator**: one moved on to the



next stage and two folded and left, bringing the year-end total to 19 companies in the Bioincubator.

Through the company **Innovative and Scientific Culture (CIC-UB)**, the FBG is responsible for monitoring spin-offs in which the UB has a stake. In 2011, CIC-UB became a shareholder of a new company. As a result, the UB holds shares in 6 active companies through the CIC-UB.

In the area of **promoting knowledge transfer and innovation**, contents have been designed and drawn up for a new space on the UB web and intranet, and the website for the Centre for Innovation and Advanced Technologies of the UB (CITA-UB) has been designed.

To **market the UB's research, development and innovation offerings**, the FBG contacted 214 companies, from which 106 requests were received for research on contract. As a result, 88 proposals were drawn up by UB research groups and 36 budgets were sent for research projects. This activity led to 17 new contracts. Over 190 Spanish and international companies were contacted to offer them our patent-protected technology, and over 30 confidentiality agreements were signed.

To promote the UB's scientific and technological offering, UB research services have been grouped by business sector, and catalogues have been created to describe the areas of expertise of UB research groups and centres, the areas and centres that are

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Experts discover the oldest DNA regulatory region known to date in vertebrates and invertebrates. The article was co-authored by Jordi Garcia-Fernández, Ignacio Maeso, Manuel Irimia and Salvatore S'Aniello, from the Department of Genetics and the Institute of Biomedicine of the University of Barcelona.

*Science Daily*  
19 September 2011

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part of the CITA-UB, and the technologies that are available for license. The FBG also attended over 20 national and international trade fairs, as well as conventions, conferences and seminars on the subjects of innovation and technology transfer.

In relation to **promotion** activities, the fourth edition of **Promotion and Management of Innovation in the Company** was taught. The aim of this postgraduate diploma is to train professionals to help small and medium-sized enterprises to find new business opportunities and to be more competitive through technological innovation and mobility.

Various activities have been carried out for the **Centre for Innovation and Advanced Technologies of the University of Barcelona (CITA-UB)**: a governing council has been formed, a director appointed, promotional materials published and a website designed. This Centre is comprised of 11 expert UB research groups that have extensive experience in collaborating with companies and TECNIO quality recognition from the Catalan government.

In 2011, the FBG began to contact the various Catalan **clusters** identified by ACCIÓ, as well as **Connect-EU** groups, to incorporate UB research groups and reference network research groups into these bodies, and to work in different sectors to draw up new collaborative projects at Spanish and European level.



Faculty of Medicine

The FBG manages five of the **Catalan government's** eight **reference networks for research**. It is also responsible for the **UB Entrepreneurship Chair**, with which it leads the **University Entrepreneurship Network (XEU)** whose aim is to foster the entrepreneurial spirit in the Catalan university system, promote innovative ideas and generate knowledge for assessing university entrepreneurship. The XEU is formed by the principal public universities of Catalonia. In 2011, it organized workshops, seminars, a summer campus and an entrepreneurship forum at its member universities.

In 2001, the BKC and HUBc received funding in the context of the **international campus of excellence**, within the former Ministry of Education's subprogram Strengthening Public-Private Collaboration, promoting entrepreneurship and technological development. This funding is for one-year contracts for cover staff, so that 3 UB lecturers can work full-time on the creation of a technology-based company.

In the area of **dissemination**, 2011 saw an increase in the number of conferences organized by the FBG to promote the various forms of knowledge transfer. These events were attended by nearly 400 people.

The fourth annual **Prizes of the UB's Board of Trustees and the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation** were held to recognize the best knowledge transfer project (Antoni Caparrós Award) and the most innovative business (Senén Vilaró Award). The winners were Dr Josep Perelló Palou, lecturer in the Department of Fundamental Physics, for the project "Espai Laboratori: Àmbit de Ciència d'Arts Santa Mònica" (Laboratory Space: Arts Santa Mònica Science Area), and the company ENANTIA, SL, which was formed in 2003 and is one of the first spin-offs that the UB has a stake in via Innovative and Scientific Culture (CIC-UB).

In 2011, **Inventum** was presented; the first board game to be created by a Spanish university. The "Inventum" project itself has been financed by the former Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology at the Ministry of Science and Innovation through its grant calls for the promotion of scientific culture and innovation. The aim of the game is to bring its players closer to the spirit of research at its finest and to demonstrate the knowledge transfer process through some of the main scientific, technological and humanistic advances of the 20th century.



“The university must ensure that its research equipment is renewed and maintained in order to achieve maximum cooperation with research institutes, particularly those the University of Barcelona belongs to.”

Daniel Navajas Navarro,  
professor, Faculty of Medicine

## Doctoral studies

On 16 December 2011, the Governing Council unanimously approved the foundation of the Doctoral School of the University of Barcelona (EDUB), with the aim of improving the quality of researcher training, scientific output and the doctoral theses read at the UB.

During the academic year, the UB offered a total of 71 **doctoral programs**, all adapted to the EHEA. This represents a process of stabilization and adjustment in the UB's doctoral studies.

Enrolment in third-cycle studies stood at 3,752 students. Of the total, 35.6% were international students. The number of students preparing their doctoral theses totalled 929. Of this number, 237 (or 25.5%) were international students.

A total of 31 UB doctoral programs received Pathway to Excellence Awards in 2011. These awards are issued by the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports, after an assessment by ANECA, in recognition of the quality of doctoral programs offered by Spanish universities.

The **number of doctoral theses** read during the academic year was 566.

The UB continued to promote online publication of doctoral theses and the University's regulations were revised to increase open access publications and support the movement. In addition, abstract files must now be completed for submission to the Teseo database.

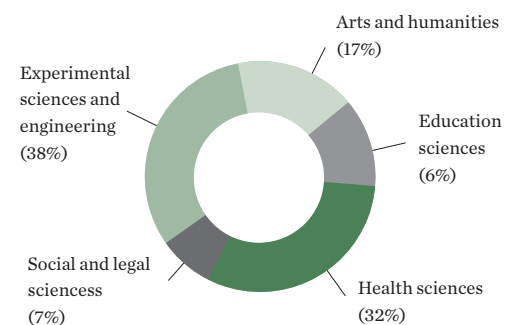
The UB processed 327 applications for **doctoral qualifications**. The number of special awards to doctoral students was 61.

The distribution of **third-cycle grants** for the academic year is listed in the table below. Bodies giving grants included the Spanish Ministry of Education (ME), the Catalan government (GC) and the University of Barcelona (UB).

With respect to **mobility grants for students in doctoral programs expecting to receive Excellence Awards**, in 2011 the UB processed 32 applications and awarded 24 grants with a total value of approximately 84,000 euros.

In addition, the UB processed 5 applications for **financial assistance to obtain the title of 'European Doctor'**. Of these, 4 students received financial assistance totalling approximately 15,300 euros.

### Doctoral theses read. Academic year 2011-2012





Faculty of Chemistry

A university leader in research

**Distribution of third-cycle grants given by Spanish Ministry of Education (ME), the Catalan government (GC) and the University of Barcelona (UB)**

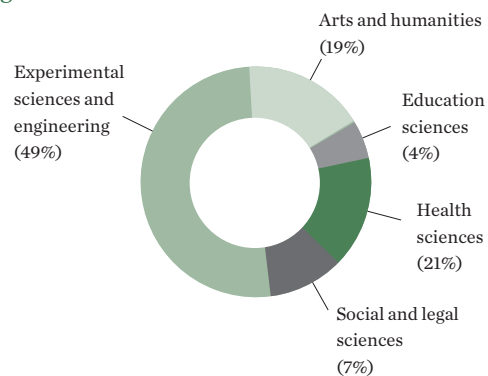
	Grants and contracts		Financial aid for stays	
	Number <sup>1</sup>	Amount <sup>2</sup> (in thousands of euros)	Number	Amount (in thousands of euros)
For training university teachers (MECE) – FPU	257	3,235	49	279
For training research staff (MEiC) – FPI	240	2,954	59	396
For training research staff (GC) – FI	182	2,856	–	–
For trainee research staff (UB) – APIF	223	2,322	40	113
For training researchers, UB-specific program <sup>3</sup>	3	26	–	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>11,393</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>788</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes renewals of existing grants and contracts.

<sup>2</sup> This excludes the total cost of enrolment.

<sup>3</sup> This includes grants from the UB-specific program, ADQUA and FI-G.

**Distribution of third-cycle grants by area and number of grants**





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“Sharing classes with students from all over the world is an extraordinary experience.”

**Lila Gonçalves Oliveira,**  
student, European  
Master on Work,  
Organizational  
and Personnel Psychology

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# 5

## A university with international reach

International institutional activity

Mobility of students,  
teaching and research staff  
and administrative and  
service staff



## International institutional activity

**Internationalization** at home and abroad is synonymous with quality, innovation, prestige and recognition, and it is a key area of university policy at the UB. The University of Barcelona's strategic plan establishes internationalization as one of our central pillars. With our actions, we aim to give greater visibility to international relationships in the university community; strengthen the language skills of members of the university community in order to enable participation in international research, education and mobility projects; and strengthen and diversify the channels between our vice-rectors' offices and the UB's faculties, schools and departments.

Looking outward, our objectives have been to strengthen and expand the image of the University of Barcelona, building on the impact achieved by the designation of the **BKC** knowledge campus and the **HUBc** health campus as international campuses of excellence. Efforts have also been made to strength-



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Barcelona will host the first international congress for Building Peace in the 21st Century, organized by the Letter of Peace Foundation and the University of Barcelona. The meeting aims to make visible the various initiatives and projects taking place in different parts of the world and that are making an extraordinary contribution to world peace.

*ARA Barcelona*  
18 March 2012

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en contacts with and active participation in **international networks**, and to expand the UB's involvement in international projects funded by the European Commission, in particular the Erasmus Mundus program.

In addition, the UB has taken part in international events, including conferences, seminars and other activities of an international character. To further reinforce the institutional aspect of this work, the UB has welcomed international delegations, held a welcome event for international students coming to the UB to study, and organized Erasmus Staff Week, devoted to welcoming administrative and service staff from European universities. The UB manages various mobility programs for students, teaching and research staff (TRS) and administrative and service staff (AdSS) through the International Mobility and Programs unit, while development cooperation with developing countries is channelled through the UB Solidarity Foundation.

“In an increasingly globalized world, having an international profile is a priority objective that universities must set for themselves in order to attract the best researchers, the best students, and the best administrators.”

Luis Escribano Sánchez,  
administrative and service staff,  
Office of Research Management



### Internationalization at Home

Actions to bolster the **visibility of internationalization** at the University of Barcelona included the **3rd Internationalization Seminar**, which attracted more than one hundred participants and twenty speakers from around the world. Discussions and activities over the three days of the event focused on the work of the UB's campuses of international excellence, indicators for measuring and evaluating university internationalization in general, and an overview of the activities in this area carried out by the University of Barcelona.

As part of the Internationalization Seminar, the UB awarded its **Internationalization Prizes**, which acknowledge the work of those individuals who have played a significant role in the process. Prizes were presented to Dr Marc Ruiz Zorilla, a

lecturer in Russian at the Department of General Linguistics and academic director of the Eranet-Mundus project, and Dr David Bondia Garcia, a lecturer in international law and economics, in recognition of their international human rights work, and to Carles Gumí i Prat, director of the University of Barcelona Orchestra, for his efforts to welcome and integrate international students and his successful promotion of the University of Barcelona through music.

To raise the profile and awareness of internationalization efforts at the University of Barcelona, work has continued to highlight activities in this area on the institutional and faculty **web pages**, and a series of maps have been created to display information about the UB's international agreements and contracts and the universities that belong to international networks and consortia in which the UB is involved.

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It appears that cultural practices could be a contributing factor in human evolution, according to a study based on biological and cultural data relating to indigenous Brazilian tribes, with the involvement of several researchers from the University of Barcelona.

*El Temps*  
10 January 2012

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In the area of **language competence**, the UB has strengthened the **linguistic skills** of its teaching and research staff (TRS) and administrative and service staff (AdSS) through a range of foreign language courses.

Sixty-seven members of the TRS took part in training courses designed to facilitate the use of English in teaching activities, and 130 teachers and researchers completed instrumental English courses organized by the Institute of Education Science. Specifically, 297 members of the AdSS attended 66 language courses organized specifically for this staff group or offered through the UB's School of Modern Languages and the university's language immersion program.

The number of students who attended courses subsidized by the School of Modern Languages totalled 114. The aim of attendance was to prepare students to take part in international mobility programs. English, Italian and French attracted the greatest demand. In addition, 379 international students coming to the UB through mobility programs took part in Spanish courses organized by the Institute of Hispanic Studies.

Finally, twelve courses in English and Spanish were organized as part of the International Summer School, which attracted the participation of 183 lecturers and 466 students.

As described above, one of the UB's ongoing aims is to **strengthen and diversify channels** between the

vice-rectors' offices and the faculties and schools. To make this happen, the UB has consolidated the **International Relations Committee**, which brings together staff responsible for international matters at the UB's faculties and schools and affiliated centres, members of the International Mobility and Programs unit and staff from the Office of the Vice-Rector for International Relations.

Strengthening and diversifying the links between different UB bodies also gives rise to collaboration with the **Office of the Vice-Rector for Teaching and Science Policy**, to extend the number of Erasmus Mundus programs in which the UB takes part, and with the Doctoral School, to consolidate the involvement in international doctoral studies. Along the same lines, the **Office of the Vice-Rector for Research** plays a role in a large number of European and international projects.

### **Internationalization abroad**

The Office of the Vice-Rector for International Relations was behind a range of activities aimed at increasing the international presence of the University of Barcelona, some hosted by the UB itself and many held in other countries.

The UB traditionally has a strong international profile, which is apparent from its excellent standing in several international rankings, such as the THE World University Rankings and the QS and Shang-



hai rankings. The UB stands above all other Spanish universities in each of these classifications. The UB's tradition also draws on the location and international renown of Barcelona, the university's home.

The University of Barcelona is a member of the most important **European and international networks**.

As part of the activities of the **Coimbra Group**, the UB took part in the Trans-Doc project, which falls under the Erasmus Mundus program (Action 3). The UB also attended the General Assembly hosted by the University of Göttingen (Germany) and contributed to the meetings of the various working committees.

Representatives of the UB attended the General Assembly of the **International Forum of Public Universities (IFPU)** in Prague (Czech Republic).

As part of its mandate as the presiding university of the IFPU, the University of Barcelona also organized institutional visits to the University of São Paulo (Brazil) and Mohammed V University at Agdal (Rabat, Morocco). The aim of the visits was to generate greater interaction between the institutions and to provide a platform for organizing the next IFPU Rectors' Meeting. In addition, two UB students took part in the IFPU Doctoral Summer Seminar Financial Crisis and Economic Growth: Challenges and Strategies, organized by Nankai University (China).

The UB was present at the Rectors' Meeting of the **International Research Universities Network (IRUN)**, hosted by the Jagiellonian University (Krakow, Poland) and coinciding with the celebration of the network's fifth anniversary.

UB representatives attended the General Assembly of the **European Universities Association**, organized by the University of Warwick (United Kingdom).

As part of its work with the **Mediterranean Universities Union (Unimed)**, the University of Barcelona was represented at the official delivery to European Commission representatives of the for the adoption of a Euro-Mediterranean Erasmus and Leonardo da Vinci program. The UB also attended a meeting between UNIMED members and representatives of the EC Directorates-General for Education and Culture to discuss the changes being introduced across European exchange programs.



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The Faculty of Economics and Business of the University of Barcelona has created the UB Economics platform, to coordinate all departments in this field and help gear them towards attracting foreign students.

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*Expansión Catalunya*  
26 June 2012

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The University of Barcelona's involvement with the **League of European Research Universities (LERU)** is coordinated by the Office of the Vice-Rector for Research. The academic year 2011-2012 saw a number of events organized to celebrate the association's tenth anniversary, in addition to the annual Rectors' Assembly, which was held at the UB on 9-11 May. Representatives also attended several of the working group and committee meetings organized during the year. The 3rd LERU Doctoral Summer School, focusing on open access to education and knowledge, was held on 8-13 July.

The UB also attended the Rectors' Meeting of the **Tordesillas Group**, organized by the University of Lisbon (Portugal), as well as participating in **Universia** meetings, organizing conferences for the **Interuniversity Centre for Development (CINDA)** and continuing to collaborate with the **Ibero-**

**American University Association for Postgraduate Studies (AUIP)** and the **Latin American and European Continuing Education Network**.

The University of Barcelona also hosted the May meeting of the **Consortium for Advanced Studies (CASB)**, during which it officially took over the coordination of this network.

The UB attended and contributed to various meetings organized throughout the year by the **Catalan Association of Public Universities** and the **Spanish Universities' Internationalization and Cooperation Commission**.

The University of Barcelona also maintained a strong **institutional presence at international events** throughout the year. The Office of the Vice-Rector for International Relations increased its involvement in Erasmus Mundus activities to which the UB contributes, including sessions for the following projects: Erasmus Mundus Action 2, **Ánimo ¡Chévere!**, coordinated by the University of Granada, held in Havana (Cuba); Erasmus Mundus Action 3, **Joint Innovation & Synergies in Education and Research–Mediterranean region**, coordinated by the University of Barcelona, held in Tangier (Morocco); Erasmus Mundus Action 2, **Eranet-Mundus**, coordinated by the University of Barcelona, held in Barcelona; and the Erasmus Mundus master's degree **Psychology of Work, Organizations and Human Resources**, held in Barcelona.



“The Erasmus experience gives you confidence and maturity as a person as well as an ability to adapt to different environments and cultures, which can be very useful in your professional career.”

Jennifer Montoliu Górriz,  
student, Medicine

The University of Barcelona also hosted the teaching week of the **Certificate Program in Epidemiology for Health Public Health Managers**, which is organized jointly with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (United States) and universities and institutions across North and South America. The UB hosted the TEMPUS program regional seminar “Towards Equivalence of Higher Education Degrees between the Southern Mediterranean and the EU”, organized by the **Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe (UNICA)**.

The University of Barcelona was also present at the meeting of the board of trustees of the **Confucius Institute of Barcelona**, held in Beijing. Other trustees include the Autonomous University of Barcelona, Asia House and the Beijing Foreign Studies University. Representatives also attended celebratory events to mark the Chinese New Year, organized by the Confucius Institute.

The UB was among the contributors to the working seminar organized between the directors of French education centres in Spain and Portugal, members of the cultural services of the French Embassy in Spain, and management staff of the Agency for French Teaching Abroad.

Finally, a collaboration agreement was reached with the **Ramon Llull Institute** under which Catalan lecturers will be offered temporary positions at foreign universities to teach Catalan language courses.



The University of Barcelona sent delegations to major **international fairs and exhibitions**, as well as providing support to **international conferences and seminars** organized by members of the university community and to Erasmus Mundus master’s programs and other international courses of study in which the UB is involved.

In addition, as part of ongoing institutional efforts to establish and strengthen international relations, the UB welcomed **visiting delegations** from universities as well as foreign consulates and embassies.

#### Participation in international trade fairs and exhibitions

- 23rd Annual Conference of the European Association for International Education (Copenhagen, Denmark) (September)
- EuroPosgrados Fair: Bogota and Medellin (Colombia) (November)



“I am taking a bachelor’s degree at the University of Stavanger, Norway, and had the opportunity to do an exchange semester at another university. Since I began my studies two years ago now, I have never had any doubt about where I would be spending that semester.”

Eirik Ravnestad Eikefet,  
student, Spanish Language  
and Culture, Hispanic Studies

The University of Barcelona also hosted an **institutional welcome event for international students**, organized jointly by the Office of the Vice-Rector for International Relations and the Office of the Vice-Rector for Students and Language Policy. The event drew more than a thousand international students enrolled at a number of UB departments under a range of international mobility programs. In addition, the **UB Solidarity Foundation** oversaw a series of international cooperation actions involving partners in Colombia, Bolivia, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Vietnam.



### Visiting delegations

- Reception for the Ukrainian consul (September)
- Delegation from the Free State of Saxony (Germany) (October)
- Delegation from the Union for the Mediterranean (December)
- Meeting with the delegate of the German Academic Exchange Service and the president of the Alexander von Humboldt Association in Spain (December)
- Southwestern State University of Bahia (UESB) (March)
- Reception for the Haitian consul and a delegation from the University of Haiti (April)
- Delegation from the School of Public Administration of Colombia (April)
- Delegation from Argentinean universities (May)
- University of São Paulo (Brazil) (May)
- Delegation from Unimed (May)
- Delegation from Jawaharlal Nehru University (New Delhi, India) (May)
- Gaston Berger University, Saint-Louis (Senegal) (June)
- University of Montpellier (June)

### International congresses and seminars

- 24th International Conference on Onomastics, of the International Council of Onomastic Sciences (September)
- 1st Ibero-American Meeting of Aware Entrepreneurs (February)
- 2nd International Conference on Integral Health (February)
- Certificate Program in Epidemiology for Public Health Managers (March)
- 13th Colloquium on Tourism Geography, Leisure and Recreation (June)

International  
projection

1,730

agreements signed with  
universities and other  
foreign institutions

## Mobility of students, teaching and research staff and administrative and service staff



### Student mobility

The number of UB students at foreign universities under mobility programs totalled 1,187, which is 10.7% more than last year. The number of international exchange students at the UB reached 1,926, which is an increase of 5.3% on the academic year 2010-2011. In **Europe**, student mobility for study and work placements is largely arranged under the **Erasmus exchange** program. The preferred destinations of UB students were Italy, France and the Netherlands. By contrast, most of the international students at the UB came from Italy, Germany and France. The centres that sent the greatest number of students to foreign universities were the faculties of Economics and Business, Biology, and Philology; the centres that welcomed the most international students were the faculties of Eco-

nomics and Business, Philology, and Geography and History. During the year, 19 students from the University of Barcelona took part in preparatory language courses at European universities thanks to a funding agreement with the EU, with Italian, Flemish and Finnish proving the most popular choices.

University of Barcelona students are offered placements in the **United States** and **Canada** under specific bilateral agreements with different universities in these countries. The number of UB students who took up placements in these countries in 2011-12 was 18.75% higher than the previous academic year. A total of 321 American and Canadian students were welcomed to the UB under the **Study Abroad** program, representing an increase of 13% with respect to the previous year. The faculties that sent most students to universities in these countries were Fine Arts, Psychology and Law, while the largest numbers of incoming exchange students were received by the faculties of Philology and Geography and History, under the Study Abroad program, and Economics and Business, Psychology and Education, under specific bilateral agreements.

The number of exchange students from the University of Barcelona travelling to **Latin America** remained at the same levels as the previous year, while the number incoming exchange students from this region increased by 5%. The majority of these students were offered placements following **indi-**



Our commitment  
to international  
reach

1,926

international students  
under exchange  
agreements

#### Student mobility by program and geographical area, 2011-2012

Program	Students	Europe (EU)	Europe (non-EU)	USA/Canada Puerto Rico	Latin America	M, AC, MED, SSA	Asia and Oceania	TOTAL
Erasmus study programs	UB	903	47					950
	International	1,122	34					1,156
Erasmus placements	UB	74	4					78
Erasmus Mundus Action 1: Joint degrees	UB	19						19
	International	12						12
Erasmus Mundus Action 2: Associations	International				10			10
Coimbra Group	UB	8	1					9
	International	4						4
Bilateral agreements	UB		5	38	55		17	115
	International		1	27	87		10	125
CINDA	UB				13			13
	International				13			13
Individual applications	UB	1	1		1			3
	International	37	3	12	125	2	1	180
Specific US programs (Study Abroad)	International				321			321
MAEC-AECID	International	1	5		60	10	7	83
Fundació Carolina	International				22			22
TOTAL	UB	1,005	58	38	69	0	17	1,187
	International	1,176	43	360	317	12	18	1,926

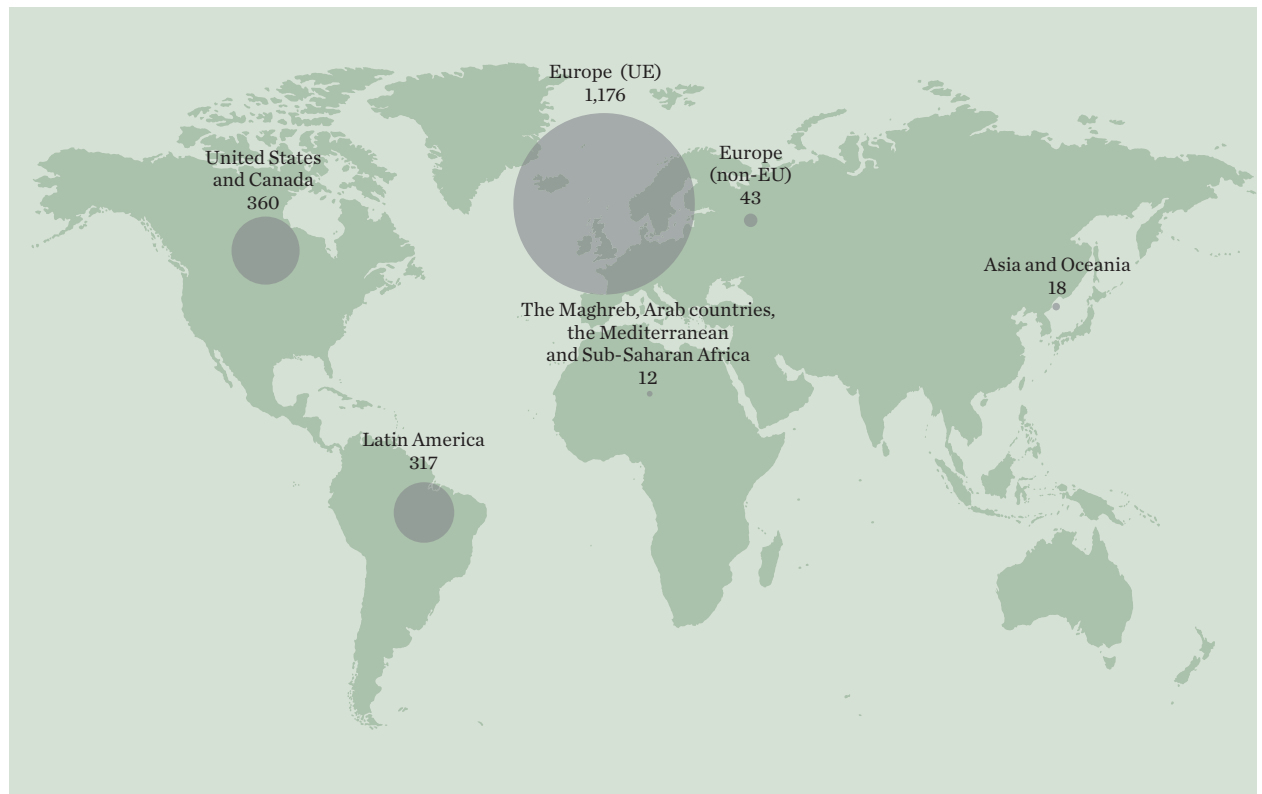
vidual requests or under bilateral agreements, while most of the UB students studying abroad were offered placements under specific bilateral agreements with partner institutions. The preferred

destinations of UB students were Mexico, Brazil and Chile, while the largest numbers of visiting students came from universities in Mexico and Brazil.

“The UB name is a calling card with benefits, having studied there gives me an edge when looking for a job, both here and abroad.”

**Joana Casanovas Lloro,**  
student, Communication  
and Cultural Industries

### International exchange students, by geographical area



Exchange actions with the **Maghreb, Arab countries, the Mediterranean and Sub-Saharan Africa** were carried out mainly under the **MAEC-AECID** scholarship program. Students from a wide range of countries took part in the program, with Senegalese universities the most widely represented.

Student mobility in **Asia and Oceania** during this year was largely organized under **bilateral agreements** between the UB and partner universities. The preferred destinations of University of Barcelona students were Australia and Japan, while the greatest number of incoming students came from universities in China.

Our commitment  
to international  
reach

9,759  
international students from

121  
countries

### TRS and AdSS mobility

Ninety-eight lecturers from the University of Barcelona spent temporary teaching periods at universities in countries participating in the PCI-Iberoamerica program, an increase of 18% on the previous year. A total of 170 UB lecturers spent periods abroad under international mobility programs and 187 foreign lecturers visited the UB.

Under the Erasmus program, fifteen members of the administrative and service staff took up the offer of placements at foreign institutions, in Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Hungary, Iceland, Poland, Portugal and the United Kingdom.

### TRS and AdSS mobility by program

	UB TRS	UB AdSS	International TRS	International AdSS
Erasmus program	53	15	39	27
Erasmus Mundus Action 2: Associations	–	–	4	–
Coimbra Group	–	–	3	
Bilateral agreements (Latin America)				
PCI-Iberoamerica (AECID)	98	11	115	1
PCI-Mediterranean area (AECID)	13		22	
PCI-Africa (AECID)	5		4	
CASB call	1			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>28</b>

The University of Barcelona also organized its second Erasmus Staff Week, which was widely acknowledged by European partners as a highly successful event, drawing 27 representatives from universities in Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania and the UK.

### Other programs. Erasmus Mundus

Under **Action 1** of the **Erasmus Mundus** program, teaching began for the two master's degrees approved in the 2010 call—the updated program of the master's program Psychology of Work, Organizations and Human Resources, coordinated by the University of Valencia, and the European master's degree BioHealth Computing, coordinated by Joseph Fourier University.

Twelve students enrolled on these programs studied at UB during the academic year, nine at the Faculty of Psychology, two at the Faculty of Pharmacy, and one at the Faculty of Medicine.

In the framework of **Action 2** activities, 13 placements at the Faculty of Education were offered to doctoral students, postdoctoral researchers and teaching staff from Argentinian universities as part of the MoE project (A Move on Education), which is coordinated by the University of Malaga.

Under the projects selected for the 2011 call for applications (Eranet–Mundus, between Europe and Russia, which is the first project to be coordinated by the University of Barcelona, and Avempace Syria and Jordan, coordinated by the Technical University of Berlin) placements were offered to 24 students, lecturers and researchers for the academic year 2012-2013.

Under **Action 3**, work continued on the **JISER-MED project for joint innovation and synergies in education and research in the Mediterranean region**, which focuses on strengthening higher education and research across the Euromed area. Scheduled meetings of project partners were held in Amman, Barcelona, Madrid and Tangier.

JISER-MED aims to consolidate cooperation in enhancing the international dimension of quality assurance from a Mediterranean perspective, ensuring the dissemination of successful experiences between partners, improving services for stu-

dents and doctoral candidates at Mediterranean universities, contributing to interdisciplinary policy debate in the region and strengthening relations between European higher education and research.

In the area of **European cooperation in education**, a range of new initiatives were prepared for consideration under the following call for proposals.

For the first time, the University of Barcelona is coordinating two European projects: COST Action. Chemical Approaches to Targeting Drug Resistance in Cancer Stem Cells, directed by Dr Joan Bosch, and the intensive master's degree program History and Culture of Food, directed by Dr Miquel Aramburu. The UB is currently involved in 18 European projects: two as coordinator, and 16 as a project partner. Funding was also secured for Erasmus student mobility placements and Erasmus Mundus master's degrees and doctoral programs.









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