



UNIVERSITAT DE
BARCELONA

Report on the academic year 2014-2015

The University of Barcelona

Report on the academic year 2014-2015

The University of Barcelona



UNIVERSITAT DE
BARCELONA

Editorial Board:
General Secretary's Office
University of Barcelona

Rector:
Didac Ramrez Sarri

President of the Board of Trustees:
Salvador Alemany Mas

 Universitat de Barcelona

Written by:
Rector's Technical Office

Translated by:
Language Services, University of Barcelona

Published by:
Edicions de la Universitat de Barcelona

Legal deposit number: B-28.451-2015

Administrative support for publication:
Edicions de la Universitat de Barcelona
Adolf Florensa, s/n
08028 Barcelona

Contents

Foreword	7
1. A university spanning the centuries and serving the community	9
Strategic vision of the University of Barcelona	
Summary of basic figures	
Territorial distribution of the UB: the campuses and the centres	
2. A university focused on people	23
Services for the university community	
Institutional and cultural activities	
Student services	
3. A university at the forefront of education	41
Academic course offering	
Additional academic opportunities	
Support services for teaching, improvement and educational innovation	
4. A university at the forefront of research	55
Promotion, funding and internationalization of research	
Research and scientific output	
Technology and knowledge transfer and innovation	
Doctorate	
5. A university with international reach	77
International institutional activity	
Mobility of students, teaching and research staff, and administrative and service staff	





It is my pleasure to present the latest edition of the University of Barcelona Report on the Academic Year. As a public university, the UB's pursuit of all its missions—teaching, research, and knowledge transfer—reflects a social perspective and a commitment to the values of freedom, democracy, equality, solidarity and scientific rigour. In line with these core principles, over the course of the 2014-2015 academic year, the University, through the UB Solidarity Foundation, has continued to carry out volunteer, international cooperation and social support actions. The UB has also extended its activities throughout Catalonia to strengthen regional integration, expanded the University of Experience, and developed its web portal on information transparency as a mechanism for ensuring accountability to society.

This social perspective is also reflected in the orientation of UB programmes, such as special bkUB grants and funding for talent retention, which are aimed at strengthening the activities and merits of the university community. These advances have been accompanied by measures to revamp the University's academic structures and administrative organization, approved by the Governing Council in April 2015—an internal modernization process that will make more resources available to support university activities, meet skill needs, and offer new services.

The University has continued to improve its position in the most prestigious international rankings and has taken an important step forward in implementing its humanistic-scientific model with the launch of the new Humanities and Social Sciences Park in Can Jaumandreu and Can Ricart.

All these activities and improvements have been driven by internationalization, a process of outward projection that the University's new logo, a symbol of the UB brand worldwide, is bound to contribute to.

I invite you, then, to read this report, which offers a broad overview of the academic year that has just ended.

Dídac Ramírez Sarrió
Rector



UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA



“The revamping of the University’s academic structures and administrative organization that’s now under way enables us to make changes that pave the way for larger, more interdisciplinary and better-resourced academic and research units within the framework of a more efficiently managed university with greater international visibility.”

David Vallespín, Vice-rector
for Structures and Governance



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

1





Strategic vision of the University of Barcelona

Over the last year, the Governing Council has approved a series of **reforms to the UB's academic and administrative structures**, creating a pared-down model of ten faculties and university schools, halving the previous number of departments, and streamlining management and administration systems.

In the area of university **infrastructure**, the UB has unveiled the Humanities and Social Sciences Park in the 22@ district of Barcelona, which will serve to strengthen innovation and research in the humanities and social sciences, and has begun work on the planned extension of the Faculty of Law. Elsewhere, the Torre de la Creu in Sant Joan Despí has been adapted to house further training courses, and the UB has joined the new public consortium for the management of the Hospital Clínic de Barcelona, in which it will have four representatives, as well as holding the vice-presidency.

As part of a raft of measures targeting compliance with new Spanish legal provisions on **transparency**, access to public information and good governance, the University of Barcelona has created a dedicated **web portal** through which members of the University community and the general public can access key information about its activities and operating mechanisms.

As part of on-going efforts **improve services**, the University has launched GIPE, an application designed to facilitate the management of student placements and to ensure closer coordination of the transition to working life after graduation. Valuable progress has also been made in the development of the UB's e-administration structures.



To generate a more distinctive **public profile** and greater international impact, the University has created a new logo that reinforces its brand image. Work has also continued to erect large-format logos on UB buildings around Barcelona, and new branches of the official UB Store have been opened on university premises and at the Güell Pavilions and Poble Espanyol. Several publicity campaigns have been run in the print and digital media, and a range of advertising materials have been used to promote the University's various courses and modes of study.

The University's two **Campuses of International Excellence** have continued to build. The BKC received the highest possible rating in the latest round

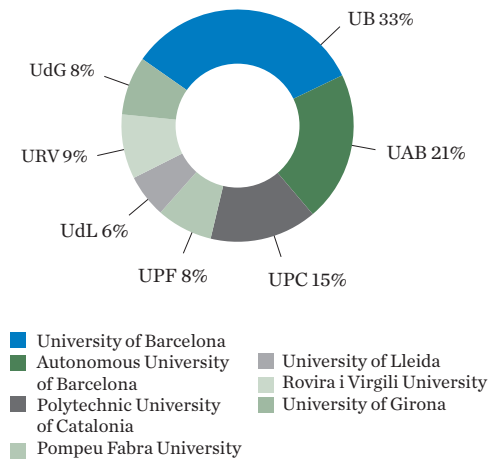
The University of Barcelona took a step forward in its plan to promote humanities studies, with the opening of the first building in the new Humanities and Social Sciences Park it is developing in the Barcelona neighbourhood of Poblenou, at a former factory site known as Can Jaumandreu.

El Periódico, 4-6-2015

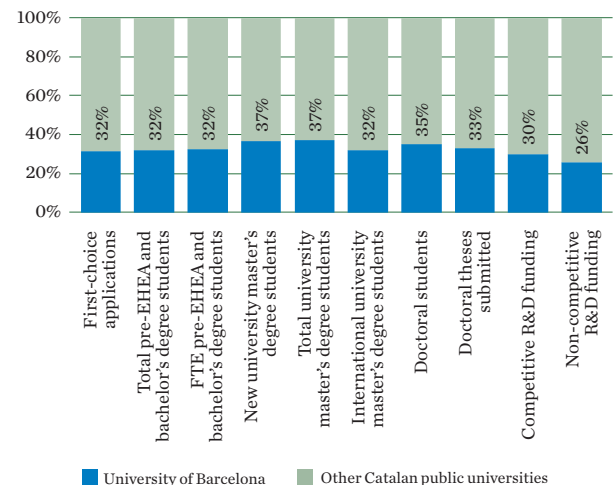
of assessments by the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport, and the HUBc has been further strengthened by the UB's new role as coordinator of an EU Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) for health and ageing, which is based at the Barcelona Science Park.

Finally, as pledged in the electoral programme of the current governing team, the second annual assessment of the **Management Plan 2013-2016** has been conducted, to ensure satisfactory performance in actions and indicators across the University's five core areas of activity. According to the results, 50% of the objectives set out in the Plan have been achieved, 30% will be satisfactorily achieved by the end of the three-year period, and progress towards the remaining 20% has proved slower than planned, in many cases due to insurmountable difficulties arising from the current economic climate.

New bachelor's degree students in face-to-face courses in the Catalan public university system (2014-2015)



The UB in the Catalan public university system



Humanities and Social Sciences Park



Summary of basic figures

Structure

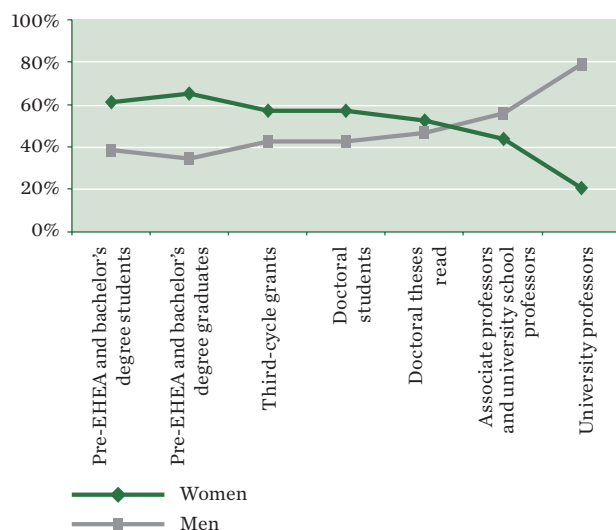
Constructed area (sq m)	676,153
Faculties	17
University school	1
UB-affiliated centres*	7
Departments	106
UB research institutions and centres	25
Research institutes in which the UB participates	10
Inter-university institutes	2
Documentation centres	3
Observatories	10

* 8 UB-affiliated centres during the academic year 2015-2016.

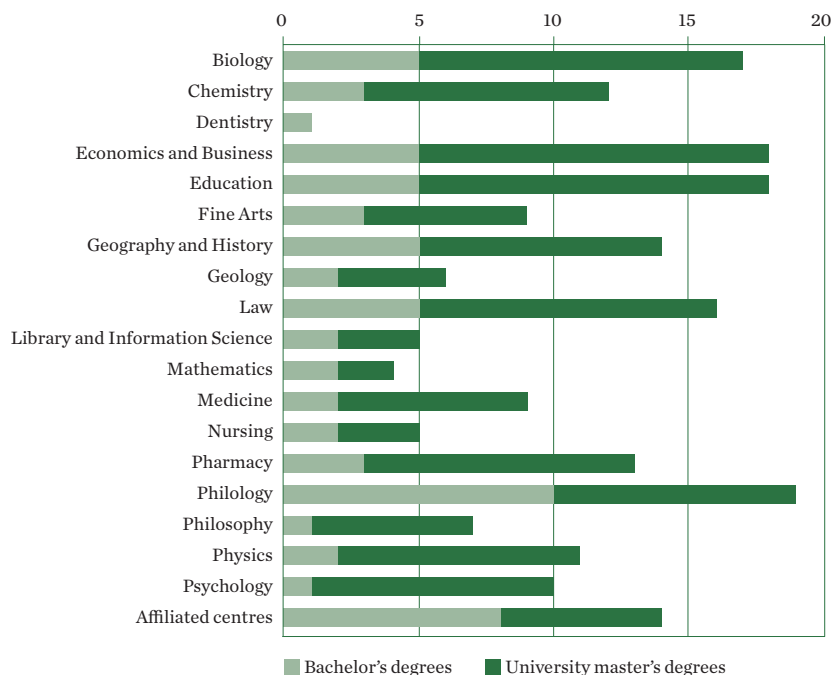
Course offerings 2014-2015

Bachelor's degrees	67
University master's degrees	141
Doctoral programmes	48
Pre-EHEA degrees	1
UB-specific master's degrees and postgraduate courses	654
University extension courses	97
Corporate lifelong learning courses and open courses (IL3)	599

Gender mix at the UB



Bachelor's degrees and university master's degrees





“I hope that apart from training leaders to pursue careers in various professions, the UB also equips people to lead movements aimed at reducing existing disparities (social and economic).”

Francesc Gómez,
University of Experience student

Students

	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	% women
New bachelor's degree and pre-EHEA degree students	10,730	10,746	10,418	60.1
Bachelor's degree and pre-EHEA degree students	46,449	45,336	44,420	61.1
Full-time-equivalent bachelor's degree students and pre-EHEA degree students	38,807	39,077	38,363	61.8
Bachelor's degree and pre-EHEA degree/diploma graduates	7,439	7,582	7,430	65.2
New university master's degree students	3,117	3,011	3,417	62.4
University master's degree students	4,878	4,791	4,865	62.7
Full-time-equivalent master's degree students	3,444	3,106	3,664	62.4
University master's degree graduates	2,661	2,544	2,472	61.8
UB-specific master's degrees and postgraduate courses students	7,783	7,697	8,693	65.9
University extension students	1,146	1,726	2,279	64.5
Lifelong learning students (IL3)	11,610	16,433	14,696	70.8
Students at UB-affiliated centres (pre-EHEA degrees and diplomas, bachelor's degrees and university master's degrees)	3,241	3,251	3,707	55.2
Students in non-curricular placements	2,272	2,992	3,178*	n.d.

* Provisional data



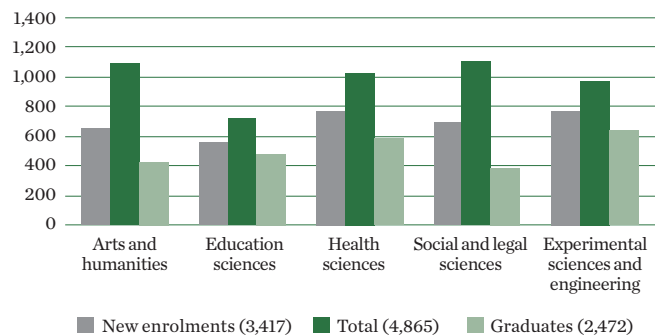


El Carme Cultural Centre,
Badalona

Bachelor's degree and pre-EHEA degree students, by branch of knowledge

	New	Total	Graduates
Arts and humanities	2,151	8,459	1,214
Education sciences	1,509	6,010	1,227
Health sciences	1,925	9,043	1,463
Social and legal sciences	3,241	14,418	2,577
Experimental sciences and engineering	1,592	6,490	949
Total UB faculties/univ. school	10,418	44,420	7,430
% women	60.0%	61.3%	65.2%
UB-affiliated centres	1,123	3,367	553
% women	48.2%	54.5%	58.0%
Total UB	11,541	47,787	7,983

University master's degree students, by branch of knowledge



This does not include students in UB-affiliated centres.

Additional training students

	2014-2015	% women
School of Modern Languages (EIM)	5,331	61.3
Hispanic Studies	1,768	78.8
University of Experience	929	67.0
<i>Els Juliols</i> summer courses	1,168	61.8
<i>Gaudir UB</i> courses	397	71.3

Other students

	2014-2015	% women
Language Services (Catalan courses)	1,103	67.2
Institute of Education Sciences	8,602	73.3
Courses for Senior Citizens	3,877	80.0

Virtual Campus

	2014
Users	65,416
Library users	14,663,484
Teaching material available in electronic format (bachelor's degrees and master's degrees)	1.08

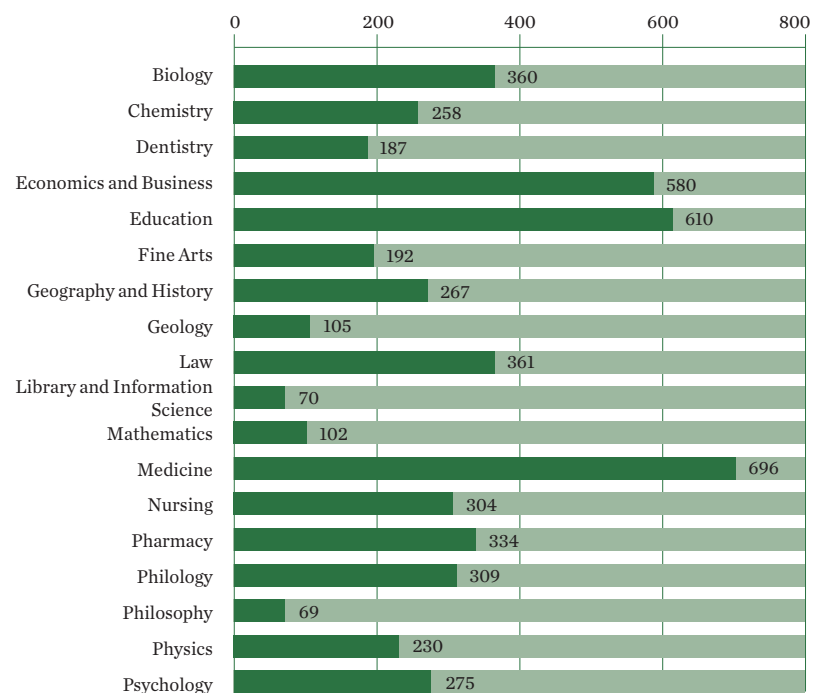


Teaching and research staff (PDI)

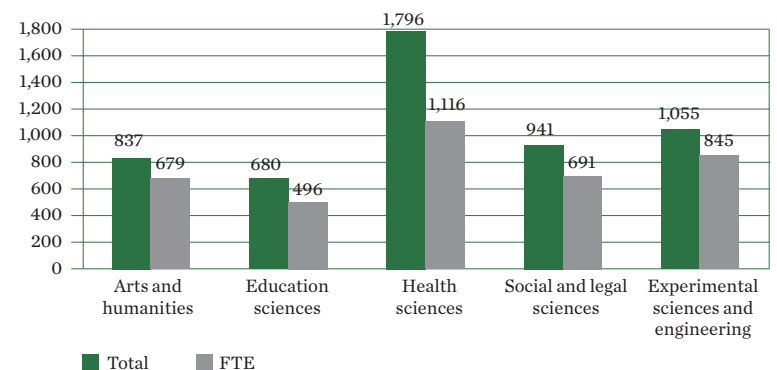
		% women
Total PDI	5,311	45.5
University professors	529	20.8
University school professors	20	60.0
Tenured university lecturers	1,234	43.8
Tenured university school lecturers	168	51.8
Contracted LOU professors	1	0.0
Tenure-track 2 lecturers	368	48.6
Tenure-track 1 lecturers	142	57.0
Temporary lecturers	15	66.7
Temporary full-time lecturers	76	65.8
Adjunct lecturers	1,837	50.4
Adjunct medical lecturers	526	46.0
Assistant lecturers	3	100.0
Other researchers	155	49.0
Emeritus lecturers (early retirement plan)	174	46.0
Others	63	33.3
Full-time-equivalent PDI	3,828.5	45.5
PDI with permanent affiliation*	2,396	40.9

* This includes lecturers (full professors and tenure lecturers), tenure-track lecturers, non-public contracted temporary lecturers and contracted LOU professors.

PDI by faculty/university school



Total and full-time-equivalent PDI, by branch of knowledge



	2013	2014	2015
Teaching and research staff (PDI)			
Total PDI	5,312	5,190	5,311
Full-time-equivalent PDI	3,887	3,796	3,829
PDI with permanent affiliation	2,489	2,420	2,396
Administrative and service staff (PAS)			
Total PAS	2,412	2,352	2,283
Publicly contracted PAS	1,040	1,020	987
University-contracted PAS	1,372	1,332	1,296
PAS/PDI ratio	0.45	0.45	0.43

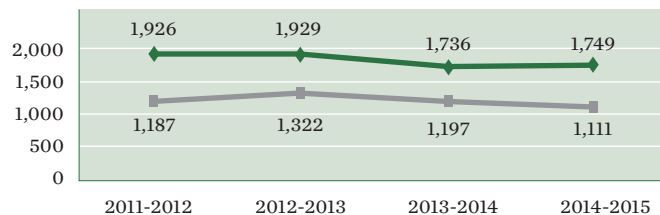
Teaching improvement and innovation

	2014-2015
Consolidated teaching innovation groups (as designated by the Government of Catalonia)	71
Teaching innovation groups	26
Funded teaching innovation projects	55
PDI participating in ICE training courses	56.5

Internationalization

	2014-2015
International agreements	2,856
Official representations overseas	3
International students	10,446
International teaching staff	179

Mobility in the framework of exchange programmes



◆ International exchange students at UB
■ UB exchange students at foreign institutions

Administrative and service staff (PAS)

		% women
Total PAS	2,283	64.3
Publicly contracted PAS	987	81.2
Group A	52	73.1
Group B	169	79.9
Group C	435	79.3
Group D	328	86.0
Group E	3	33.3
University-contracted PAS	1,279	51.9
Group I	334	54.5
Group II	224	43.8
Group III	503	49.9
Group IV	218	61.0
Temporary employees	17	17.6

Services and activities

	2014
Library	
Number of libraries	17
Monograph collections	1,888,426
Journals and periodicals	62,210
Total loans	888,297
Reading desks	6,055
UB Sports users (subscriptions and competition)	6,561
Grant-holders in UB services and faculties	831
Places in halls of residence	
UB halls of residence	915
UB-affiliated halls of residence	715
UB Alumni members	5,060



Research and technology transfer

	2012	2013	2014
Total competitive and non-competitive income for research activities (in thousands of euros)	56,832	54,724	62,703
Research projects	23,248	19,468	23,070
Ancillary activities	—	—	305
Other grants (UB)	3,134	6,051	7,979
Infrastructure	—	—	186
UB research-related agreements	2,471	2,229	757
FBG contracts	9,262	9,133	11,760
Income generated by UB researchers at other institutions*	18,716	17,842	18,645

* This includes income generated by UB researchers for projects registered to 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 Catalonia Institute of Energy Research (IREC), the Institute of Biomedical Research (IRB), the Barcelona Science Park Foundation (PCB), the Centre for Ecological Research and Forestry Applications (CREAF) and the Centre for Research in Agricultural Genomics (CRAG).

Research activity	2014
Active research projects	663
EU FP7 projects	11
Horizon 2020 projects	2
Lecturers and professors involved in R&D	2,512
Contracted research doctors	206
Postdoctoral researchers	760
Research-support PAS	371
Consolidated research groups (as designated by the Government of Catalonia)	301
Emerging research groups (as designated by the Government of Catalonia)	22
Technology and knowledge transfer	2014
New tech-based spin-offs	3
Priority patent applications	15
International patent extensions (PCT)	15
Overseas patent applications	24

Research structures	2014
UB research institutes	12
UB university institutes	2
Research centres and special research centres	11
Research institutes with UB involvement	10
Inter-university institutes	2
Observatories	10
Documentation centres	3

Evolution of research activity	2012	2013	2014
Doctoral students	5,240	5,387	5,431
Doctoral theses read	675	755	752
Scientific publications (ISI)	4,606	4,998	5,180
Patent applications	74	48	55



“By focusing on innovation and knowledge transfer, the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation helps ensure that the University plays an active role in economic development and contributes to social welfare.”

Lurdes Jordi,
Director of Innovation and Knowledge Transfer
at the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation



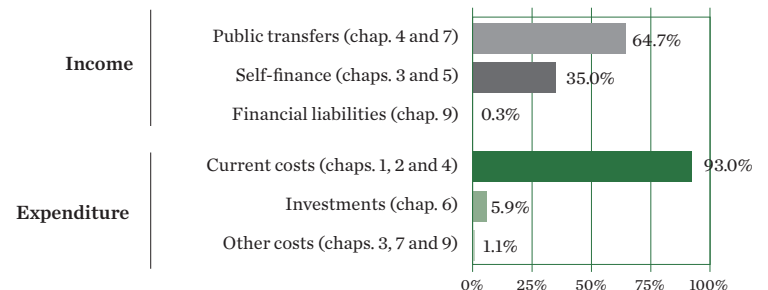
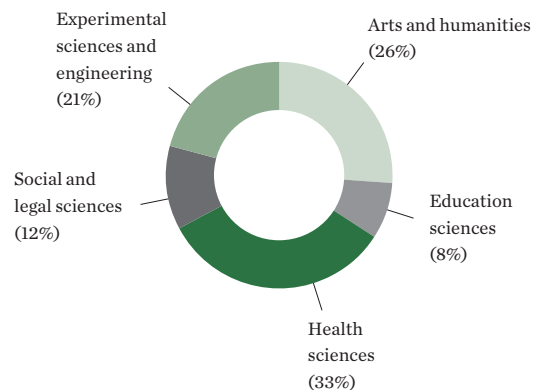
Torre de la Creu, Sant Joan Despí

Budget 2015 (in thousands of euros)

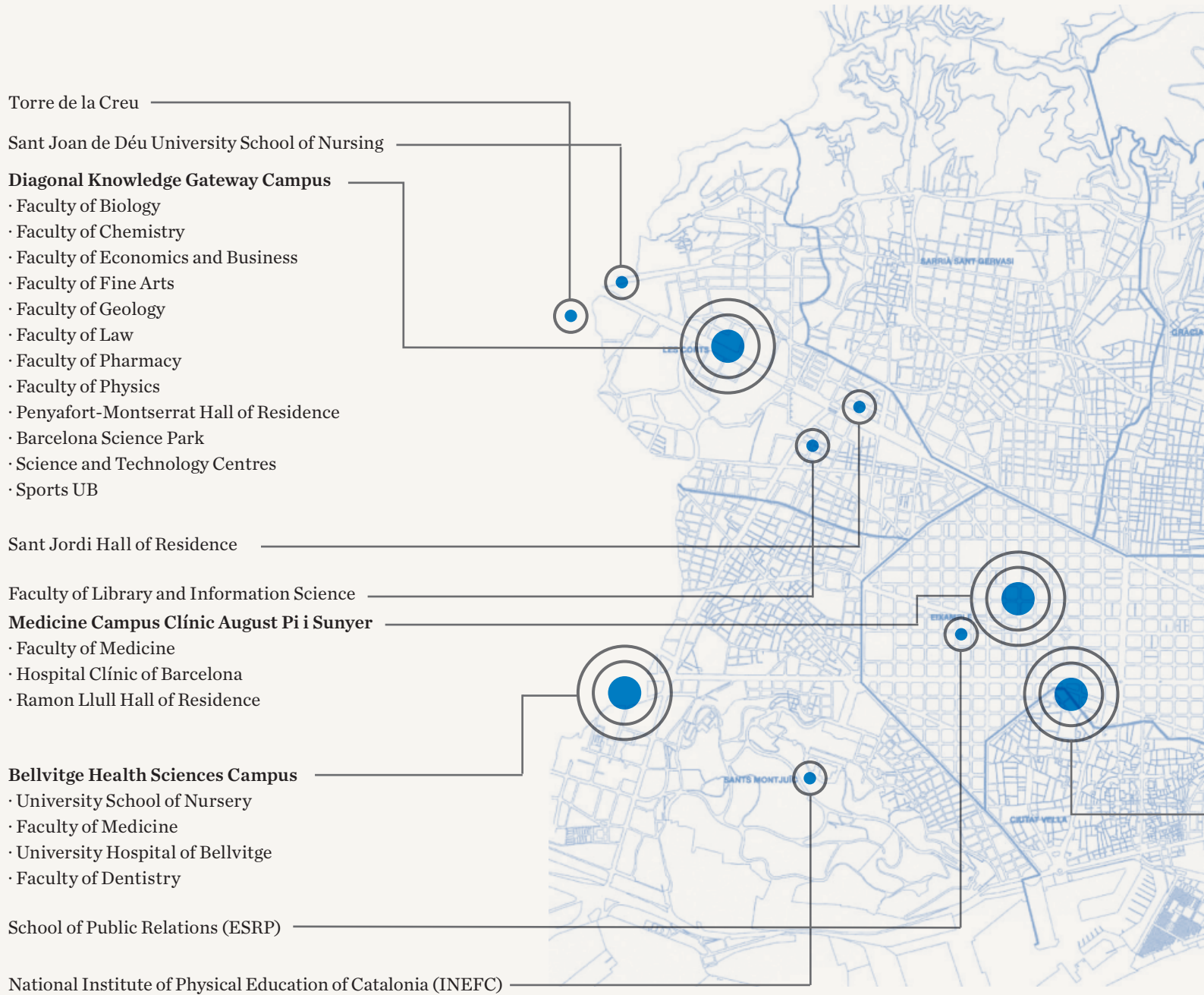
Income		367,065
Chap. 3 Fees and other income		121,279
Chap. 4 Current transfers		225,077
Chap. 5 Additions to capital		7,249
Chap. 7 Capital transfers		12,437
Chap. 9 Financial liabilities		1,023
Expenditure		367,065
Chap. 1 Staff costs		265,002
Chap. 2 Acquisition of goods/services		63,818
Chap. 3 Financial costs		1,101
Chap. 4 Current transfers		12,662
Chap. 6 Real estate investments		21,482
Chap. 7 Capital transfers		102
Chap. 9 Financial liabilities		2,898

Evolution	2013	2014	2015
Total budget	362,708	356,302	367,065

Doctoral students by branch of knowledge



Territorial distribution of the UB: the campuses and the centres



A university spanning the centuries and serving the community

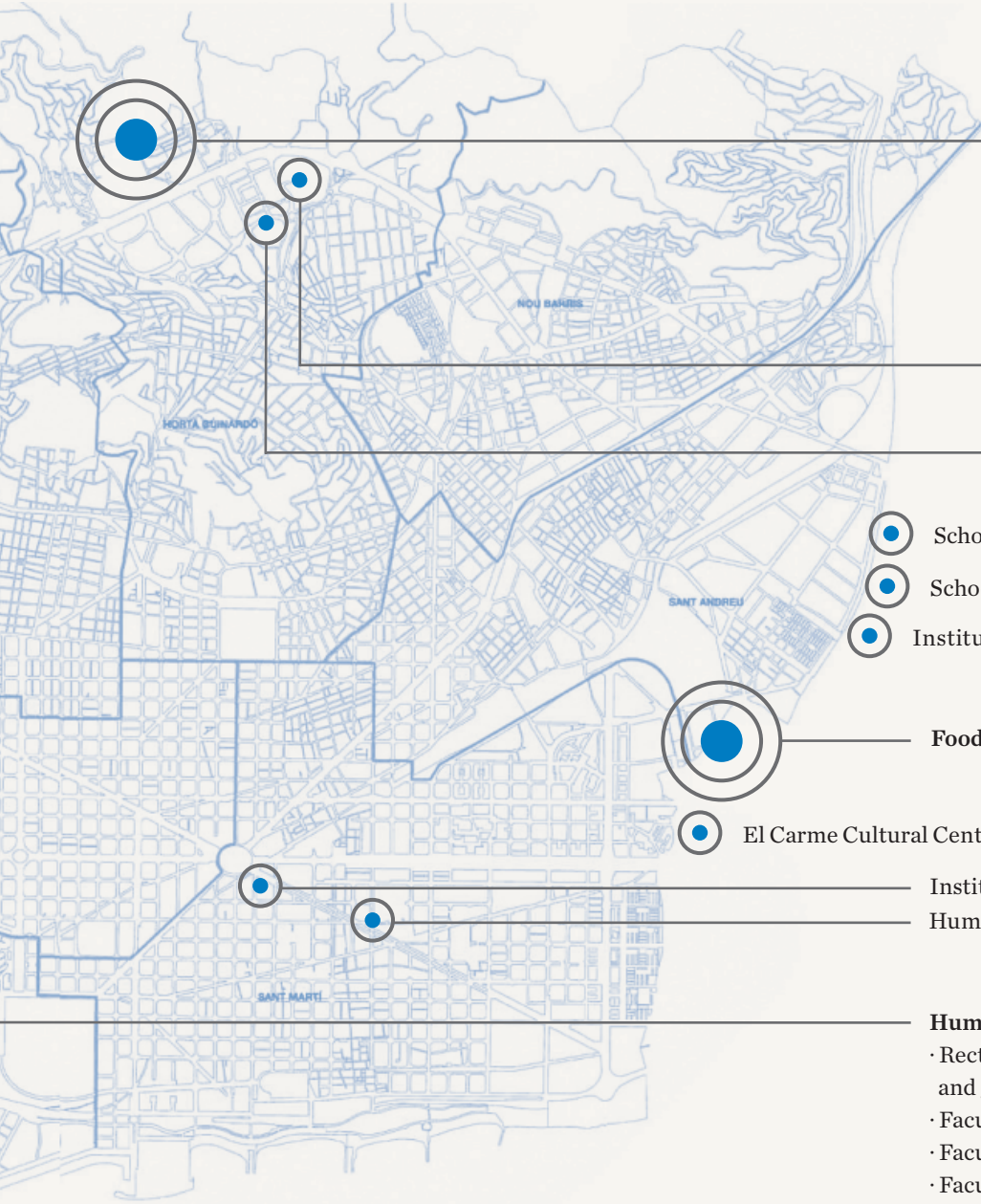


UNIVERSITAT DE
BARCELONA

Member of



International recognition of excellence



Mundet Campus

- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Psychology
- Institute of Education Sciences (ICE)

University School of Hotel Management and Tourism CETT

Center for International Historical Studies (CEHI)



School of Cinema and Audiovisual Studies of Catalonia (ESCAC)



School of Trade and Distribution (ESCODI)



Institute of Public Safety of Catalonia (ISPC)



Food and Nutrition Torribera Campus



El Carme Cultural Centre



Institute for Lifelong Learning IL3



Humanities and Social Sciences Park

Humanities Campus

- Rector's Office, General Manager's Office and general services
- Faculty of Geography and History
- Faculty of Philology
- Faculty of Philosophy
- Faculty of Mathematics
- School of New Interactive Technologies
- School of Modern Languages
- Institute of Hispanic Studies



“Receiving the Cross of Sant Jordi award was a great honour for the Faculty of Library and Information Science, but most importantly it’s a recognition of the profession of documentalists, librarians—professionals involved in information and documentation—work that’s highly valued, but that people know little about.”

Teresa Mañà, lecturer in the Department
of Library and Information Science



A UNIVERSITY FOCUSED ON PEOPLE

Services for the university community

Institutional and cultural activities

Student services

2





“One of the defining features of the University is its sense of social responsibility. That means we pay careful attention to needs and demands. But sometimes needs and demands don’t coincide.”

Miquel Canals,
lecturer in the Department
of Stratigraphy, Palaeontology
and Marine Geosciences

Services for the university community

The University of Barcelona pursues its commitment to society in a number of different areas. The fifth **Report on Social Responsibility** has now been published, and the University has tightened its internal control mechanisms for the proper application of current economic and financial regulations. The UB has also taken steps towards greater **transparency** in accordance with new legal requirements, consistent with its role as a provider of social and public services.

In the area of **equality**, alongside the activities of the equality committees at each faculty and university school, the UB has continued to develop, implement and promote its second Equality Plan and has put into operation a new institutional protocol for prevention, detection and intervention in cases of harassment based on gender or sexual orientation.

Progress has been made in creating a network for cooperation with other specialized agencies, and direct assistance has been provided to members of the university community who have suffered problems related to harassment. The UB has also collaborated with the Office of the Commissioner for Participation, Employability and Social Entrepreneurship in promoting strategies to foster women’s leadership and to increase the proportion of women in key positions at major companies and organizations. Institutional promotion was given to the celebration of International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women on 25 November, and to International Women’s Day on 8 March.

During the year, the UB has been involved in the work of the Women in Science Committee set up by the Inter-University Council of Catalonia (CIC), contributed to the LERU Working Group on Gender, and attended the meeting of the National Committee for Coordinated Action Against Gender Violence.

The **Ombuds Office** is an independent body responsible for defending the rights and freedoms of the student community, the teaching and research staff, and the administrative and service staff. During the academic year, it received 339 requests for intervention.

The University seeks to promote a culture of respect and humanization in all of its actions, and the



Exhibition of the master’s degree in Contemporary Artistic Creation in the Paranympth hallway

A COMMITMENT
TO THE
ENVIRONMENT



13%

reduction in total municipal
waste generated compared
to the previous year



Support and Mediation Office continues to create, provide access to and encourage the use of innovative systems, procedures and practices for conflict resolution and mediation.

Through the Commissioner for Participation, Employability and Social Entrepreneurship, a range of actions have been carried out to foster **social and collaborative entrepreneurship**, primarily through the promotion and creation of 20 consulting and pre-incubator projects, as well as through the Government of Catalonia's Aracoop programme, Barcelona Activa, Labcoop, Tàndem Social and the Federation of Workers' Cooperatives of Catalonia.

In the area of **occupational health and safety**, the Health, Safety and Environmental Issues Unit pursued four main lines of action: health and safety

at work, emergency preparation and response, sustainability, and social assistance.

Health and safety initiatives included a programme to prevent risks related to the structural integrity of UB buildings and the introduction of specific industrial hygiene procedures to comply with biosafety requirements for a number of research projects.

In the area of emergency preparation, the UB has established on-site emergency plans for those buildings which lacked one and has worked on ensuring their full adaptation to the requirements laid down by civil protection authorities.

Activities related to the environment are organized around the guidelines set out in the UB's **Sustainability Plan**. An annual report is published on the

**A COMMITMENT
TO SPORT**



97 medals won by UB competitors in university championships



progress of the 100-plus initiatives carried out in the Plan's ten lines of action.

Regarding the **consumption of resources**, with respect to 2013, electricity consumption has been reduced by 1.98%, natural gas consumption by 10.27% and water consumption by 27.56%.

UB Sports has 100,000 sq m of facilities, making it one of the largest and most varied physical and recreational activity centres in Catalonia. It strives to make sport and health catalysts for healthy living and social cohesion across the University, and has

developed a series of activities with this goal in mind. It also represents the University of Barcelona in university sports competitions throughout Catalonia, Spain and Europe, and ended the 2014-2015 season with a total of 27 gold, 33 silver and 37 bronze medals.

Three years ago **UB Sports** helped establish *Lligues UniversitÀries de Barcelona*, an amateur university sports league in which seven universities from Catalonia take part. For its fourth year, it has registered 288 teams, comprising a total of 3,428 participants.





21

million visits to the UB website
(more than 57,000 per day)

Institutional and cultural activities

The **Doctors' Senate**, with 953 members, awarded its 18th annual prize for doctoral theses to **Dr Roger Prades Cosano** (Department of Organic Chemistry, Faculty of Chemistry), for his thesis *Towards a universal blood-brain barrier shuttle: protease-resistant shuttles with capacity to deliver cargos into the central nervous system*.

The jury for the tenth **Board of Trustees' Prizes** awarded the José Manuel Blecua Prize to Marta Vila and the Ramon Margalef Prize to Xavier Serra. Some prizes are awarded jointly with the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation. Of these, the Antoni Caparrós Award went to the municipal waste incineration firm Servei d'Incineració de Residus Sòlids Urbans and to the UB's research centre Disseny i Optimització de Processos i Materials, and the Senén Vilaró Award for the most innovative company was presented to Endor Nanotechnologies, SL.



Jury and prizewinners,
Xth Social
Council Prize

Notable **awards and distinctions** received by members of the university community during this academic year include:

AWARD OR DISTINCTION	RECIPIENTS
National Research Award (Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness)	Joan Massagué
National Research Award (Government of Catalonia and Catalan Foundation for Research and Innovation)	Lourdes Ibáñez
Cross of Sant Jordi	Faculty of Library and Information Science
Serra d'Or Critics Prize for Research	Joan Vallès
Catalan Literary Lifetime Achievement Award	Joan Veny
Ciutat de Barcelona Prize	Ernest Giralt
Barcelona City Council Gold Medal for Cultural Merit	Josep Maixenchs
Cadiz City Council Eduardo Benot Distinction	Estrella Montolío
City of Santa Coloma Award	UB Food and Nutrition Torribera Campus (Santa Coloma de Gramenet)
ICREA Academia Award	Laura Chaqués, Rocío da Riva, Raúl Estévez, Pere Ginès, Gabriel Gomila, Rosina Moreno, Sergi Munné, Petia Ivanova Radeva, Eduardo Soriano and Francesc Villaroya
Human Frontier Science Programme	Albert Pol



Gepronat Award for Young Researchers	Maria Pérez
Max Bergmann Medal	Ernest Giralt
Sarrià – Sant Gervasi Women’s Medal	Pilar Bayer
Honorary Member of the Catalonia Economist’s Association (CEC)	Mariano Marzo
Young Researchers Award – Biomaterials	Òscar Castaño
1st Emprèn! UB Award	Patricia Garrido
GlaxoSmithKline International Award	Ricard Guerrero
La Recherche Prize	Miquel Canals
Newly elected members of the Barcelona Royal Academy of Science and Arts (RACAB)	Miquel Canals and Àlex Aguilar
Breakthrough Prize – Fundamental Physics	The Supernova Cosmology Project International research team, of which Maria Pilar Ruiz Lapuente is a member
Lifetime Achievement Award	Paz Fernández Ortega
Expoquímia R+D+I Award – Biotechnology	Catalan biotechnology company Iproteos, a UB spin-off, and the Biomedical Research Institute, located at the Barcelona Science Park
5th Cum Laude Award	Raül Garrigasait and Carles Riba
Vita Studens Prize	Edmon Girbal and Artur Garcia
Pharmanews-Fedefarma and Concordia-Fedefarma Awards	Leticia Duart, Enric Lizano and Ignasi Azagra
ÉcoTrophéla Spain	Pilar Mora and Gustavo Guerrero

In the academic year 2014-2015, the University paid **tribute** to **Salvador Claramunt**, professor of Medieval History, Palaeography and Diplomatics; in memory of **Andrés Pérez Estaún**, geologist and researcher at the Jaume Almera Institute of Earth Sciences (CSIC-UB); to **Carles Miralles**, professor of Greek Philology; in memory of **Martí de Riquer**, professor of History of Romance Literature; to **Germà Colón**, professor of Romance Philology and Catalan Lexicology in Switzerland and alumnus of the UB; in memory of **Carmina Virgili**, geologist, Gold Medal of the University of Barcelona in 2011 and one of the first women professors in the country; in memory of **Miguel Caminal**, professor of Political Science; in memory of **Prim Bertran**, of the Department of Medieval History, Palaeography and Diplomacy, and in memory of **Anna Maria Gomez Foix** and **Adela Mazo**, researchers at the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and the Institute of Biomedicine at the UB.



Raül Garrigasait, winner of the 5th Cum Laude Award from the Vives Network



The UB has continued to offer **guided tours** of the Historic Building, to spread awareness of the University's important historical and artistic heritage. Some **155 visits** were conducted during the year, for an approximate total of **4,290 visitors** including members of the general public, official visitors and representatives of diverse institutions.

In the area of **cultural events**, as part of the **28th Musical Season at the University** series of concerts, 19 concerts were held at the Historic Building's Paraninf Auditorium. These included a Christmas Concert by the University of Barcelona Choir, conducted by Jordi-Lluís Rigol and featuring harpist Maria Gibert performing *A ceremony of carols* by Benjamin Britten, and carols from all around the world. Two Christmas concerts were performed by the University of Barcelona Orchestra under the direction of Carles Gumí, with the partic-



A gala performance closes the 28th Musical Season at the University

ipation of dancers Maria de Iguacel and Alexandre Algueró. Also of note among Musical Season events was the participation of the Carthage Choir (USA) and the Yale Glee Club from Yale University (USA).

The year saw the tenth edition of the **Els Vespres** series of free concerts in the gardens of the Historic Building. These are aimed at building connections between youth, culture and the University, reinforcing the sense of belonging amongst the university community, and giving the general public access to the Ferran Soldevila garden. They also serve as a platform for the promotion of new musical acts.

The **5th Season of Contemporary Dance**, entitled "Dance and Literature", comprised three contemporary dance events compered by dance theorist and dramatist Roberto Fratini and curator Magda Polo.

Two theatre groups appeared at the **Theatre Workshops**, performing the inaugural Theatre in the Lift Workshops and the premiere of *Ui, Arturo*, as part of the Festival Escena UB. The Barcelona University Theatre Awards were also presented, consisting of several awards: best director, best cast, best supporting actress, best set design, best costume and best production.

The UB also collaborated with the 2014 International Environmental Film Festival, presenting a series of screenings at the Faculty of Biology and

GUIDED TOURS
OF THE
HISTORIC BUILDING

4,290

visitors on 155 tours

hosting a lecture by biologist Fernando López Mirones, screenwriter of the documentary *Guadalquivir*.

The **Virtual Museum** hosted 33 temporary exhibitions corresponding to exhibitions organized on the various campuses of the UB and produced five virtual exhibitions. It also increased the number of files in its collections and has documented a significant number of other items.

In an effort to raise awareness of the University's bibliographic resources and safeguard its heritage, the UB's Learning and Research Resource Centre (CRAI) has continued with the **Sponsor a Book** project, which seeks to ensure the conservation, preservation and appreciation of this bibliographic

heritage. To date 16,021 euros have been raised and 21 books have been restored and digitized. The UB also took part in the Recycle Culture campaign on St George's Day.

The 2nd Sant Jordi Photography Competition – Josep Damm Prize ceremony was held at the University of Barcelona, with first prize going to *On habiten les paraules neix la llegenda* (“Where words live legends are born”) by Irene Bujalance Cuesta.

The 1st Gaudí World Congress was held at the University, organized in conjunction with The Gaudí Research Institute, to which 350 people came from all around the world. The UB also signed an agreement with the Barcelona City Council for the concession of the Güell Pavilions for temporary use and comprehensive rehabilitation.

Various **workshops, conferences, summits, seminars and other cultural activities** have also taken place, such as the exhibition “BiblioTec: One Hundred Years of Library Studies and Librarianship, 1915-2015”; the 4th International Congress on History and Film: Historical Memory and Documentary Cinema; the International Seminar “Identity, Power and Representation. Nationalisms in Art”, by the Modern Art Research Group; the 11th International Congress of the Goethe-Institut in Spain, entitled “The First World War in Literature and the Arts”, and the 2nd coupDeFouet International Congress.



DOCfield>15 Barcelona Documentary Photography Festival in the Arts Courtyard of the Historic Building



The exhibition "BiblioTec: One Hundred Years of Library Studies and Librarianship, 1915-2015"



An exhibition on Pius Font i Quer, who was a leading light for generations of botanists

The UB's **exhibitions programme** encompassed 17 different projects. Highlights among those held at the Historic Building included: "Denominació d'origen: Col·lecció Belles Arts"; the 1st Gaudí World Congress, with the participation of Arata Isozaki; an exhibition on the 70 years of Càritas; "Pius Font i Quer. A New Paradigm of Catalan Botanics"; "Polytypic Painting"; "La Universitat a Cervera. Commemoració del 1714 a la UB"; "Dictatorship and Democracy in the Era of Extremes" (part of the 11th International Congress of the Goethe-Institut in Spain); "The Art of Ancient Engraving. Works from the Furió Collection"; "Universities and Research in Catalonia Before and After 1714"; "The University Cruise Liner of 1934"; the Arts Courtyard (live drawing by the artist Perico Pastor as part of the exhibition "Els pericos de Perico"), and "Crònica 21" (part of DOCfield>15, Barcelona Documentary Photography Festival).



In parallel with the corresponding exhibitions, the UB published the books *The Art of Ancient Engraving. Works from the Furió Collection* and *La Universitat a Cervera. Commemoració del 1714 a la UB*.

The Exhibition Hall of the Centre Cultural El Carme (Badalona), run jointly with the Office for Culture and Citizenship of the Badalona City Council, hosted four exhibitions, each accompanied by a series of complementary activities: "MetaMethod. Dialogues Between Art and Science"; "Uclés. Art + Poetry + Sex + Politics, 1978-1985"; "Els pericos de Perico", and "The Beatles Are Here!".

An exhibition of sound sculpture by the Baschet Brothers was organized at Can Jaumandreu, as part of the inauguration of the UB's new Humanities and Social Sciences Park.



“When you do volunteer work, you learn more from your fellow volunteers than from yourself.”

Marta Lupiáñez,
primary education student and mentor
in the Faculty of Education's Social Policy
and University Access (PSAU) programme



A roundtable in the “Solidarity, Cinema and Memory” series, organized by the UB Solidarity Foundation

Two new **subject chairs** have been created with Danone and Telefonica, and the Pasqual Maragall Chair on Economy and Territory has been renewed, with Banco Santander, as has the UB-SEMI-Menarini Internal Medicine Chair. Another 11 subject chairs are currently in development.

In the area of **electronic administration and document management**, several online processes have been implemented and others have been initiated. In particular, online request and issue of academic certificates with electronic signature was launched (approximately 3,000 certificates have been issued since the system became operational in May), as well as the electronic signature of qualification records: more than 50% are now being authorized by this method. Other online services launched



Rector Dídac Ramírez and student Shifa Mathbout during the announcement of measures to support refugees

include bachelor's degree applications, credit recognition and transfer, pre-enrolment in university master's degrees and collaboration grant applications. For the first time, a staff mobility call has been carried out using electronic application and registration procedures. Other projects in development include the implementation of electronic voting, online requests for access and enrolment to doctorates, and the complete roll-out of the electronic format, among others.

The UB's programme of **Courses for Senior Citizens** (AUGG) has been continued, with some 3,877 students for the academic year, comprising 77% women, of whom approximately 2.5% were over 90 years of age. This year the number of complementary seminars was increased, particu-



VOLUNTEERING  **2,290** volunteers in the UB community

larly in history, biology, astronomy, art history, literature and music history subjects. Activities involving the choir and theatre were also consolidated, as they continue to attract many participants each year.

The University of Barcelona has clearly demonstrated its **social commitment** and the values it represents with a programme of support for students and refugees arriving in Catalonia from war zones, in this case from Syria, as a specific action in addition to others already in place in this area.

The **UB Solidarity Foundation** focuses its work on social action, development cooperation, volunteering and the promotion of human rights and a culture of peace. It provides advice and evaluation, launches projects and engages in projects led by other institutions and organizations that mobilize members of the university community. In recent years the Foundation has emphasized the importance of social intervention projects in its programme of activities, while continuing to work in the field of development cooperation. Highlights include programmes dedicated to education for global citizenship and human rights and in historical memory. In terms of social action, the UB has cooperated with several organizations in the Barcelona Metropolitan Area for the social and professional integration of people belonging to groups at risk of exclusion or in situations of hardship, and has launched projects for the creation of urban gardens. Internationally, the UB has completed or

is carrying out projects on water management in Vietnam, improvement of local governance and citizen participation in Morocco, rural development and peace building in Colombia, and the implementation of joint postgraduate programmes with universities in Senegal and Mauritania. On education for global citizenship and human rights, the UB and the Institute of Education Sciences announced the Tenth Award for Peace Research, and various activities have been carried out within the framework of the Tardor Solidària (Solidarity Autumn) programme. The UB also created the European Observatory on Memories, a project funded by the European Commission which aims to build a network of organizations and academic institutions from all countries in the European Union dedicated to preserving and honouring the memory of human rights violations throughout





Europe and the struggles for democracy and freedom that have played out on the continent in the past 100 years.

Volunteers UB, an initiative for the university community and society at large aimed at building a more committed and socially responsible university, has participated in the activities of various charitable associations, including the collection of medicines, food, toys and clothes for the Red Cross, the Food Bank and the Arrels Foundation, and has organized solidarity activities, such as providing accompaniment for elderly people or educational support for children. The CRAI has worked with the

Catalan Ministry of Justice for the benefit of the entire community: this year seven people have collaborated in a social rehabilitation program with the UB libraries.

The University also offers a platform of support and participation in the **Time Bank**, a pioneering initiative within the Catalan university system that aims to create and strengthen ties among members of the university community and to promote cooperation, social cohesion and solidarity. This year the network has welcomed 99 users, members of the teaching and research staff and the administrative and service staff.

Student services



Information and orientation activities for prospective and incoming students

The Student Support Service has planned and coordinated several information and orientation activities especially designed to facilitate the transition to university for prospective students of varying backgrounds, and to provide new students with the tools they need to integrate and adapt to the university environment.

To distribute **information** about the education programmes on offer, the UB participated in the national Education Fair, as well as Futura 2014, for master's degrees and postgraduate programmes, and the Aula Madrid education fair, among others.

Orientation and information on the transition from secondary school to university was provided through targeted initiatives such as *Apropa't*



The UB presents its offering of master's degrees and postgraduate diplomas in the Futura Fair

a la UB ("Come to UB") and *La UB s'apropa* ("UB comes to you"). This year 85 high schools were visited and some 10,362 students benefitted from these activities. Information on the various Faculties and Schools and the bachelor's degrees on offer was also provided to some 3,729 visiting high school students at UB Open Days.

Activities such as workshops, laboratory sessions, geological excursions and courses were also offered to secondary schools to inform prospective students of the bachelor's degree course offering in a practical and engaging way.

In the area of **contests and awards**, the University has contributed to the promotion and management of the Time, Space and Shape Award (History and Geography); the Concordia-Fedefarma Award (Faculty of Pharmacy); the UB-Ferran Adrià Award with Gallina Blanca (Faculty of Pharmacy – Torribera Campus); the Minerva Award (Faculty of Philosophy); the Library and Information Sciences Research Award (Faculty of Library and Information Sciences); the Xavier Domingo Award (Faculty of Chemistry); the Filcat.UB Award (Faculty of Philology); higher education awards for research in tourism (CETT); the Research for Peace Prize (UB Solidarity Foundation); the Crystallization Contest (Faculty of Geology), and the Photophilosophy Exhibition (Faculty of Philosophy).

The **welcome programme** was extended to all new students at the UB, who were provided with all the



Faculty of Law

information required to facilitate their integration into the university. The UB faculties and schools organized information sessions for new students; a student diary was produced including information on activities, services, processes, useful telephone numbers and addresses, and other specific material was distributed to foreign students (conversation guides, Barcelona guides, accommodation information, etc.).

In the area of **accommodation**, the Viure i Conviure and Lloguer Solidari accommodation programmes were run in conjunction with the Catalunya – La Pedrera Foundation. The UB is the public university with the highest number of students enrolled in the latter of these programmes. In collaboration with Barcelona Centre Universitari, ten agreements have been signed with several university residences with the aim of providing a more extensive offer of student accommodation.

Libraries and information

In the area of **information for students**, a total of 41,212 inquiries regarding academic programmes and services were answered; the web portal **MónUB** received an average of 1,130,696 visits per month for access to various online procedures, and there have been 32,908 downloads of the **smartphone application** that allows students to receive results and consult their academic record and 1,044,719 notifications have been sent out.

The Student Support Service's **self-service library** has increased its collection of monographs to 14 volumes; database subscriptions have been renewed, and followers of the Service on social networks have increased by 82% on Facebook and 87% on Twitter compared to the previous year.

CRAI libraries provide students with all the resources they need to facilitate learning and study throughout their time at the UB. They also provide training courses to help students develop skills in information management: this year 9,142 undergraduate students took part, and borrowed 503,393 documents and 91,821 devices (including e-readers, laptops and study rooms).

Career services

The **Feina UB** programme helps UB students with the career process by providing support and advice through the various faculties and schools, directly to students and to companies and institutions. This academic year the Job Bank listed 8,291 job offers and registered 4,230 new students.

In the area of internships and placements, 13,459 students completed work placements with companies and institutions, of which 2,992 were extra-curricular placements, 76 were completed abroad, and 78 took place within the framework of mobility programmes such as Erasmus Placement.

FEINA UB



13,459

students completed external work placements

The 4th round of Santander Grants for paid internships occurred. Thanks to this collaboration agreement between Banco Santander, the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities and the Spanish Confederation of Small and Medium Businesses, more than 235 students have enjoyed the benefit of 192 scholarships.

In addition, 75 secondary school and university students from Spanish and international schools completed an internship at a UB-affiliated centre.

The new GIPE application has been developed for integrated management of external work placements. Through the Inter-University Council of Catalonia, the UB also participated in the development of a model framework agreement for students to undertake placements within departments of the Government of Catalonia.

The **1st Strategic Plan for Improved Employability for 2014-2016** has been implemented, aimed at students and graduates, and through which 6,913 people have received careers guidance through at least one individual or group session. In total 8,958 sessions have been held.

The **UB Employment Network** has been created, to engage the various UB stakeholders in careers policies and actions, as well as to develop a decentralized network. To achieve these aims a variety of informative sessions have been held, individually or in groups, along with periodical activities with

the purpose of informing, training and guiding students and graduates. The UB has also collaborated with external bodies such as city councils, foundations and employment agencies, and has participated in fairs and other activities related to careers. In total, more than 22,000 users have been assisted in actions to improve their career prospects.

Careers guidance

Several **careers guidance programmes** have been carried out, involving 4,797 students, designed to provide advice in decision-making, career orientation and the development of skills.

Skills training on offer included 39 new face-to-face training courses and two online courses provided via the Virtual Campus, and 744 students have participated in these. The UB offered the two courses “Assessment Center: Another Selection Technique” and “Learn To Be an Entrepreneur: From an Idea to a Real Project”.

The **Job Club** has offered personalized advice, resources and activities to help students define their career goals, build self-knowledge and design a training plan and professional project. Some 802 students have visited the Club, of which 466 received advice and 336 attended the 16 monographic sessions held.

The team of advisers has carried out a total of 235 interviews providing advice on career pros-

The University of Barcelona is helping young people at risk of exclusion make it to university. UB bachelor's degree students provide advice and academic support to upper secondary students from vulnerable groups. The goal is to make university as diverse as society.

El Periódico, 20-6-2015

pects, options for continuing education or curriculum changes, and has also advised high school students on making decisions related to university studies. They have also coordinated a total of 68 **careers guidance activities** for the faculties and school, which have involved 2,851 students.

Thirty-two careers guidance activities have been held within **business fairs** organized by various faculties and schools, including the revision of curricula, simulated interviews and training workshops.

Student integration programmes

Actions undertaken within the scope of integration programmes are designed to help disabled students or those with special needs enjoy equal opportunities in academic life. The UB has had 721 such students enrolled this year, of whom 47 have completed their studies. The UB continues to be the on-site university in Catalonia with the highest number of special needs students enrolled.

The various services and resources for this student group are offered through the **Fem Via** and **Avança** programmes, which have overseen 1,237 actions of advice and supervision. In addition to this, 25 students have been used the support material loans service, 50 students have collaborated in providing support services, and a sign language interpretation service has been available.

The UB participated in interuniversity meetings set up by the Unidiscat Technical Committee and the SAPDU network of services for disabled persons, and media appearances. The agreement signed last year with the Once Foundation and FSC Inserta has continued to have effect. This agreement aims to improve the employability of disabled students—195 students meet the requirements—and a new agreement has been signed with the Universia Foundation to regulate the lending of technical assistance through its Support Products Bank.



A sculpture workshop at the Faculty of Fine Arts



Election of students to the Senate, faculty and school boards and academic councils

On 4 December 2014, partial elections were held to elect student representatives to the Senate, the faculty and school boards and academic councils, to fill the seats vacated after the last general student elections, which in total accounted for 240 seats (8 in the Senate, 44 in the faculty and school boards and 188 in the academic councils). Student participation in the elections was 6.96% (4.30% for the Senate, 5.13% for faculty and school boards and 11.44% for academic councils).

Alumni UB

The objective of Alumni UB is to establish a stable relationship between the University of Barcelona and its former students and create a context of common services, knowledge exchange, relation-

ships, opportunities, professional growth and shared benefits. Membership currently stands at 5,060.

The association offers a portfolio of guidance and counselling services for careers advice, job offers, training activities and preferential prices for life-long learning and further training.

In 2014 it organized 36 activities, attended by 556 members and 2,216 no-members, and evaluated with an 84% degree of satisfaction. In the area of job offers, 418 companies used the Alumni UB platform, through which 1,654 offers have been published.



“The introduction of the bachelor’s degree in Marine Sciences next year will provide a definitive structure for university programmes in this field throughout Catalonia.”

Miquel Canals,
lecturer in the Department
of Stratigraphy, Palaeontology
and Marine Geosciences



A UNIVERSITY AT THE FOREFRONT OF EDUCATION

Academic course offering

Additional academic opportunities

Support services for teaching,
improvement and educational innovation

3



“Maybe it’s unrealistic, but I think the university could play a role in social transformation. Because that’s what the university is all about. It works with people, mostly 18-years-olds.”

Marta Lupiáñez,
primary education student and mentor
in the Faculty of Education’s Social Policy
and University Access (PSAU) programme

Academic course offering

In the academic year 2014-2015, the UB offered 67 **bachelor’s degree programmes** and approval was received to introduce four new bachelor’s degrees: a degree in Marine Sciences and a revamped degree in Romance Languages and Literatures, both of which will be taught at UB schools; a degree in Retail and Distribution, which will be offered through the UB-affiliated School of Commerce and Retail (ESCODI); and an inter-university bachelor’s degree in Physiotherapy, which will be delivered jointly in English by the University School of Health and Sport, affiliated with the University of Girona, and the UB-affiliated School of New Interactive Technologies.

For bachelor’s degrees, the UB received 15,044 **first-preference applications** for 10,744 places, putting the demand ratio for places at 1.4. The highest numbers of first-preference applications were received for Medicine (1,624), Business Administration and

The degree catalogue of the University of Barcelona, Catalonia’s largest educational institution, now includes four new bachelor’s programmes, with a degree in Marine Sciences. Students will receive multidisciplinary training, focusing initially on geology and biology—the basic sciences—before going on to study legal and economic issues related to the sea.

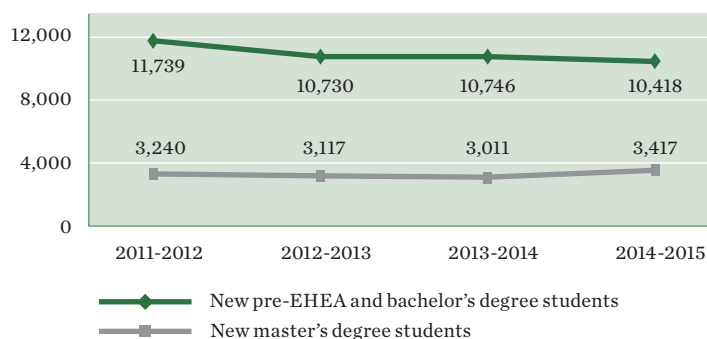
El País, 28-5-2015

Management (1,103), Psychology (932) and Nursing (810). A total of 44,420 bachelor’s degree and pre-EHEA students enrolled at UB schools and faculties, including 10,418 new students and 3,367 at UB-affiliated faculties and schools.

A total of 141 **university master’s degrees** were offered, with 4,865 students enrolled, and an additional 340 at UB-affiliated schools. The most popular master’s degrees were Legal Practice (216), General Health Psychology (157), Biomedical Engineering (110), Women, Gender and Citizenship (102), and Psychology and Education (100). These numbers include 1,304 international students (25.2% of the total), mainly from Latin America and—within Europe—Italy. The teaching of foreign languages was also strengthened, especially in master’s courses, in which 12% of teaching was in English.

In accordance with national regulations, the initial **accreditation** of official degrees (verification) must

Evolution of bachelor’s, pre-EHEA and university master’s degree students at UB schools



TRAINING



43,298

students enrolled
in 67 bachelor's degree
courses (including
UB-affiliated centres)



be periodically renewed. Bachelor's degrees must be re-accredited within six years, and university master's degrees within four years. The accreditation process is based on a self-report prepared by the University, analysis of this report by an external evaluation committee designated by the Agency for Quality Assurance in the Catalan University System (AQU Catalonia), and a visit to the school to draw up an external evaluation report. The University must submit a formal application for accreditation in accordance with the criteria and deadlines established by the Government of Catalonia.

During the academic year 2014-2015, visits were made to the University School of Nursing; the facul-

ties of Law, Education, and Geography and History; and two affiliated schools: the Catalan National Institute of Physical Education and the Sant Joan de Déu University School of Nursing. Based on these visits, favourable reports were received for all the degrees evaluated: 13 bachelor's degrees and 11 university master's degrees. In all cases, the preparation of self-reports in the schools and faculties involved and the evaluation process carried out by the external evaluation committees made it possible to identify the strengths and weaknesses of each degree programme and design improvement plans.

A total of 7,430 bachelor's degree and pre-EHEA degree students **graduated** from UB schools this year,

Postgraduate students

Study area	Master's degree courses	Specialization courses and postgraduate programmes	Expert courses	University courses	University extension courses
Arts and humanities	73	108	-	-	180
Social and legal sciences	904	372	152	29	582
Experimental sciences and engineering	84	8	42	86	204
Health sciences	1,676	508	391	187	353
Education sciences	71	90	69	54	28
Institute of Education Sciences	127	111	22	-	-
Institute for Lifelong Learning (IL3)	1,770	1,471	16	-	718
UB-affiliated centres	220	52	-	-	214
Total	4,925	2,720	692	356	2,279
% women	71.7 %	73.4 %	62.1 %	58.7 %	64.5 %

A COMMITMENT TO
INTERNATIONALIZATION



25.2%

of university master's
degree students
are from other countries

and 2,472 university master's degrees were awarded to successful students. In addition, special **academic achievement awards** were given to 16 pre-EHEA degree students, 86 bachelor's degree students, and 79 master's degree students (for courses completed in the academic year 2013-2014).

The UB also offered 220 **specialization courses and postgraduate programmes**, 253 **master's programmes**, 115 **expert courses**, and 66 **higher university courses**, which were taken by 2,720, 4,925, 687 and 356 students, respectively. The presence of many foreign students (22.5% of the total) highlights the strong degree of internationalization that characterizes postgraduate studies. The UB's **university extension programme** offered 97 courses, with 2,279 students enrolled. A total of 11 master's degrees, one expert

course, eight higher university courses, and seven university extension programmes were delivered abroad.

Under **academic agreements** signed with Ecuador, the UB's international offering has been expanded with the introduction of a training programme for Ecuadorian secondary school teachers, with 360 students enrolled, and a postgraduate course in Early Childhood Education, with nearly 600 students enrolled.

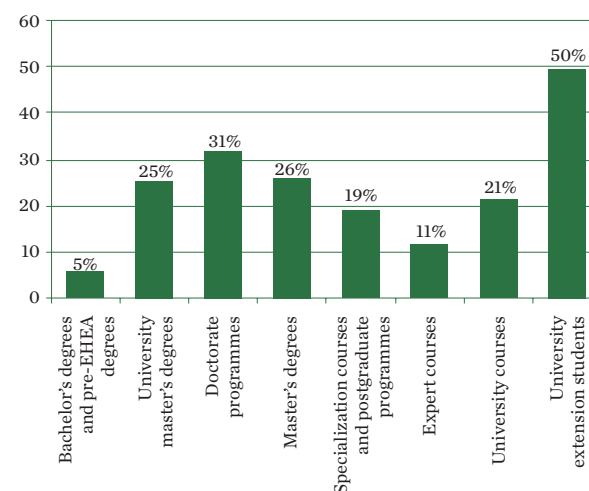
Over the academic year, **marketing campaigns** were carried out to promote the offering of master's degrees, Els Juliols courses, the International Summer School, the School of Modern Languages, and new *Gaudir UB* courses. Advertisements were placed in general and education-related media, selected to target specific learner groups.

Internationalization of the student community*

Studies	International students
Bachelor's degrees and pre-EHEA degrees	2,594
University master's degrees	1,304
Doctoral programmes	1,710
Master's degrees	1,280
Specialization courses and postgraduate programmes	522
Expert courses	77
University courses	75
University extension courses	1,135
Total	8,697

*Includes students at the Institute of Education Sciences and the Institute for Lifelong Learning (IL3-UB).

% international students



A COMMITMENT TO
INTERNATIONALIZATION



31.5%

of doctoral students
are from
other countries

Grants and financial aid

In the academic year 2014-2015, 19,487 applications were received for **general and mobility grants for bachelor's degrees, pre-EHEA degrees and diplomas, and university master's degrees**. A total of 12,101 grants were awarded, with a total value of 26,524,765 euros, distributed as follows: 11,799,610 euros for grants awarded to students entitled to full exemption from tuition fees, 76,680 for minimum variable-sum grants, 1,011,750 euros for residency-dependent fixed-sum grants, 3,913,500 euros for means-tested fixed-sum grants, and 9,717,894 euros for variable-sum grants.

Additionally, 9,012 applications for means-tested **Equity grants** were processed. These grants reduce enrolment fees for students by 10% to 50% according to which of six means-based categories they are classified in.

Lastly, the **University of Barcelona's bkUB programme** encompasses a series of measures aimed at ensuring that financial difficulties do not prevent anyone from studying at the UB. Within the framework of this programme, over 13,000 bachelor's degree students were provided with financial aid under three grant programmes: *Nou Accés* (for new students), designed to assist students no longer covered by the general grant programme, with 43 applications and 13 grants awarded; *Assignatures Repetides* (for students repeating subjects), with 435 applications and 393 grants awarded; and *Situacions Sobrevingudes* (for students affected

by unexpected changes in personal circumstances), with 186 applications and 99 grants awarded.

The Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport awarded 114 **departmental collaboration grants**, with a total value of 228,000 euros. Four hundred and fifty-eight **collaboration grants for services and units** were awarded, with a total value of 1,716,665 euros; 373 **faculty collaboration grants**, with a total value of 848,501 euros; 265 **work placement grants**, with a total value of 330,454 euros; and 26 grants for the Vives University Network's **DRAC programme**, with a total value of 5,921 euros.

In the framework of **mobility programmes**, a total of 465 grants were awarded, 443 for placements within the European Union and 22 for placements in other countries. In addition, two exchange grants were awarded to students enrolled in the master's degree in Biomedicine for placements within the Eurolife university network. An additional 24 Santander international mobility grants provided a total of 80,000 euros in funding to support students who participated in various international exchange programmes. A UB Entrepreneurship Chair (HEC Montreal) grant equivalent to the amount of the tuition fee was also awarded.

Within the framework of the **SICUE national mobility programme**, the UB signed bilateral agreements with 50 Spanish universities. Fifty-five UB students and 328 students from Spanish universities participated in this programme.

FINANCIAL AID FOR STUDENTS



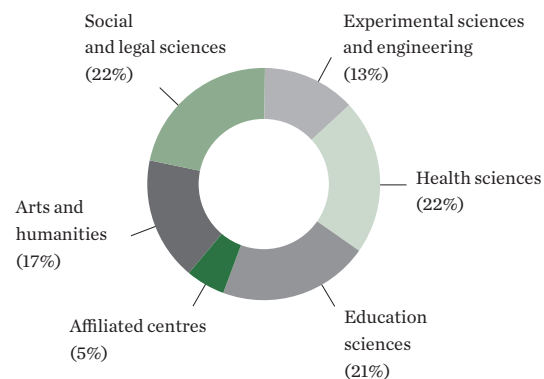
505 beneficiaries of the bkUB programme

Grants and financial aid awarded

Grant awarded	Number	Amount (€)
General	12,101	26,524,765
Departmental collaboration	114	228,000
Collaboration grants for UB services	458	1,716,665
Collaboration with UB faculties/schools	373	848,501
Company placements	265	330,454

Other financial aid	Number
DRAC programme	26
Mobility programme	465
Eurolife network grants	2
Santander Iberoamérica	20
Fórmula Santander	4
Casio grants	3
Els Juliols grants	67
UB Entrepreneurship Chair grant	1

General and mobility grants for bachelor's, pre-EHEA and university master's degrees



**A COMMITMENT
TO LANGUAGE
TRAINING**

13 foreign languages
taught at the School
of Modern Languages

Additional academic opportunities

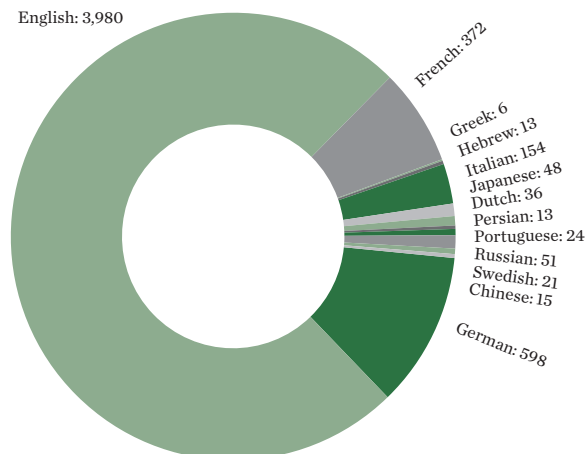


Language training, Hispanic Studies language and culture courses, summer courses and the University of Experience make up the UB's **Further Training Area**.

This year, the **School of Modern Languages**, Catalonia's first university language school, established a network of 20 accredited centres in 15 cities. The network offers an assurance of control and quality in language instruction provided to over 5,300 students throughout Barcelona.

The **Educational Programmes** area offered courses in 13 languages during the academic year: German, English, French, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Dutch, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Swedish and

Students enrolled in courses at the School of Modern Languages



Opening of the new head office of the Further Training Area in Sant Joan Despí

Chinese. A total of 5,331 students and 67 teachers participated in these courses. Over the course of the year, 4,047 level tests were conducted, 474 language accreditations were granted, and 722 official examinations were organized.

In the **Corporate Solutions** area, 61 courses specifically tailored to the needs of each group (11 for outside companies and 50 for members of the university community) were delivered to 636 students.

The Institute of Hispanic Studies provides education in Spanish language and culture to visiting students. With a tradition that goes back over 60 years, the Institute organizes and delivers Spanish courses to students taking part in the Erasmus programme and runs examinations for the Cervantes Institute's



“Student mobility has steadily increased over the years. The Horizon 2020 goal is to have at least 20% of students participate in international mobility programmes by the time they graduate.”

Elodia Guillamón,
Mobility and International
Programmes Office



The University of Experience launches with nearly 1,000 students enrolled



Diploma in Spanish as a Foreign Language (DELE). It also designs, organizes and teaches courses for groups with specific needs or requirements.

During the year, a total of 1,768 students enrolled in courses at the Institute, 360 were Erasmus students, and 354 took part in the 63rd edition of the Course in Hispanic Studies, Language and Culture for Non-Spanish Speakers. Nineteen intensive language courses were delivered, with a total of 320 students, and special courses were organized in Spanish as an instrumental language and Spanish for specific purposes. These included Spanish for Economics and Business, Conversational Spanish, Writing in Spanish, Reading Short Texts, and Spoken Spanish for Everyday Situations. Finally, 267 candidates took the examination to obtain a Diploma in Spanish as a Foreign Language.

During the holiday period, the UB held the 19th annual **Els Julios** programme of summer courses. A total of 1,168 students enrolled in 39 summer courses led by 417 teachers. Courses were held in eight municipalities: Barcelona, Badalona, Sant Joan Despí, Hospitalet de Llobregat, Cornellà de Llobregat, Vilafranca del Penedès, Terrassa and Alella. The programme included the 8th edition of the Women’s Summer University, organized in cooperation with the Cornellà City Council’s Information and Resource Centre for Women.

The **Gaudir UB** programme, based in Badalona and Barcelona, was also run again this year. Sixty-four courses (open to all) were offered, and 397 students and 60 teachers took part.

The fifth edition of the **University of Experience**—the UB’s learning initiative for over-55s of any educational background—was held this year. The programme attracted 929 students, 488 of whom were new students. The majority were aged between 55 and 65, and 67% were women. Eleven study programmes were offered, including two new additions: Astronomy and Meteorology, and Biology. The University of Experience also delivered 23 courses and continued to organize complementary activities, such as courses in French and English for specific purposes, courses in physical activity and chi kung, and, in association with the Conservatory of the Liceu, a variety of introductory music and instrumental courses. Within the framework of this initiative, the UB also took part in the 17th edition of the Saló de la Gent Gran de Catalunya.

A COMMITMENT
TO SOCIETY



929

students enrolled
in 11 programmes
at the University
of Experience

Catalan language courses provided by the UB's Language Services were offered as year-long, single-term and intensive summer courses at CEFR levels A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 and C2. Successful students received official certificates of accreditation from the Government of Catalonia and recognition of free-elective and ECTS credits for their degree studies. Catalan classes were also offered to teaching and research staff seeking to obtain a certificate of proficiency in Catalan for teaching at the UB, a qualification that is officially recognized as equivalent to "Level C" as defined by the Government of Catalonia. Specially designed courses and Catalan language proficiency tests were also offered for administrative and service staff. A total of 87 courses were run, with 1,103 students enrolled.

Under the **UB's Plan for Languages**, students and UB staff were able to use Rosetta Stone computer-assisted language learning software, a self-access language-learning tool introduced the previous year and offered via the Virtual Campus. Nearly 1,100 language learners from different sectors of the university community made use of the system. In addition, the UB's self-access language centres facilitated the creation of conversation groups in English, which drew 1,008 student participants, and 12 students took part in a group for basic Catalan. Conversation groups were also started for French (37 students), Italian (25), German (23), Spanish (10), Japanese (5), Chinese (5) and Portuguese (3).

One hundred and thirty-seven international students participated in conversational exchanges with

160 local students within the framework of the UB's **Language Exchange** programme, which is integrated in the welcome programme for mobility students. Catalan students were able to practise 17 languages spoken by mobility students while providing language and cultural support in Catalan in exchange. Over the course of the academic year, 16 guided tours and a variety of cultural activities were also organized.

The **Institute for Lifelong Learning (IL3-UB)** worked to design future programmes that foster the talent of participants and provide them with the tools they need to develop, strengthen and apply key skills required in the business world. It also sought to develop training activities that improve the ability of participants to take a dynamic, decisive approach so they are able to propose creative responses to challenges and make innovation an integral part of the way they work. These objectives—aimed at ensuring participants are able take a competitive approach to the practice of their profession in very specific markets—reflect the Institute's focus on designing pro-

Further training and other students Academic year 2014-2015

School of Modern Languages (EIM)	5,331
Hispanic Studies	1,768
University of Experience	929
<i>Els Juliors</i> summer courses	1,168
<i>Gaudir UB</i> courses	397
Language Services (SL): Catalan courses	1,103

“I’ve always liked the world of academia, and now that I have enough time, I want to pursue university studies. At the UB’s University of Experience, I found everything was straightforward, clear and well organized.”

Francesc Gómez,
University of Experience
student



programmes that are highly specialized and constantly updated. In line with the aim of delivering training programmes that are highly practical, students carry out projects within the companies where they work.

In order to address market needs more effectively, the training activities offered by IL3-UB were reorganized at two levels: area and subarea. The first level comprises four main areas: Economics and Business; Health, Pharmacy and Nutrition; Engineering, Technology and Environmental law, and Education, Culture and Communication. The second level of classification is oriented towards each professional’s individual reality, with the focus on their experience and specific professional development needs. The training activities that comprise the broad range of IL3-UB programmes are classified within fifteen subareas at this second organizational level.

Students enrolled in lifelong learning courses (IL3)

Type of course	Open courses		Corporate solutions	
	Students	Courses	Students	Courses
Online learning	8,154	323	833	8
Face-to-face learning	2,525	128	240	21
Blended learning	945	43	741	23
Total	12,882	547	1,814	52

Support services for teaching, improvement and educational innovation

The **Learning and Research Resources Centre (CRAI)** comprises seventeen libraries and seven cross-university units that facilitate access to and disseminate information resources and services, as well as collaborating in learning and knowledge creation.

The CRAI supports teaching and research staff by managing and providing information resources, and offering advice on the creation of teaching materials, publication, copyright, the use of teaching platforms and tools, and **continuous improvement of teaching and research**.

The CRAI was involved in 31 projects to create new teaching materials, prepared 97 new tutorials that were published in the UB Digital Repository, re-

viewed and approved 165 publications in the UB's specialized teaching collections, delivered 17 training courses on teaching tools and resources, held 115 meetings with teachers to advise them on teaching tools and resources, and, in coordination with the UB's teaching resource points, responded to 6,616 queries from research and teaching staff through the User Support Service.

Teaching quality is one of the University of Barcelona's priority objectives. The **Teaching Improvement and Innovation Programme** contributes to the achievement of this goal by supporting continuous improvement in teaching at the UB and by fostering teaching innovation and activities that allow teaching staff to share their experience.





The UB's open management procedure for teaching innovation proposals and activities continued to operate. One hundred and one proposals were considered, with 75,000 euros allocated to fund the programme. Fifty-five new **teaching innovation projects** were approved (and 35 of these received funding). A total of 999 teachers were involved.

The UB's recognized **teaching innovation groups** were all re-accredited; 71 groups were consolidated and 26 were recognized, including 5 new groups that presented proposals in the academic



year 2014-2015. Financial aid and support staff for consolidated groups and funding to disseminate the activities of all recognized groups were maintained.

A new app called *Carpeta Docent* (Teacher's Portfolio) that allows teachers to access their teaching-related institutional data was launched.

In the academic year 2014-2015, the twelfth **formal assessment of teaching activity** was carried out. In total, 69.9% of the eligible teaching staff participated, and 92.4% of participants received positive evaluations. Participating teachers were able to manage the process via the *Carpeta Docent* (Teacher's Portfolio) app. The new **Manual for the Formal Assessment of Teaching Activity** was used for the first time this year. The manual was accredited by AQU Catalonia's Special Committee for the Assessment of Individual Merits and Activities on 15 October 2015 and will remain valid until 31 December 2019.

With the aim of facilitating access to **opinion surveys** on subjects and bachelor's and university master's degree teaching staff and encouraging student participation, the number of items covered was reduced, and the survey was adapted for mobile devices. Improvements to the app were also made to allow schools to monitor participation in real time. Over the two semesters, 168,951 responses were submitted online, with a participation rate of nearly 22%, and 15,435 reports were produced.



The functions of the **Institute of Education Sciences**, founded in 1969, include analyzing the training needs of teaching staff and designing proposals for action, promoting and fostering educational innovation, providing guidance and advice on research, disseminating best practices, and producing training materials on a range of media. Three hundred and four educators participated in activities organized by the Institute, and the number of enrolled students was 8,602 (73.3% women)

Activities offered by the Institute of Education Sciences

Course/activity	Enrolments
Lifelong learning for teachers in early childhood, primary, secondary, and vocational education and for teachers in related areas of community education	4,480
Online training	210
University teacher training	3,654
Postgraduate courses and master's degrees	258
Total	8,602



“The DNA Bank (a project that uses forensic genetics to identify victims of the Spanish Civil War) is a good example of how research carried out by our investigators addresses demands from the public.”

Lurdes Jordi,
Director of Innovation and Knowledge Transfer
at the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation



A UNIVERSITY AT THE FOREFRONT OF RESEARCH

Promotion, funding
and internationalization of research

Research and scientific output

Technology and knowledge
transfer and innovation

Doctorate

4



Promotion, funding and internationalization of research

The UB's research, innovation and transfer policies have strengthened its reputation as a research-intensive university and have helped to attract and retain leading research talent. The UB is the leading producer of scientific output in the Spanish university system, and advances over the course of the last academic year have enhanced its international projection and fostered on-going promotion of research excellence.

The results obtained by UB researchers in the 2014 call of the **National Plan for Scientific and Technical Research and Innovation**, overseen by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECO) have placed the University at the forefront of Spanish research and development production and among the leading performers in the area of competitive research funding. In total, the UB received over 10.2 million euros for 107 research projects on more than twenty different areas of knowledge. Of these projects, 59 correspond to the **Spanish national programme to foster scientific research and technology of excellence**, and 48 to the **Spanish national research, development and innovation programme** to meet social challenges. The UB was also successful in the **Collaboration Goals 2015** call, promoted by MINECO to finance projects carried out jointly by research institutions and businesses. It obtained funding for 80% of the submitted proposals, amounting to over a million euros.

At the close of the Seventh Framework Programme, a total of 151 **international projects** had been

awarded to the University, with a combined value of some 56 million euros. The UB coordinated 31 of these projects. Data from the start of the new European Union programme, **Horizon 2020**, show high participation of UB researchers, reflecting the strategic decision to pursue international funding.

The Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC), based on the Barcelona Science Park (PCB), is one of two centres in Spain recognized as a **Severo Ochoa Centre of Excellence**. This status will see it receive annual funding of 500,000 euros over the next four years. The Institute of Cosmos Sciences (ICCUB) received the distinction of **María de Maeztu** Unit of Excellence in the first edition of this MINECO call, which was created to recognize excellence in the organizational structure of university research. The six research units selected in the María de Maeztu distinctions include the Barcelona Graduate School of Mathematics, promoted by the Faculty of Mathematics through the Institute of Mathematics. The **Ramón y Cajal** programme for retaining talent has been continued, to consolidate the teaching and research work of lecturers and researchers. In addition, the **Juan de la Cierva** and **Beatriu de Pinós** grant programmes continue to run.

Regarding recognition of research quality, the **BKC Barcelona Knowledge Campus** received the highest final rating from the Ministry of Education, and consolidated its position as a campus of international excellence.



A university at the forefront of research

The European Commission gave the **Human Resources Excellence in Research (HR logo)** award to the UB, in recognition of good practices in the processes of hiring research staff. With this award, the University is committed to implementing a plan of action for 2015-2017 to improve and update all processes that are directly related to attracting and hiring research staff, announcing calls for applications on the Euraxess portal, and ensuring optimum, competitive working conditions for researchers.

In February, the University approved **regulations for the creation of research centres and regulations governing research stays for external researchers** in UB facilities and research groups, to increase the visibility and impact of researchers'

collaborations with international research groups and institutions.

Research activities and policies have been strengthened by the impetus and visibility given by active participation in **international research networks**, particularly the **League of European Research Universities (LERU)**, to which the UB has belonged since 2010. During the academic year, LERU has focused on the following aspects: reorganization of university structures, the introduction of the gender perspective in research and innovation, the launch of the LERU Law Portal, and the exchange of doctoral law students between LERU universities. In addition, a new working group has been formed, comprised of deans of natural sciences.

A report has been drawn up on the socioeconomic impact of all LERU universities at local, national and state level. The results of the report will be announced and made available to the entire university community in the coming months.

The University of Barcelona is deeply involved in, and committed to, LERU. In addition to participating in meetings, the UB has six representatives who are steering committee members for six communities of experts, and the Rector is a member of the Policy Committee. The Vice-Rector for Research, Innovation and Transfer has promoted the participation of UB students in the specific activities that LERU offers every year for trainee researchers.



A meeting of the League of European Research Universities (LERU)

The “Physics in Our Lives” exhibition, in the Solar Atrium at the UB’s Faculty of Physics



Participation in LERU’S governing bodies, plenary meetings and work meetings puts the UB in a privileged position that also benefits the city of Barcelona. Therefore, to take advantage of synergies and strategies, a specific agreement has been signed with Barcelona City Council.

The University is a member of various international research networks focused on specific topics, such as **EuroMarine**, a multinational, multi-institution European consortium to promote cross-cutting, multidisciplinary marine research, and the **European Consortium for Political Research**, a leading international association of researchers in the fields of law, sociology, chemistry and economics, among others. The UB will coordinate the **Eurolife** network, comprised of eight European institutions in the area of life sciences and health, during the 2015-2017 period. The aims of the network are to promote transnational interactions through research projects, and to develop the training of postgraduates, grant programmes and student exchange networks.

The University is also involved in international collaboration in the area of **research support infrastructure**. In particular, the UB Science and Technology Centres (CCiTUB) have been put forward as a node for the Euro-BioImaging project, whose mission is to provide access to the latest imaging technology for European researchers. In addition, UB has the first centre in Spain certified to produce advanced-therapy medicinal products, as part

of the Faculty of Medicine’s Cell Therapy Programme, in which a vaccination is currently being developed to protect against HIV. In this area of specialized facilities, Farmatec UB is being launched as a centre for the research and production of experimental medicine, as part of the HUBc Health Campus of International Excellence.

The UB participates in major, international research projects, such as the **EIT Health** consortium, which is comprised of 144 entities and companies, and approved by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT). The UB and the company Atos coordinate the Spanish node, which has 25 members and is based at the PCB. Four proposals for innovation projects involving UB researchers were presented at EIT Health 2015, and seven expressions of interest for different types of training (master’s, doctorate and Mooc, among others) have been submitted to the EIT Health campus.

The Government of Catalonia has started working on the definition and implementation of **Research Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialization, RIS3**, for Catalonia. The first step in the RIS3CAT project has been to develop communities, including the RIS3CAT Gastronomy Community that the UB coordinates in conjunction with the Alicia Foundation, and the Health Community, which is led by Biocat and in which the UB has a “driving” project. The UB also participates actively in the water, energy, food, multimedia and industrial systems communities.

Research and scientific output

The **income from competitive research** undertaken at the eighteen UB faculties and university school amounted to 31,540,077 euros for a total of 384 research activities. This figure includes Spanish and European projects, as well as other grants, such as nineteen awarded under in the ICREA Academy programme to incentivize and reward excellence in research undertaken by staff of Catalan public universities. The nineteen ICREA Academy projects represent 3,800,000 euros.

The UB signed 11 European projects as part of the **Seventh Framework Programme of the European Commission**, for a total of 3,102,756 euros. In addition, through the new EU research and innovation programme, **Horizon 2020**, for the period 2014-2020, the UB has been awarded two European projects, with a total funding allocation of 435,275 euros.

A total of 530 **agreements** have been signed. The income generated by research agreements (104) stood at 757,102 euros.

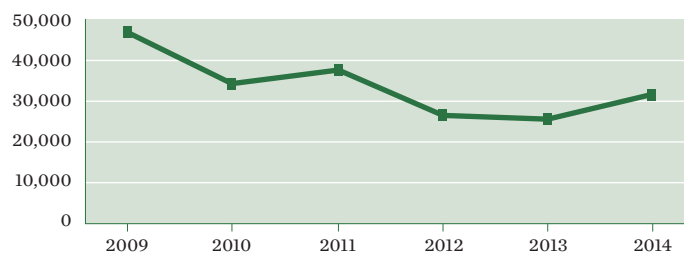


Income from competitive research undertaken at UB schools and faculties

Type	Number	Amount (€)
Projects and special activities	260	23,375,281
Infrastructures	4	185,528
Grants	120	7,979,269
Total	384	31,540,078

Origin	Activities	Amount (€)
Regional government	91	3,288,718
National government	198	17,003,698
Local government	2	3,444
Others	41	5,084,150
Private companies	29	1,242,333
European Union	23	4,917,734
Total	384	31,540,077

Evolution of competitive research funding at UB faculties and university school (in thousands of euros)





RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

62,702,535

euros received for research and technology transfer
in competitive and non-competitive calls

In the **call for grant applications**, part of the Talent Retention Programme at the University, 8 grants were awarded, as well as 77 grants to continue research activity during the same year.

An internal grant call was also held to promote participation in international research projects under the Horizon 2020 project framework. In total, two calls were announced, in which 117 grants with a total value of 518,000 euros were awarded.

Regarding **research structures** through which research is promoted and coordinated, in 2014 the UB had twelve of its own research institutes, two university institutes, eleven research and special research centres, ten observatories and three documentation centres. In addition, the UB is a participant with other institutions in ten joint research institutes, two joint observatories and two inter-university institutes.

Under the National Agreement on Research and Innovation and the new Research and Innovation Plan, the following **research groups** applied for government funding in 2014: 301 consolidated research groups, 22 emerging research groups, 17 groups managed by the August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS), 5 managed by the Bellvitge Institute for Biomedical Research (IDIBELL) and 11 by other participating institutions.

According to the international database of the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI), the **scienti-**

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

UB research institutes

- Institute of Biomedicine (IBUB)
- Institute of Cosmos Sciences (ICC)
- Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (IN2UB)
- Institute of Theoretical and Computational Chemistry (IQTUB)
- Biodiversity Research Institute (IRBIO)
- 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 (IRCV)
- Nutrition and Food Safety Research Institute (INSA)
- Geomodels Research Centre
- Institute for Legal Research (TRANJUS)

University research institutes

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

Research institutes in which the UB participates

- Centre for Research in Agricultural Genomics (CRAG)
- Centre for Ecological Research and Forestry Applications (CREAF)
- August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS)
- Catalan Institute of Climate Sciences (IC3)
- The Catalonia Institute for Energy Research (IREC)
- Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC)
- Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB)
- Bellvitge Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBELL)
- Barcelona Institute of Economics (IEB)
- Barcelona Graduate School of Mathematics (BGSMath)



fic output of UB researchers includes 5,180 scientific publications, 4,270 of which are in the Science Citation Index Expanded, 730 in the Social Sciences Citation Index, and 180 in the Arts & Humanities Citation Index.

To promote social interest in science and knowledge, *UB divulga* has carried out a series of activities including *Comas i Solà*, a short film contest on research carried out by trainee researchers, and *Camins infinits*, which brings school students into contact with UB researchers. In addition, the first UB Science Festival was held.

The **CRAI Research Unit** validates researchers' papers and publishes them in the digital repository, where they are available in open access format. This year, 568 documents were added to the research collection. These were mainly research papers, but also included working papers, contributions to conferences, and book chapters. The CRAI Research

Summary of income for technology and knowledge transfer and research

Research projects	23,070,251
Complementary actions	305,030
Infrastructures	185,528
Other grants	7,979,69
UB agreements	757,101
FBG contracts	11,759,967
Funds received by UB researchers in other institutions*	18,645,389
Total	62,702,535

* Includes income from the activity of UB researchers in competitive and non-competitive research projects at the August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS), the Bellvitge Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBELL), the Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC), the Catalonia Institute for Energy Research (IREC), the Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB), the Barcelona Science Park (PCB), the Centre for Ecological Research and Forestry Applications (CREAF) and the Centre for Research in Agricultural Genomics (CRAG).

SCIENTIFIC
OUTPUT

5,180

scientific publications
collated by the Institute for
Scientific Information (ISI)



Unit manages grants to support publishing in open-access journals, through which around fifty papers were published in 2014. It also manages the scientific journal portal (RCUB), which hosts around thirty UB journals and provides links to the rest of the publications created and edited by the University.

The **Barcelona Science Park (PCB)** promotes innovation and knowledge transfer by bringing together universities, public research institutes and companies. It creates environments in which public research and business innovation share a space and objectives, particularly in the area of life sciences. In 2014, a total of 92 entities used the PCB, of which 57 were companies (46 on-site and 11 off-site associates), 14 were non-profit entities (one off-site associate, the rest on-site), 11 were UB groups and units, and 10 were various PCB services. Between all of the entities together, the user population stood at 2,078 people.

The PCB has a total built area of 95,410 sq m and usable space of 59,724 sq m, of which 52% is occupied by clients. The total area that is leased is 21,278 sq m, of which 14,168 sq m are laboratories.

In the area of **scientific services**, an agreement has been signed with the Barcelona Biomedical Research Park (PRBB) to coordinate the PCB and PRBB animal facilities under a single management. Thus, the **PCB-PRBB Animal Facility Alliance** can become one of the biggest centres in Europe in this field, with 8,000 sq m of installations dedicated to research in animal models, and over 600 authorized users.

The Core Scientific Services have been used by around thirty entities and companies in the PCB, which represents a population of over 1,100 users. The PCB's radioactivity unit and technology platforms (Drug Discovery, Proteomics, Combinatorial Chemistry and Toxicology) provide a service for 230 clients (entities and research groups) and have led to 27 scientific publications.

In the area of **activities to promote entrepreneurship and innovation**, the PCB held the second edition of the Networking & Innovation Day, an event focused on technology exchange between PCB members, the UB Group and other interested parties. It was attended by over 170 representatives from around a hundred entities in the research and business sectors. In addition, six open seminars were organized on accessing funding and tools for

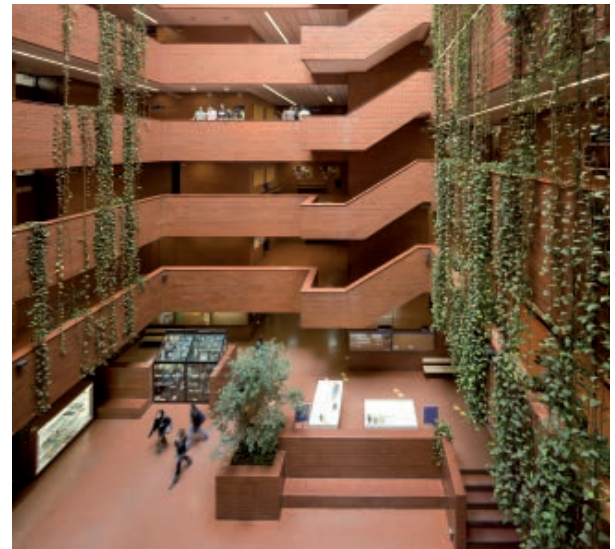
entrepreneurs, and the PCB collaborated in the Transbio Emergence Forum and in the sixth Summer School on Medicines.

Scientific dissemination and the **promotion of scientific careers** have continued to be actively promoted through the “Research in Society” programme, which was launched in 2003 for the education community and the public in general. The programme is supported by public and private institutions. In total, 4,130 children and young people took part and 65 research projects were supervised.

An agreement has been made by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness, the Government of Catalonia, the PCB and the Centre for Genomic Regulation (CRG), to legally integrate the **National Centre for Genome Analysis (CNAG)** into the CRG. The CNAG carries out genome research projects in the areas of biomedicine, biology and the agri-food sector.

Due to the quality of its facilities, the CNAG is among the top five European with the greatest sequencing capacity. In 2014, its researchers participated in 39 publications, four of which were published in the main journals in the *Nature* publishing group.

At the end of 2014, the CNAG was included in the Map of Singular Scientific and Technological Infrastructures (ICTS) 2013-2016 that are distributed throughout Spain or in a network, along with the



Faculty of Biology

Centre for Omic Sciences of the Rovira i Virgili University. As an ICTS, the CNAG is committed to providing competitive open access to at least 20% of the capacity of its facilities.

The CNAG has also participated in sixteen competitive research projects, nine with European Union funding and seven with Spanish funding, in areas as diverse as rare diseases, cancer, respiratory diseases, epigenomics, ocean biodiversity and the 3D organization of chromatin. The CNAG continues to contribute to successful Spanish involvement in the **International Cancer Genome Consortium (ICGC)** through its participation in the project on chronic lymphocytic leukaemia led by Dr Elías Campo

The UB and Hospital Clínic will produce a drug to treat AIDS. The medication will be produced in the clean room of the UB's Research and Development Unit in the Faculty of Medicine. The facility is the only one that has been accredited by the Spanish Agency of Medicines and Medical Devices to produce drugs of this kind, and complies with regulations on good manufacturing practice.

La Vanguardia, 15-4-2015

of the Hospital Clínic of Barcelona, and Dr Carlos López Otín of the University of Oviedo. Their work is focused on deciphering the molecular basis of this kind of tumour and opening the door to the design of individualized treatment regimens.

The **Science and Technology Centres (CCiTUB)** are a group of facilities whose main mission is to support research and innovation in the fields of chemistry, materials science and the biosciences. They provide the scientific and industrial community with the latest scientific instruments and offer advice on experimental techniques. 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. In recent years, the CCiTUB have collaborated in aspects of training by organizing courses and technology seminars.

The CCiTUB successfully passed the **re-certification** for ISO 9001:2008, which was obtained originally in 2005, and renewed US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Self-Identification as a contract laboratory for drug trials. In addition, the Centres began the process of renewing recognition as a member of the Xarxa IT Tecnio (accreditation that was first obtained in 2001) created by Acció, and the CCiTUB's Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Laboratory was again included in the **Map of Singular Scientific and Technological Infrastructures (ICTS)**.

The CCiTUB participated in drawing up the **European Standards for Services**, a European initiative that corresponds to Mandate M/517 on Programming and Development of Horizontal Service Standards, funded by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA). They were also involved in reviewing the **Safety Guide of the Nuclear Safety Council (CSN)**, which provides basic recommendations on the information that the Council considers to be essential in the log of operations, records, and operational reports of radioactive facilities.

The Centres have a portfolio of **3,709 active users per year**, of which 686 are from private entities, 1,358 belong to public institutions (including the UB Group) and 1,665 are affiliated with the UB or the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation (FBG).

The Science and Technology Centres

Personnel	170
Approximate value of scientific equipment	41,110,000 €
Total campus area	12,000 m ²
Private users	686
Public-sector users	1,358
UB/FBG users	1,665
Income from services	3,569,029 €
Income from training activities	41,097 €
Income from projects and agreements	115,690 €



Specifically, the CCiTUB have worked for 485 principal researchers in projects managed by the UB across fifty departments in the different university faculties. In addition, it has supported 477 principal researchers from 96 other public institutions and research centres, and 321 clients from a total of 264 private companies, of which some 89% are small and medium-sized companies based in Catalonia.

In the area of **building loyalty among external private-sector users**, the CCiTUB had a total of 114 private-sector clients, 56 of which were new clients. A total of 86% of the existing clients had contracted services in 2013. By **economic sector**, many users were from pharmaceutical companies and firms producing chemical products for food, or from the biotechnology and minerals and metallurgy sectors.

The CCiTUB delivered a total of 46 special, **innovative, high value-added services** provided by 12 units in response to analytical problems formulated by 26 private companies and 17 research groups from a variety of public institutions.

In the area of **overall quality**, 39 indexed papers were published, with CCiTUB staff as authors or co-authors, 8 more than in the previous year. In addition, the CCiTUB taught 43 courses, participated in 96 activities (including congresses, seminars and workshops), received visits from companies, and technicians visited companies.

The **income from services** stood at 3,569,029 euros, which is 10.49% less than in 2013. Of this amount, 2,533,797 euros was generated by science and technology units, 1,015,105 euros by animal facilities, and 20,127 euros by radiological protection services.

The **income from training activities** was 156,789 euros (22,637 euros more than in 2013). The CCiTUB consolidated the use of **training activities** for promotion and dissemination among users and potential users. The following courses were run: homologated courses, courses and seminars on the centres' technology portfolio, technical training for self-service work, on-site technical assistance, scientific and technological lectures and seminars, and collaborations in other training activities not organized by the CCiTUB. The CCiTUB also held seven free technology seminars open to the public, and organized and hosted fourteen courses, workshops and symposiums on science and technology.

As part of a **project to disseminate theoretical and practical knowledge of instrumental techniques**, the first volume of the *Introducción a las técnicas instrumentales de caracterización y análisis* (Introduction to instrumental techniques for characterization and analysis) was presented. This work addresses materials characterization, chemical and biological analysis.

Regarding **strategic actions**, the CCiTUB took part in the Core Technologies for Life Science Conference (Paris) dedicated to specific problems that af-



Faculty of Chemistry

fect core facilities laboratories. At this meeting, the CCiTUB was involved in an initiative to create a European network of molecular techniques in biophysics. This aim of this network is to organize workshops and courses, provide and share resources, and together address the problems and challenges of the various techniques involved.

The CCiTUB also participated in the Second Congress of the **Spanish Network of Advanced Optical Microscopy (REMOA)**, and organized the annual general meeting of this network and a round table on core facility management. As part of the First Euro-BioImaging Open Call for Nodes, the Barcelona Live and Intravital Microscopy Node of Euro-BioImaging was presented by the University of Barcelona, the Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB Barcelona) and the Centre for Genomic Regulation (CRG). The proposal obtained the top rating of Highly Recommended.

The CCiTUB was represented at the Thirteenth National Congress of Materials (nanometrics, electron microscopy applied to materials science); the Thirteenth Human Proteome Organization World Congress (proteomics); the Third Meeting of UB Science Communicators; the First Seminar in Analysis of Forensic Science Materials, and the Third Biotechnology Update for professional training staff at the UB, among other events.

New scientific equipment has been incorporated into the **range of instruments** available at the

CCiTUB, including circular dichroism equipment, a Frontier infrared spectrometer, a widefield fluorescence microscope, an FEM scanning electron microscope with an infrared camera, a Raman XploRaOne microscope, and a Raman Imaging DXR TM xi microscope.

New premises for the Advanced Optical Microscopy and Proteomics units were opened on the HUBc health sciences campus. These spaces were refurbished and equipped in 2013 as a result of collaboration with the **Josep Carreras Foundation**. Furthermore, **new equipment** purchased by the University in Barcelona and installed in 2014 was inaugurated.

A total of 22 **agreements** have been made, including contracts for the provision of services, quality agreements, licensing agreements for the use of scientific equipment, and university-business collaboration agreements involving the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation.

Notable activities of the **Bioethics Committee** are the design and assessment of mandatory reports on bioethics, and the evaluation of ethical aspects of international research projects managed by the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation and the Barcelona Science Park. The Committee has collaborated with the Agency for Management of University and Research Grants (Agaur) to assess the ethics of applicants for Beatriu de Pinós grants, which are awarded by Agaur. It has also assessed projects submitted in calls for the Government of Catalo-

“According to bibliometric studies conducted by external researchers, the UB is the leading university for scientific output in marine sciences.”

Miquel Canals,
lecturer in the Department
of Stratigraphy, Palaeontology
and Marine Geosciences

nia’s Tecnospring Programme, which falls under the Marie Curie Actions of the European Union’s Seventh Framework Programme. Along the same lines, the Committee signed an agreement with Pompeu Fabra University (UPF) to evaluate the research projects of UPF investigators, particularly in the area of human and social sciences.

Members of the Bioethics Committee took part in the LERU Special Working Group on Research Integrity. The Bioethics Committee was identified as a benchmark for the implementation of this type of committee model across LERU’s member universities.

The Bioethics Committee also continued to coordinate the Network of Ethics Committees in Universities and Public Research Centres in Spain and the network’s website, and organized the group’s annual meeting.

The Bioethics Committee is also responsible for conducting ethical evaluations and, where appropriate, for issuing authorizations relating to doctoral theses that involve human experimentation or use biological specimens of human origin. These activities are a useful means of introducing trainee researchers to the basic ethical requirements of research. The Committee provides advice and, where needed, assistance to teaching staff supervising master’s degree final projects, bachelor’s degree final projects or practicum reports.



RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER



54 patent applications

Technology and knowledge transfer and innovation



The **Bosch i Gimpera Foundation** is the UB's centre for the transfer of knowledge, technology and innovation. It is responsible for advancing the research carried out at the UB and through the UB Group, creating new knowledge-based enterprises or enterprises based on patent licenses, establishing contracts with the private sector and public institutions to carry out R&D projects, and offering advice, consulting, studies, expert opinions and technical or analytical assistance. In addition, it is the UB's research valorization unit, and has the backing of Acció, the Catalan governmental agency devoted to enhancing the competitiveness of Catalan business.

Through joint **research projects** involving the University and companies or institutions, as well as consulting and analysis services, the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation contributes to increasing the competitiveness of the public and the private sector. A total of 621 joint research projects were undertaken with the UB and public and private entities, which generated revenue of 11.73 million euros.

In terms of **research projects with competitive funding**, the FBG was awarded financial assistance from public and private institutions in 32 cases, at a total value of 1.89 million euros. Over 200 proposals were submitted for research projects funded by the European Commission, which resulted in 45 contracts being signed for a total value of 15.95 million euros. Of these, 18 projects are part of the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and have a value of 11.57 million euros. Particularly

notable are the FBG's coordination of a project that has a value of 2.98 million euros (Impact-EV) and four grants awarded by the European Research Council (ERC): an Advanced Grant for a value of 2.43 million euros, two Starting Grants for 2.72 million euros, and a Proof of Concept for 149,946 euros.

In the area of **protection, valorization and patent licensing**, eleven license agreements were signed. The income from these and previous agreements stood at 320,071 euros, of which 189,547 correspond exclusively to the FBG, and the rest to licence agreements managed by the UB. The licensed technologies included two "Ready to Learn" software systems, two hybridomas that produce monoclonal antibodies to target leukocyte membrane molecules, a glycoprotein to protect liposomes, software for automatic posture recognition in physiotherapy, a method for diagnosing neurological disease derived from the propargylamine molecule with neuroprotective capacity for treating Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, methods to identify and diagnose lymphomas and predict survival, ideal liposomes for the release of bioactive compounds, and a computer-implemented method for assessing vascular networks using medical images.

A total of 15 priority patent and 15 international patent applications were submitted. Researchers put forward 55 invention proposals, which were assessed by the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation, and 24 patents entered the national phase. Three software technologies were registered in the UB Digital Repository.



In addition, 14 joint ownership contracts were negotiated and signed with other institutions, to share in the development of technology that ultimately received protection.

A total of 41 UB programmes and services were managed for 3.64 million euros, and the Foundation hired 339 people to carry out research project-related tasks (203 for national projects and 136 for European projects).

The Health and Safety Service paid visits to 71 entities and conducted 67 workplace assessments. Out of 522 contracted individuals and grant holders, 73% received check-ups.



Valorization and licensing 2014

Announcements of inventions	55
Priority patent applications	15
International patent applications	15
National phase patents	24
Active transfer projects	96
License agreements	11
Software registrations	3
Material transfer agreements	17

FBG contracts and agreements

	Number	Amount (millions of euros)
Income from research projects and services	621	11.73
Contracts and agreements	425	10.06
Service agreements	196	1.67
Funding under competitive research projects	77	17.84
European projects	45	15.95
Non-European institutions	32	1.89
Licensing*	11	0.19
Management of programmes and services	41	3.64
Total	750	33.40

* From licensing agreements signed in 2014 and earlier.

“To bring this research—the talent we have at the University—closer to society, we encourage collaboration agreements, projects in which our researchers work with companies or government agencies.”

Lurdes Jordi,
Director of Innovation
and Knowledge Transfer
at the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation

The FBG’s **creation of businesses and support for entrepreneurs** led to the launch of three companies (Physicaltech, SL; Transplant Biomedicals, SL; and Almodis Solutions, SL). The FBG also provided advice on 32 initiatives including new entrepreneurial projects and business plans, and firms in which the UB has a stake. With the FBG’s support, the companies Braingaze, Iproteos, Genmedica Therapeutics, Advanced Nanotechnologies, Dapcom-Data Services and SM Genomics obtained public and private funding and won a variety of awards.

The Foundation is responsible for monitoring spin-offs in which the UB has a stake through the CIC-UB company. In 2014, the CIC-UB became a shareholder of Impetux Optics, SL, as initial compensation for the contribution of a UB patent.

The FBG has played an active role in the UB **Barcelona Entrepreneurship Institute (BIE)**, by supporting entrepreneurs and participating in the Steering Committee and in the launch of the first edition of the *Emprèn!* award for innovative business ideas among UB students.

Entrepreneurship 2014

Business creation proposals received	22
Guided business projects	32
Technology-based spin-offs	3
New company in which the CIC-UB has a stake	1

To promote **collaboration between universities and society**, the FBG attended eleven national and international trade fairs and conferences on the subjects of innovation and technology transfer. As a result of all the promotion activities, a total of 173 technology demands were identified, which led to 41 contracts for a value of over 1.9 million euros. The Foundation has maintained contact with seven main clusters identified by Acció, in sectors that are considered key to the UB. The aim is to incorporate research groups from the university and from leading networks, and to be actively involved in the sectors in the definition of new projects and collaborations.

The **Centre for Innovation and Advanced Technologies (CITA)** promoted the capacities of Tecnio-UB centres by attending various fairs and participating in bilateral meetings organized with companies.

The FBG manages six out of a total of eight **Government of Catalonia reference networks** for research.

The second edition of the **Networking & Innovation Day** was held. This is a leading event to promote open innovation in the UB Group, and is organized jointly by the UB, the PCB, the FBG and the CCiTUB. At the 2014 edition, there were two round tables and around 300 partnership meetings, with the participation of researchers, investors and company directors in technology sectors.



A protocol has been developed to help researchers who want to start **crowdfunding** projects. Information is provided on how to seek funding and on the legal requirements for recording donations.

In the area of **dissemination**, the FBG organized a number of talks to promote different types of knowledge transfer. These events were attended by around a hundred people.

The Seventh 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 M. Chimenos Ribera, from the Design and Optimization of Processes and Materials (DIOPMA) research group, with the project “An environmentally sustainable view of managing waste from the incineration of urban solid waste”, and the company Endor Nanotechnologies, SL, led by Joaquín Querol.

Subject chairs

- Unesco Chair for Environment and Sustainable Development
- Sent Soví Chair
- Family Business Chair
- Joaquim Xirau Chair
- Ramon Llull Chair
- Unesco Chair in Gender, Development and Cultures
- Ramon Trias Fargas Chair on Catalan Economy
- Unesco Chair in Bioethics
- Pasqual Maragall Chair on Economy and Territory
- UB Chair for Research and Teaching in Internal Medicine
- UB Rector Francisco Buscarons Úbeda Chair. Forensic Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
- Josep Termes Chair on Leadership, Citizenship and Identities
- Chair for the Professional Integration of People with Disabilities
- UB Chair on Meat and Health
- UB-Zurich Chair in Insurance
- UB-Danone Chair
- Cellex Chair in Oncology and Mutidisciplinary Knowledge
- UB Chair in Energy Sustainability
- UB-Telefónica Chair on Smart Cities

Doctorate

During the academic year, **48 doctoral programmes** were offered linked to the areas of experimental sciences and engineering, health sciences, social sciences, the arts and humanities, and education. The cross-disciplinarity of the programmes, however, means that many are linked to more than one area. Ten of the programmes were run jointly with other Spanish universities, and two were **Erasmus Mundus** programmes.

A total of **5,431 trainee researchers** enrolled on the doctoral programmes. Out of these, 31.5% were international students.

Regarding **doctoral qualifications**, 147 graduates received the **International Doctorate certification**, and the Governing Council gave 83 **awards for outstanding theses**.

A total of 752 **doctoral theses** were defended. In 2012, the Royal Decree governing official doctoral studies came into effect. Since then, doctoral theses have been filed simultaneously in the digital cooperative repository and in the University of Barcelona's Digital Repository. During the academic year 2014-2015 a total of 669 theses were published, 477 of which were successfully presented over the course of the year. The overall number of theses published as of the end of the academic year was 4,750.



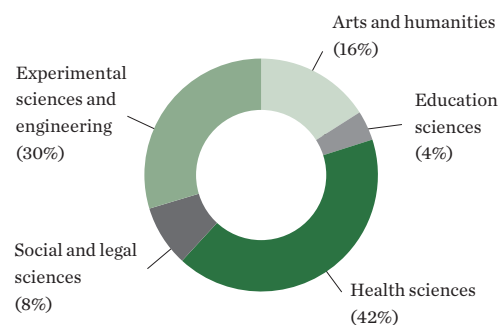
Doctoral School

The **Industrial Doctorates Plan** is a strategy of the Government of Catalonia, undertaken in collaboration with public and private universities. It was first piloted in the academic year 2012-2013, with the goal of raising the competitiveness and internationalization of Catalan industry, retaining talent and preparing doctoral students to carry out research, development and innovation projects in companies, which will then be the subject of their doctoral theses.

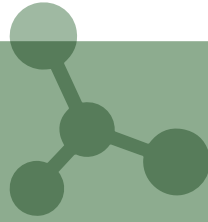
In the 2014 call, the University of Barcelona embarked on nine projects with different corporate partners, resulting in nine collaboration agreements. Seven of these projects were jointly funded and two were funded with a specific grant.

In addition, the Doctoral School took part in several **activities** organized by international networks in

Doctoral theses read, by branch of knowledge (2014-2015)

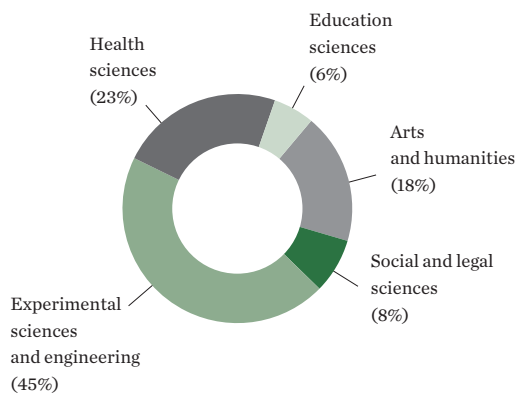


**TRAINEE
RESEARCHERS**



752 doctoral theses read

Research grant-holders, by branch of knowledge



Distribution of pre-doctoral research grants awarded by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport (MECE), the Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECO), the Government of Catalonia (GC) and the University of Barcelona (UB)

	Grants and contracts		Financial aid for stays	
	Number*	Amount** (thousands of euros)	Number	Amount (thousands of euros)
For training university teachers (MECE) –FPU–	187	1,774	26	121
For training research staff (MINECO) –FPI–	191	2,131	45	207
For training research staff (GC) –FI–	176	1,869	–	–
For trainee research staff (UB) –APIF–	154	1,904	10	23
Teaching and research grants (UB) –ADR–	35	503	–	–
Grants through contract agreements with la Caixa, the Carlos III Health Institute, the Government of Navarra and the Basque Government	16	193	–	–
Total	759	8,374	81	351

* Includes renewals of existing grants and contracts.

** Excludes the total cost of enrolment.

Opening of the Laboratory for Technology Demonstrations and Food Research at the Food and Nutrition Campus



“I value the international possibilities because I think that’s very important nowadays—not only in science, but also for those of us working in the humanities.”

Michele Cardani,
trainee researcher in the doctoral
programme in Contemporary
Philosophy and Classical Studies

which the UB is a member. It collaborated in a joint doctoral seminar entitled “Similarities and Differences in the Development of Regions within the Globalization Process”, in the International Forum of Public Universities, which took place in the summer in the University of Lodz (Poland), and in the LERU Doctoral Summer School 2014: “Sharing Excellence – The Value of Knowledge Exchange”.

For the second year running, the UB participated in the **Summer School on Medicines**. The seventh edition, in 2015, was held at the University of Montreal (Canada). Other participants were the University of Montreal, the Paul Sabatier University of Toulouse, Biocat, and the Barcelona Science Park.

In the **Erasmus Mundus Action 2** programme—USA and Canada—the Education, Audiovisual and

Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) of the European Commission selected the UB as coordinating university for the 2013 call. In this call, six scholarships for mobility were awarded to three doctoral students (two from the UB), two postdoctoral students (one from the UB) and one member of staff.

During the academic year, the **STEM Project** was launched to stimulate young people’s interest in science through an out-of-school programme. Twenty-five doctoral students from the UB participated in out-of-school sessions for young people from ten secondary schools in Barcelona. The sessions were on mathematics, robotics, nutrition, life sciences and sustainability. The programme was promoted by Barcelona City Council, with the collaboration of the New York Academy of Sciences, the Barcelona Education Consortium (CEB) and the UB, UPC, UAB and UPF.

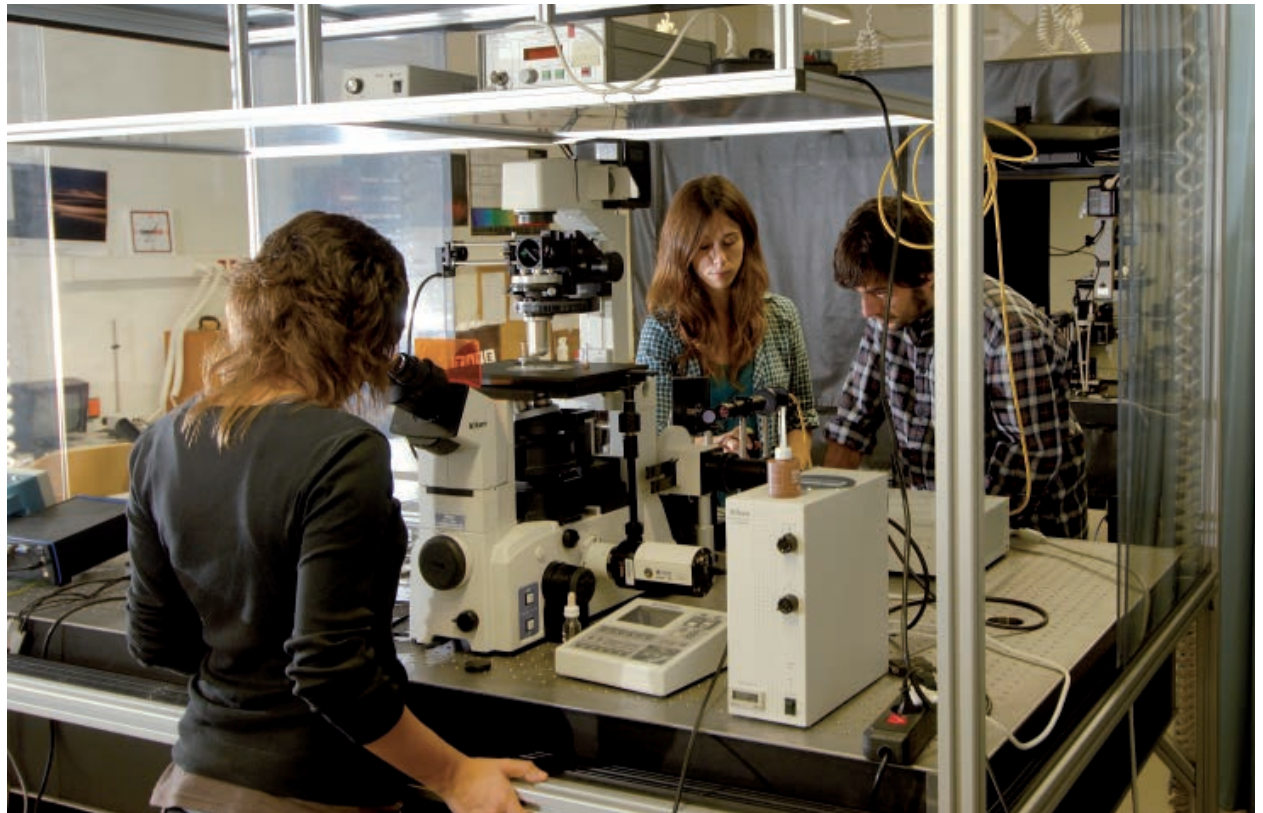


**DOCTORAL
SCHOOL**



9

industrial doctorate
programmes





“My experience at the UB has met my expectations. I really like its international character. The UB’s relationship with other universities in Europe and elsewhere facilitates collaboration with people around the world.”

Michele Cardani,
trainee researcher in the doctoral programme
in Contemporary Philosophy
and Classical Studies



A UNIVERSITY WITH INTERNATIONAL REACH

International institutional activity

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

5



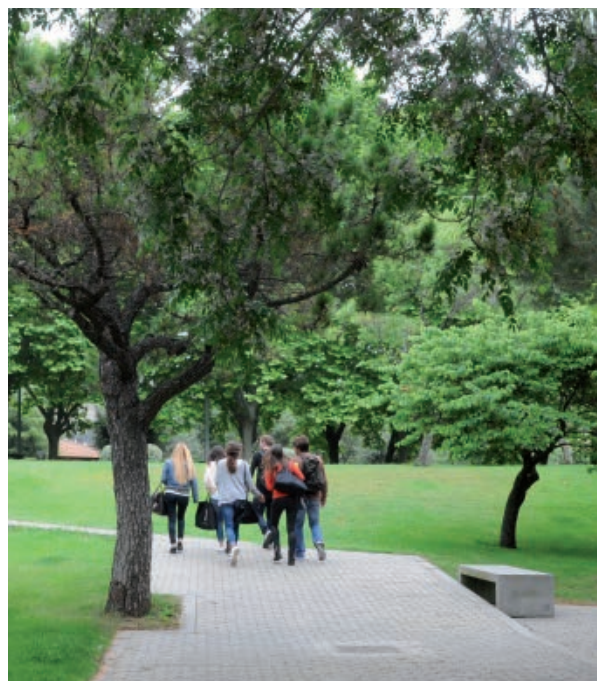
International institutional activity

Universities must increasingly compete in the international arena to attract the most talented teaching and research staff, management staff and students. As this scenario has developed over the last few years, it has become essential for the University of Barcelona to fully realise its potential as an internationally significant institution.

The UB must anticipate and respond to the changes that are taking place around it, ready to pinpoint coming trends and capable of interacting globally. The UB is training and preparing the present and the next generation of global citizens—professionals, researchers, entrepreneurs, leaders—with the capacity to work at the highest level anywhere in the world.

In the academic year 2014-2015, the University welcomed an **international community** of more than 10,000 students from 133 countries. They accounted for 32% of doctoral students, more than 25% of master's degree students, more than 5% of degree students and 22.5% of postgraduate students.

The **range of studies** taught in English has increased considerably, with two degree courses taught wholly in English (International Business, in the Faculty of Economics and Business, and English Studies, in the Faculty of Philology) and five degree courses taught partially in English. Together, these courses represent a total of 181 subjects taught at thirteen different faculties and schools. In addition, 24 master's degrees have been taught entirely in English—six of them through the Erasmus Mun-



Five Ibero-American higher education institutions—Complutense University of Madrid, the University of Barcelona, and three large public universities in Brazil, Mexico and Argentina—agreed to join forces to compete. They aim to increase their international presence by offering exchange programmes for teachers and students, developing joint degrees, and collaborating on research. Together, they have over 750,000 students.

El País, 11-6-2015

“In the case of administrative and service staff, mobility is a way to share experiences with people doing similar work at other universities. You gain new perspectives and learn new ways of doing things. It’s a very enriching exchange.”

Elodia Guillamón,
Mobility and International
Programmes Office

dus programme—and 23 partially in English. At doctoral level, the 48 programmes offered have been available in English (ten are inter-university and two are Erasmus Mundus), with 34 under joint international supervision. Additionally, the UB International Summer School has organized 12 courses in English, receiving a total of 261 international students of 24 different nationalities.

Under the **Study Abroad** programme, six different pathways have been designed which will enable students from the United States, China and other countries to study for one or two semesters at the UB, with the following options available to them: International Sciences and Engineering, Economics and Business, Law and Criminology, Language and Culture, Humanities, and Hotel Management.

The number of **English language courses** available to UB students has also been increased, and opportunities for international students to learn Catalan and Spanish have been broadened. There is now a thirty-hour introductory course in Catalan, and students can continue with higher-level and advanced classes. In collaboration with the Ramon Llull Institute, the University of Barcelona also offers a range of opportunities for learning Catalan at their own universities, both before and after their stay at the UB. Tuition in Spanish language continues to be coordinated by the Hispanic Studies unit.

With respect to the **international mobility** of students spending temporary study periods, the Univer-



The University of Barcelona signed a framework agreement with the University of Montpellier

sity welcomed a total of 1,749 international students, while 1,111 UB students travelled abroad to study.

The Office of the Vice-rector for International Policy coordinated two **grant calls** this year: first, grants to promote international projects of UB teaching staff with universities around the world (28 grants awarded), and second, new grants designed to grow the UB’s international presence through institutional projects (9 grants awarded). A new call has also been launched for teaching staff of international prestige to spend a short stay at the UB, with 41 grants awarded to date.

More than one hundred **international agreements** have been signed, built on strict quality criteria: high levels of academic quality, sound strategic analysis,

“For teaching staff, mobility is not so much an end in itself as a tool for conducting research or engaging in academic collaboration.”

Elodia Guillamón,
Mobility and International
Programmes Office

and the existence of a well-structured common project. The majority have been specific agreements involving faculties, but various framework agreements have also been signed, such as those with the universities of Montpellier, the University of British Columbia, the University of California, Pohang University of Science and Technology, the University of Hokkaido, the University of Kyoto, Saint Petersburg State University, the University of Nankai, Beijing Foreign Studies University and Zhejiang University. In addition to these, framework agreements have been signed with universities in Ecuador and Mexico (strategic partners) and in Chile.

The University of Barcelona has signed 2,347 **international mobility agreements**, of which more than 2,200 are Erasmus agreements for student, teaching staff and administrative & service staff mobility, and Erasmus placements.

The UB hosted various **international events** this year, most notably the General Assembly of the International Forum of Public Universities, the Ibero-American Congress of Chinese Studies, and the meeting between the University of Barcelona and the universities of Montpellier, in which rectors and groups of teaching staff from all the participating universities were present.

During this academic year, more than 45 **delegations** from 23 countries were welcomed from university institutions, consulates and embassies from countries such as the United States, China, Korea,

Argentina and France; and from private international entities such as Unesco and the French National Centre for Scientific Research. Various visits from international groups of students were also received.

For their part, representatives of the UB visited universities in the United States to discuss Study Abroad projects, and universities in Russia, China, Equatorial Guinea, Morocco and France to promote academic collaboration, cooperation and partnership.

Institutional contact has also been maintained with South-East Asia through the **Confucius Institute of Barcelona**. The UB chaired the board of this Institute during the academic year 2014-2015.

The University of Barcelona has three **overseas offices**: at Nova Southeastern University, in Florida (USA); at the University of São Paulo (Brazil), and at the University of Tongji (China). The UB also plays an active part in the 25 **international networks** to which it belongs, serving on the governing body of 12 of these.

The UB has taken part in international trade fairs and exhibitions in Korea, Saudi Arabia, the United States, the Czech Republic and China.

Finally, the University also organized the **official welcome meeting** for international students: this takes place each year in the Paranymp Hall and complements the activities organized by the various faculties and university school.

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

Student mobility

The UB manages student mobility under the Erasmus+, Erasmus Mundus Action 2 and Cinda programmes and through a series of bilateral agreements, all of them providing for reciprocal mobility flows.

This academic year has seen the introduction by the UB of the **Erasmus+ programme**, the most extensive mobility framework in Europe, with temporary study periods that lead to the award of academic credit. This programme is a valuable source of funding for mobility flows, establishing maximum and minimum grant amounts that vary according to the group of countries to which the destination university belongs. Countries are grouped on the basis of their average cost of living. In order to offset the decrease in mobility in quantitative terms, the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport (MECD) has announced a new programme, Erasmus.es,

which finances Erasmus+ grants in their entirety, and which replaces the additional contributions to the Erasmus grant made to date. In this way, all Erasmus+ students receive financial aid, with funds from the European Commission or the MECD.

To **improve access to placements**, Erasmus placements have been organized at three different times during the academic year, adapting to the labour market calendar and facilitating access to the Erasmus programme and to funding for those students who had the opportunity to complete a placement period in a company.

Under the Erasmus+ programme, 863 UB students completed academic exchanges and 84 took up placements in other countries. The UB hosted 1,105 international students on academic exchanges and 36 on placements.

Within the framework of the **Erasmus Mundus Action 2** programme, the UB coordinates three mobility consortia, two between universities in the European Union and Russia, and one between European universities and universities in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. The UB is also engaged in four other projects: three involving universities in the European Union and Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Palestine; and one with universities in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. It has hosted 31 students from universities in these countries, and five UB students have spent a temporary study period in Russia, Jordan or Lebanon.



Institutional welcome of international students

International exchange students by mobility programme

Programme	Students	% women
Erasmus: academic study	1,105	65.43
Erasmus Mundus Action 2	31	64.52
Erasmus: placements	36	61.11
Coimbra Group	5	40.00
Bilateral agreements	152	63.16
Interuniversity Centre for Development (Cinda)	11	72.73
Specific USA programmes (Study Abroad)	291	75.60
Science without Borders	13	46.15
Individual applications	105	65.71
Total	1,749	66.67

Bilateral agreements are signed with universities in countries that are neither part of nor associated with the European Union and are therefore ineligible to participate in the Erasmus programme. These agreements may apply to the university as a whole (general agreements) or to specific faculties or schools (specific agreements). The exchanges resulting from these agreements follow the Erasmus model; enrolment fees are not paid at the host university and the period of training is recognized by the home university.

In total, the University of Barcelona has signed 139 bilateral agreements with universities in countries outside the European Union, at which 140 students have spent a temporary study period, while 152 international students have been hosted as the UB. In addition, through 13 bilateral agreements drawn up with members of the **Coimbra Group**, the UB has hosted five students, and four UB students have spent a temporary study period abroad.

Cinda is an exchange programme for universities in Spain, Italy, Portugal and Latin America. A total of 13 UB students completed Cinda exchanges, and 11 students from outside Spain came to the UB.

UB students who participate in one of the above mobility programmes can obtain **complementary fi-**



Hispanic Studies closing ceremony for the year

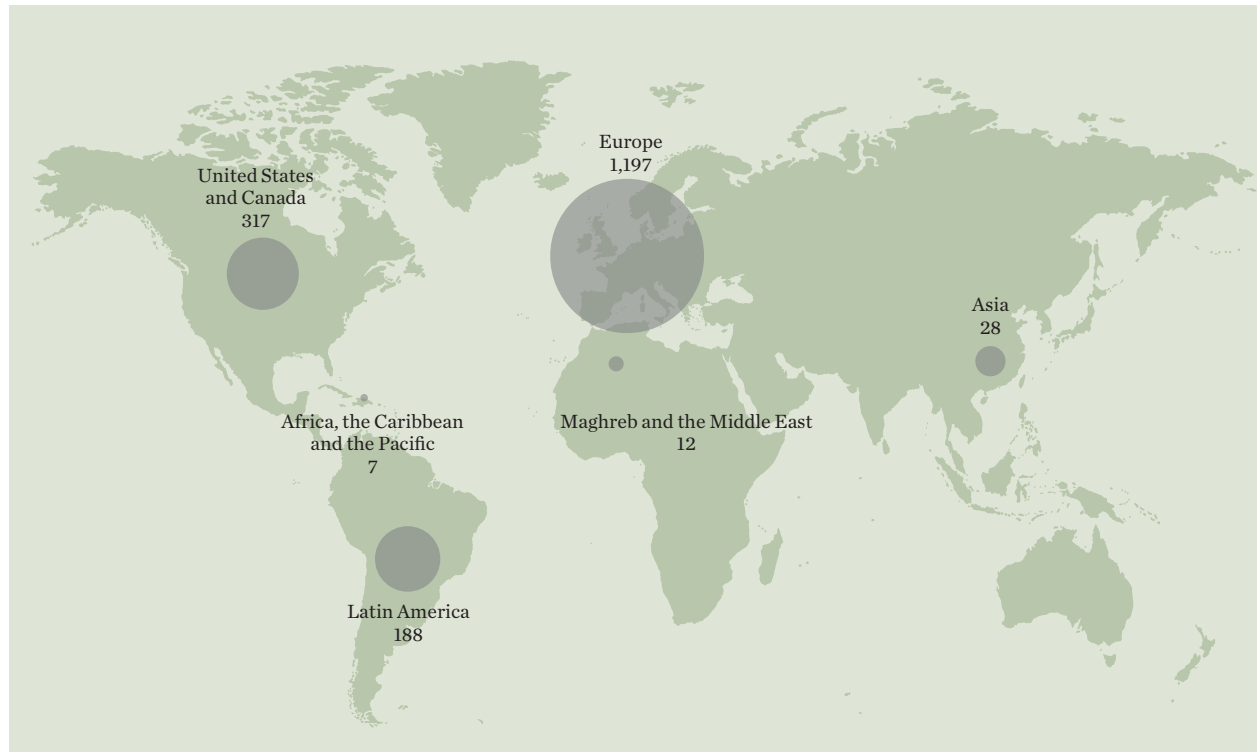
ncial aid. Under the Erasmus programme, in addition to funding from the European Commission (947 grants) and the MECD (329 grants), the offices of the Vice-rector for International Policy and the Vice-rector for Students and Language Policy have provided funding, including a total of 443 travel grants for students on the Erasmus+ programme and 22 grants for students on exchanges arranged under bilateral agreements or the Cinda programme. Furthermore, a UB student with special needs awarded a place on the Erasmus+ programme obtained an additional grant from the European Commission. Through Mobint grants provided by the Agency for the Administration of University and Research Grants (Agaur), the Government of Catalonia funded the participation of 332 UB students in various mobility programmes; 30 students received grants from the Banco Santander *Programa de Becas Iberoamérica*, and four students received grants through the *Fórmula Santander* grant programme for exchange periods in Latin American countries, under bilateral agreements or the Cinda programme.

The UB is involved in three non-reciprocal mobility programmes. In these cases, students are hosted for temporary study periods at the UB, but must pay enrolment fees. The programmes are: **Study Abroad**,

**MOBILITY
IN THE FRAMEWORK
OF EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES**

1,749 international
exchange students
welcomed to the UB

International exchange students, by geographical area



Student mobility by programme and geographical area

Programme	Europe (EU)	United States and Canada	Latin America	Maghreb and the Middle East	Asia	Total	% women
Erasmus: academic study	863	-	-	-	-	863	67.79
Erasmus: placements	84	-	-	-	-	84	71.43
Erasmus Mundus Action 2	2	-	-	3	-	5	60.00
Coimbra Group	4	-	-	-	-	4	75.00
Bilateral agreements	3	36	75	-	26	140	72.86
Interuniversity Centre for Development (Cinda)	-	-	13	-	-	13	61.54
Individual applications	1	1	-	-	-	2	50.00
Total UB students	957	37	88	3	26	1,111	68.50



through which agreements are made with US university consortia or universities, leading to 291 students coming to the UB from the USA; **Science without Borders**, through which the Brazilian government awards grants to students so that they can spend a period studying at the UB faculties of Biology, Pharmacy or Chemistry, and involving 13 students; and **individual applications**, through which a total of 105 students came to the UB from around the world and two UB students spent a temporary study period abroad.

Doctoral students were also offered the chance to take part in mobility programmes. The Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation has renewed the grant for a student enrolled in a doctoral programme at the UB under the category of institutional grants, and 5 doctoral students have also been

accepted from universities in Latin America, with grants provided by the Fundació Carolina.

In total, temporary study periods have been organized for 623 international students.

Staff mobility

Under the new **Erasmus+** programme, and to offset the potential decrease in mobility flows linked to the new EC funding regulations, the University of Barcelona has allocated additional funding which has led to 44 mobility opportunities for teaching and research staff, instead of the 35 initially assigned under the Erasmus+ programme.

Under the **Erasmus Mundus Action 2** programme, 8 teaching staff have taken up exchange placements.

Mobility of teaching and research staff and administrative and service staff, by programme

	UB PDI	UB PAS	International PDI	International PAS
Erasmus exchange+	44	30	–	30
Erasmus Mundus Action 2: Associations	3	–	5	1
Coimbra Group	–	–	1	–
Consortium for Advanced Studies in Barcelona	1	–	–	–
Council on International Education Exchange	2	–	–	–
Other programmes (before: reception programmes for international teaching and research staff PDI)	–	–	177	–
Total	50	30	183	31

OUR COMMITMENT TO
INTERNATIONALIZATION



10,446
international students from

133
countries

Under agreements with two US consortia in the **Study Abroad** programme, one researcher completed a research placement at Stanford University and two teaching staff spent language immersion periods at the universities of Princeton and Columbia.

In total, 183 international teaching staff—mainly from Brazil and Peru—have been welcomed to the UB, which has also received 177 teaching staff and researchers on its own welcome programme. One researcher from Cameroon was hosted at the UB through the Coimbra Group, which organizes stays for young teaching staff and researchers from Africa.

Temporary periods at the University were organized for 99 teaching staff from outside Spain.

In the area of Erasmus+ mobility options for the UB's administrative and service staff, co-funding from the University doubled the 15 mobility opportunities initially assigned, creating places for 30 staff members. Thirty-one employees of other universities have been hosted by the UB under the Erasmus+ (Staff Week) and Erasmus Mundus programmes. This academic year, all UB services were invited to take part in Staff Week, and 30 members of administrative and service staff from other European universities completed a week-long stay in Barcelona, where they were hosted by twelve UB services.

International projects

In the area of **international academic cooperation projects** with European funding, the Erasmus+ programme was heavily publicized; three information

sessions were organized for teaching staff, leading to an 80% increase in applications: from 39 in 2014 to 70 in 2015 (23 as coordinators and 47 as members). The programmes with most applicants were Strategic Partnerships (27 applications), Capacity Building (18) and Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree (8). 35 departments played an active part in this project, the most active being the Department of Teaching and Learning and Educational Organization, and the Department of Public Economy, Political Economy and Spanish Economy, which put forward 13 and 9 proposals, respectively. In total, 33% of the departments played an active part in the European project proposals.

The University has participated in 43 academic or institutional collaboration projects following various calls for proposals from the European Commission, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport, and the Spanish Agency for Development Cooperation. It coordinates 19 of these projects.

This academic year, the Spanish Agency for Development Cooperation has published the call for University and Scientific Cooperation for Development, with grants for research linked with development; the University of Barcelona has been awarded three projects with Ecuador, Cuba and Morocco, and a total of eight research grants.



UNIVERSITAT^{DE}
BARCELONA

