

Report 2021-2022 University of Barcelona



UNIVERSITAT DE
BARCELONA



Report
2021-2022
University of Barcelona

Edited by:
General Secretary's Office
University of Barcelona

Rector:
Joan Guàrdia Olmos

President of the Board of Trustees:
Joan Corominas Guerin

© Universitat de Barcelona

© Edicions de la Universitat de Barcelona
Adolf Florensa, s/n
08028 Barcelona
Tel.: 934 035 430
www.edicions.ub.edu
comercial.edicions@ub.edu



Prepared by:
Technical Bureau at the Rector's Office

Translated by:
UB Language Services (SL)

ISSN: 2604-7543

UB Digital Repository: <http://hdl.handle.net/2445/195680>

This document is under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivative Works 3.0 Unported License. To see a copy of this license click here <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/legalcode>.



Table of contents

Foreword from the Rector	7
The University of Barcelona	9
UB identity	
Structure and basic figures	
Geographical distribution: campuses and faculties	
1. A University engaged with society	19
Transparency, ethics and good governance	
Sustainability and quality of life	
Institutional and cultural activities	
Culture and society	
Entrepreneurship and transfer to society	
2. A University at the forefront of education	45
Course offering	
Other academic opportunities	
Student support	
Teaching innovation, assessment and improvement	
3. A University at the vanguard of research	67
Promotion, funding and internationalization of research	
Research and scientific output	
Technology, knowledge and innovation transfer	
Doctoral studies	
Dissemination of scientific culture	
4. An international university	89
The internationalization of education and research at the UB	
International mobility	



It is my pleasure to present this edition of the University of Barcelona's Report on the academic year, which provides an exhaustive summary of the institution's most significant projects, activities and figures in 2021-2022. The Report bolsters our commitment to transparency and accountability to society, enabling us to reflect on the work carried out over the year in the areas of teaching, research, knowledge transfer, internationalization and culture.

This work is guided by a European and global outlook and grounded in a series of core values that include sustainability, gender equality, non-discrimination, excellence, innovation, and the defence of Catalan language and heritage. The values we defend are the foundations we build on to undertake new projects and respond to the rapidly changing scenario that has come to characterize our recent times.

With this document we invite you to accompany us along the path we have walked over the course of the year. It reflects the rigour, commitment and success with which all members of the University of Barcelona community go about their work.

Joan Guàrdia
Rector of the University of Barcelona



UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA



The University of Barcelona

UB identity ●

Structure and basic figures ●

Geographical distribution: campuses and faculties ●

• UB identity



- **Public.** The University of Barcelona is the foremost public university in Catalonia. Its results are conveyed to society and its goals are shared through teaching, research and knowledge transfer, contributing to social and scientific progress.
- **Historic and urban.** Founded in 1450, the UB is closely linked to the city of Barcelona and its history. Its six campuses are spread across the city and act as hubs of activity in each of their locations. Moreover, these deep roots in the community extend across the metropolitan area (with schools and faculties in Badalona, Santa Coloma de Gramenet and Hospitalet de Llobregat, among others) and much of the surrounding region.
- **Universally renowned.** The UB is renowned throughout Spain and the rest of the world as a benchmark for education, science and thought, as reflected by its consistent position in the foremost international rankings and its intense participation in international networks. Its dynamic, critical, constructive, plural and human spirit is placed at the service of society, where it strives to defend values of freedom, democracy, justice, equality and solidarity.
- **Ethical and transparent.** The UB employs a model of good governance and comprehensive, efficient management for the allocation of resources which bolsters its accountability and underpins its institutional and social leadership in the Catalan university system and beyond. These underlying principles are also reflected in its socially responsible approach to research and a firm commitment to open science.
- **Generalist and multidisciplinary.** The University offers a broad selection of bachelor's degrees, master's degrees and research projects covering the many disciplines that make up the principal branches of: arts and humanities, social sciences, health sciences, experimental sciences and engineering. Cooperation and collaboration within and among each of these disciplines is the key to the University's leading role in opening up the frontiers of knowledge.
- **Sustainable.** The UB is committed to and constantly reviews its efforts to support the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in all its areas of activity. The introduction of transferable competencies in gender and the climate emergency are a clear reflection of this commitment.
- **Inclusive.** The UB promotes and defends the equality of all people, especially the most vulnerable, and respects and protects the diversity and real inclusion of all groups, beginning with the eradication of all types of gender discrimination. This objective also involves ensuring the well-being of and care for people with regard to every aspect of their working conditions.
- **Committed to quality teaching.** The UB's community of more than 5,000 lecturers pursues the shared goals of excellence and innovation in teaching. Each year, the demand for places exceeds availability by 30%, and student performance rates are currently 84% for bachelor's degrees and 92% for master's degrees. Our teaching is continually adapted to respond to global challenges such as the growth of artificial intelligence, and is designed with international collaboration in mind, as is apparent in the renewal of the UB's role as coordinator of the CHARM-EU European University alliance.
- **Research-intensive.** The UB is the only Spanish member of the League of European Research Universities (LERU) and its researchers are cited in the most prestigious scientific publications. The research conducted at the UB and its facilities, such as the Barcelona Science Park and the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation, is carried out in close collaboration with leading actors in science, business and technology working at the forefront of innovation.
- **Entrepreneurial and innovative.** The University of Barcelona actively promotes business creation and provides funding, guidance and training resources for entrepreneurs. The UB prioritizes public impact in all its knowledge management endeavours and fosters innovative activities and projects that generate value for society.
- **Catalan and international.** The University of Barcelona is a key institution in the Catalan university system and a crucial actor in the management of knowledge in Catalonia. It not only contributes to the use and prestige of its own language, Catalan, it is also involved in ensuring the progress of the country by engaging in international research and teaching and thus broadening cooperation and dialogue, especially with the rest of Europe and Latin America.

Structure and basic figures



217,000
FOLLOWERS ON FACEBOOK

70,700
FOLLOWERS ON TWITTER

54,200
FOLLOWERS ON INSTAGRAM

Structure

16 faculties
10 affiliated centres
60 departments
1 training and research unit
36 UB research structures
18 research structures with UB participation
665,777 sq m of constructed area

Course offering

72 bachelor's degrees
15 dual study pathways
170 university master's degrees
46 doctoral programmes
808 postgraduate courses
741 lifelong learning courses (IL3)

Students

41,717 bachelor's degree students
5,318 university master's degree students
10,665 postgraduate students
7,244 bachelor's degree graduates
2,854 university master's degree graduates
12,500 company placements

Teaching quality

97 consolidated teaching innovation groups
96 active teaching innovation projects
90.7% PDI involved in training activities at the IDP-ICE
435 lecturers with positive evaluations in the teaching assessment process

Doctoral studies

5,007 trainee researchers
672 doctoral theses read
17 industrial doctoral projects
15 joint supervision agreements signed

Research

€191,918,183 research funding secured
1,029 active research projects
3 projects awarded by the European Research Council
7,876 scientific publications
252 postdoctoral researchers
621 trainee predoctoral researchers
490 research technicians and assistants

Transfer activities

697 Bosch i Gimpera Foundation contracts
104 patent applications
2 new technology-based spin-offs
491 Bosch i Gimpera Foundation researchers
117 Bosch i Gimpera Foundation research technicians and assistants

Internationalization

1,281 UB students in mobility programmes
1,789 international students at the UB as part of mobility programmes
2,171 agreements with universities and other institutions outside Spain
72 active Erasmus+ programmes

People

6,119 teaching and research staff
4,060 full-time-equivalent teaching and research staff
2,461 administrative and service staff
434 interns in services and faculties

Gender

63.9% women bachelor's degree students
56.2% women trainee researchers
48.3% women members of teaching and research staff
29.8% women full professors
63.1% women members of administrative and service staff

Budget

€443,651,220 total budget
73% of total income from public transfers
27% of total income from self-finance
89% current costs

Services

16 libraries
1,804,108 monographs and print journals
16,240 UB Sports users
7,337 UB Alumni members
4,640 companies offering placements or jobs

Society

7,822 direct beneficiaries of the actions of the UB Solidarity Foundation
32% reduction in water consumption (2017-2021)
30 students received under the UB's support programme for refugees and people fleeing conflict zones
6 international development cooperation projects
16 University of Experience programmes

Culture

21 collections in the Virtual Museum
8 concerts in the Els Vespres de la UB season
7 exhibitions in the Historic Building

Position in the foremost international rankings

1 Shows the UB's ranking in Spain



Press ●●●

The University of Barcelona is ranked first in Spain by the Center for World University Rankings (CWUR), where it is 48th in Europe and 132nd in the world. The CWUR analyses approximately 20,000 universities, among which the UB is ranked within the top 7% in the world.

La Vanguardia, 26 April 2022

POSITION IN THE QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS BY SUBJECT

- 80 Arts and humanities
- 118 Engineering and technology
- 47 Life sciences and medicine
- 66 Natural sciences
- 126 Social sciences and business management

FACULTIES

	Bachelor's degrees			University master's degrees ²			Doctoral	Staff	
	Bachelor's degrees ¹	Bachelor's degree students	Bachelor's degree graduates	University master's degrees	University master's degree students	University master's degree graduates	Trainee researchers	Permanent PDI	Non-permanent PDI
Biology	6	2,074	435	16	420	304	376	200	191
Chemistry	3	1,486	236	11	254	165	230	145	106
Earth Sciences	2	433	73	3	58	38	111	57	38
Economics and Business	5	6,797	1,054	18	563	252	258	258	363
Education	5	5,813	1,190	14	816	554	279	144	500
Fine Arts	3	1,499	266	5	96	46	114	59	157
Geography and History	5	2,740	379	12	592	224	394	135	153
Information and Audiovisual Media	2	602	94	5	104	45	32	34	45
Law	6	5,276	881	12	503	229	249	158	268
Mathematics and Computer Science	2	1,209	202	3	51	34	81	61	53
Medicine and Health Sciences	6	4,337	871	12	457	268	1,629	302	1,345
Pharmacy and Food Sciences	3	2,542	445	7	194	167	327	156	211
Philology and Communication	11	2,872	440	9	312	118	290	151	173
Philosophy	1	720	76	6	136	62	181	26	43
Physics	2	1,179	199	13	272	168	213	137	135
Psychology	1	2,138	403	9	421	180	243	104	211
% women	-	63.9	67.7	-	62.8	61.3	56.2	43.3	50.9
Total	61	41,717	7,244	156	5,318	2,854	5,007	2,127	3,992

¹ Includes the UB-specific degree in Private Investigation, taught at the Faculty of Law, and the bachelor's degree in Biomedical Sciences, taught at the faculties of Biology and of Medicine and Health Sciences.
² Includes CHARM-EU teaching and students.

UNIVERSITY FUNCTIONS

According to the seventh study of employment outcomes by the Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency (AQU), carried out in 2020, 86% of University of Barcelona graduates apply the knowledge acquired during their studies in the workplace.



1

A university engaged with society

Transparency, ethics and good governance

Sustainability and quality of life

Institutional and cultural activities

Culture and society

Entrepreneurship and transfer to society

◀ Bell tower clock mechanism, built in Barcelona in 1881 by Cabanyach and son.

Raúl Deamo, author of the winning proposal in the contest to choose the commemorative poster of the 150th anniversary of the Historic Building



Raúl Deamo
Member of the University of Barcelona's Audiovisuals unit

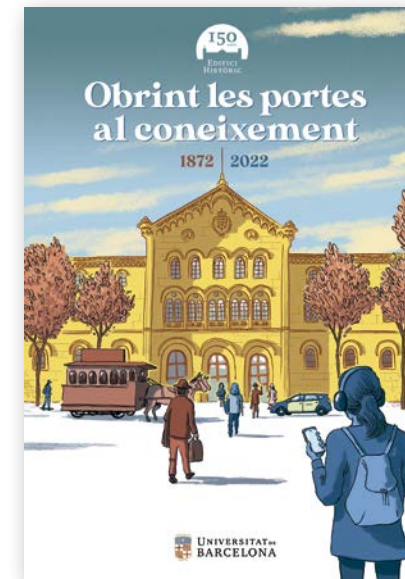
Raúl Deamo, an urban sketching artist, is behind the commemorative poster to mark the 150th anniversary of the Historic Building. He won with a picture that shows the main façade of the Historic Building from across Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes and a group of people from different eras heading towards the building's entrance.

Transparency, ethics and good governance

With a history that goes back over 500 years, the University of Barcelona is deeply committed to serving society. As a champion of free thought, critical thinking and progress in all its areas of activity, the UB is also a guarantor of quality and innovation. The University's regulations on ethics, integrity, transparency and good governance, which are regularly expanded and updated, ensure **open, accessible and participatory governance**.

In recent years, the University of Barcelona has built its own **institutional integrity** framework through the approval of specific regulations in this area intended to ensure that its research processes and results, teaching, and publicly controlled management promote the consolidation of an ethical, honest, quality institutional culture that ensures accountability. In general terms, the **Regulation on Transparency, Access to Public Information and Good Governance** and the **Code of Ethics on Integrity and Good Practices** regulate the comprehensive and efficient management of resources, establish the best standards of behaviour and strengthen the accountability process.

In December 2021, the UB approved the **Mechanisms for compliance with regulations on institutional integrity at the University of Barcelona**.



The text was the basis for the creation of the **Ethics and Institutional Integrity Mailbox** and the **UB Ethics Committee**, which are intended to bolster the effectiveness of the institution's Code of Ethics on Integrity and Good Practices.

Also approved were the **UB Anti-corruption policy** and the **Code of Conduct for Officers and Senior Officers of the University of Barcelona**. The latter sets out the series of values, principles and guidelines to which officers of the UB must seek to adhere, and has been signed by 74% of the staff to whom it applies.

The **Code of Ethics** is interpreted by the UB Ethics Committee, which provides guidance to members of the university community on their rights and obligations and on the exercise of their freedom and responsibility. The Code encompasses the areas of research, teaching, learning, publications, communication and management, among others, and its rules and recommendations apply to all members of the UB community.

In the field of **equality**, the University continued to implement its **Third Equality Plan**, approved in



UB bodies engaged in social responsibility and ethics

- UB Alumni
- Ateneu UB
- University Extension Courses for Senior Citizens
- Bioethics Committee
- Sustainable Development Commission
- Ethics Committee
- Delegate of the Rector for Transparency and Electronic Administration
- UB Sports
- UB Solidarity Foundation
- Gaudir UB courses
- Service-Learning Group
- Office for Internal Control
- Office for Health, Safety and Environmental Issues
- Student Support Service and student integration programmes: Fem Via and Avança
- Mediation Service
- Ombuds Office
- UB Saludable
- Equality Unit and Equality Committees
- Scientific Culture and Innovation Unit
- University of Experience
- UB Volunteering



A first session of reflection on the Integration of the Gender Perspective in Teaching took place in March.

2020, carrying out actions in all the plan's areas. To increase the public visibility of institutional equality policies, included in the first area, it launched a new website to showcase relevant information.

At the same time, it continued to negotiate the plan's third area with its social partners and approved the regulations for the selection of the company that will perform the diagnosis based on the analysis of the data from this area. Additionally, it conducted two pilot tests within the context of the Care Working Group: it set up a nursing and care room on the Bellvitge Health Sciences Campus, and it adapted the Faculty of Pharmacy and Food Sciences and Faculty of Earth Sciences toilets to accommodate use of a menstrual cup.

As for the fourth area of the Equality Plan, on the gender perspective in teaching, it held the 1st Reflection Session on the Integration of the Gender Perspective in Teaching and presented the preliminary results of the survey conducted the previous year, following distribution of the *Guide to Mainstreaming*

Gender in Course Plans. The report found a disparity in adaptation to the gender perspective. To address this issue, the University created a Working Group on the Gender Perspective in Teaching, Research and Transfer, tasked with working on tools, materials and training to broaden and deepen the actions planned under Areas 4 and 5 of the plan.

In the fifth area, devoted to research and knowledge transfer, the University held the fourth edition of the **Clara Campoamor and Rosalind Franklin Awards**. The awards recognize the best bachelor's and master's degree final projects with a gender perspective. Additionally, the first edition of the **Badia i Margarit Awards** for doctoral theses was held, one of whose categories is best thesis on equality as a sustainable development goal. As part of the "**UB classrooms, named after women**" campaign, a classroom at the UB Science and Technology Centres was named after the scientist Núria Cortadellas, and, as part of the events for Women's Week, the Faculty of Pharmacy and Food Science meeting room was named after Dr Victòria Girona, the faculty's first woman dean.



In relation to Area 6 of the plan, the Governing Council approved the new **University of Barcelona Protocol for Preventing, Identifying and Responding to Sexual Harassment and Harassment on Grounds of Gender, Gender Identity or Sexual Orientation, and Other Sexist or LGBTIQ+-phobic Behaviour**. The changes to the Protocol are the result of an analysis and bring the procedure into line with current needs, detected two years after its implementation. A one-stop shop was also created for complaints and reports, as well as the processing thereof.

In the context of Area 7, on diversity, the LGBTIQ+ Working Group was set up. It has organized events to showcase the UB's position on diversity, such as the first Lesbian Visibility Day, during which the prizes for the Santa Jordina [St Georgina] contest were awarded, or the UB's incorporation into the Universities for Diversity Network.

Events were also organized on 25 November, to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women; 11 February, for the International



The session *Memorias Subalternas* was held to address the struggles of the LGTBIQ+ community.

Day of Women and Girls in Science; and 8 March, in honour of International Women's Day. It also held training courses on preventing and addressing gender-based violence, funded under the State Pact against Gender-Based Violence, and courses on gender mainstreaming in teaching, in collaboration with the IDP-ICE.

The UB has continued to participate in national and international **networks** dedicated to gender equality, such as the Vives University Network, the Network of Gender Equality Units for University Excellence (RUIGEU), the Women and Science Committee of the Interuniversity Council of Catalonia, the League of European Research Universities (LERU) Equality Committee, the Ibero-American Union of Universities, the Coimbra Group, and the CHARM-EU project, led by the University of Barcelona, among others.

In the area of **mediation**, the **Ombuds Office** continued its task to safeguard the rights and freedoms of UB students, teaching and research staff and administrative and service staff. In 2020-2021, the Office dealt with 103 cases and responded to 203 queries.



A COMMITMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENT
45% reduction in water consumption since 2016

Global and SDG position in THE Impact Rankings



Sustainability and quality of life

The UB remains fully committed to achieving the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The University's **Sustainable Development Committee** drafted the **UB's Agenda 2030**, an action plan to integrate the SDGs at the University. It also approved the third **Sustainability Report**, which covers the University's social, economic and environmental impact in the 2020-2021 academic year and lists its contributions towards achieving both the SDGs and the Agenda 2030 goals. The report was drafted in line with the standards of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) adapted to the university context. The Committee's working groups have also drawn up a proposal document with measures to encourage environmentally responsible behaviour and a roadmap laying out goals and actions to be carried out in the next two years.

The working group dedicated to implementation of the **Erasmus Charter** has an area for sustainability, inclusion and civic engagement, which aims to put into place new strategies and practices to improve mobility, civic engagement and international cooperation in the context of the Erasmus programme. The SDGs were further integrated into teaching with conferences on key sustainability competencies in higher education, as well as through collaboration with other LERU universities in the context of the Ad Hoc

Press ●●●

The UB ranks 21st in the new QS sustainability ranking, which assesses some 700 institutions around the world. [...] The results are a coherent reflection of the University of Barcelona's unwavering support in the field of sustainability and social responsibility, as well as its leadership within its university environment.

UB News, 26 October 2022

Group on Sustainability to integrate SDGs into teaching. The UB also participated in the Erasmus+ inter-university project UNI-ECO, involving all CHARM-EU alliance members.

In the area of **occupational risk prevention and sustainability**, the main lines of action have been the management of health and safety at work, the integration of prevention in all areas of the university community, research support, emergency preparation and response, sustainability, and social assistance. In 2021, these actions were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the area of **workplace safety, industrial hygiene, ergonomics and applied psychosociology**, in 2021,

the UB continued to respond to queries related to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic concerning the modification of contingency plans and updating of regulations and awareness-raising materials. Over the year, health and safety actions were normalized, in keeping with the resumption of the university's regular activity. Actions were also undertaken to identify needs, for example, relating to ventilation, arising from increased societal awareness of this issue. These latter actions include the CO₂ measurement project implemented at various UB faculties and schools.

A total of 615 actions were carried out in this area, mostly related to the provision of personal protective equipment and business coordination, as well as essential occupational risk prevention actions (e.g. safety inspections, technical reports and studies), the resolution of documented enquiries, and the registration of reported accidents. Biosafety actions, actions to address reported risks, and actions related to self-protection and emergency plans round out the total.

In 2021, the Medical Service unit performed 698 health examinations and recorded positive and suspected cases of COVID-19, in addition to close contacts among the university community. A total of 1,332 reports were received and processed. Furthermore, a total of 73 PCR and 532 rapid antigen tests were performed on users who needed them to carry out academic and research tasks.



As for **training**, 337 people took part in the 13 training courses organized, totalling 3,182 training hours in all, including basic training in risk prevention for 88 people. The UB also continued to present its Welcome Plan for new research staff in the areas of health, safety, the environment and social care.

In the area of the **environment**, several awareness-raising and communication campaigns were carried out, including the eco-advice line on Twitter and Instagram. Additionally, the #KeFaXoKi_UB project was completed with a participatory reflection and opinion action on Instagram concerning various types of waste the UB generates.

In addition, a new evaluation was completed within the framework of the voluntary agreements programme for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, an initiative of the Catalan Office for Climate Change of the Government of Catalonia. The results of the emissions inventory for 2020 showed an emission of 15,419 tonnes of CO₂, and the University presented the 2021 programme for measures and actions to reduce emissions.

Other noteworthy actions carried out over the year include the implementation of selective waste collection points on the Torribera Food Campus; reaching the semi-finals in the first edition of the U-MOB-MUV EU University Sustainable Mobility Tournament; the installation of new parking facilities for bicycles and folding scooters at the Faculty of Information

and Audiovisual Media and the Baldri Reixac building; participation in a service-learning project for the subject “Sustainable Development” from the bachelor’s degree in Environmental Sciences, and collaboration on several actions in the context of the European UNI-ECO project, including, in particular, the “Green challenges: for a more sustainable campus” campaign.

In the area of **social care**, the UB published information on public services for citizens, as well as monthly health tips and recommendations for healthy habits. The UB marked World No Tobacco Day with a video to raise awareness of the importance of quitting smoking. It also highlighted the “Decalogue of Positive Mental Health” project through the UB calendar for 2022. The University also held the 15th UB Toy Drive: the donations received through the fundraiser were given to the Red Cross, to purchase new toys for low-income families.



Through **UB Saludable**, the University fosters actions to promote, create and raise awareness of habits for a healthy lifestyle by promoting a healthy diet, physical activity and emotional well-being.

The Catalan Network of Healthy Universities, of which the UB is chair for 2021–2023, drew up the technical specifications for healthful and sustainable catering and vending services for all Catalan universities and conducted a survey of the university community on health and lifestyles. At the same time, the University stepped up its collaboration with the Interuniversity Council of Catalonia, the Catalan Ministry of Research and Universities, and the Catalan Ministry of Health to work on the 2030 Agenda goals and improve the emotional and mental well-being of university communities, especially students.

The UB also launched the awards for the best bachelor’s and master’s degree final projects on healthy habits and health promotion related to the SDGs and conducted a pilot test to include the concept of health among the competences for undergraduate degrees.



In the same line, the University participated in the interuniversity Healthy Week and offered several courses on emotional awareness and management. The UB implemented the EAT-LANCET Commission’s **planetary health diet** at the faculties of Biology and of Economics and Business. Among other things, the diet involves addressing all sustainability issues in the catering industry, minimizing waste, and reducing electricity and water consumption.

To facilitate participation in **sport and recreation**, the UB has 100,000 sq m of facilities dedicated to promoting healthy habits and values and fostering a sense of belonging to the UB community. The facilities are also intended to contribute to achieving the SDGs, in which sport can have a significant impact (healthy sports activities and sustainable sporting events; projects to improve education for vulnerable people and groups; programmes for groups with special needs; and promotion of women’s sport and sports training for girls and women, among others). More than 11,300 people used the UB Sports facilities and services over the academic year 2021-2022.

A COMMITMENT TO SPORT

92 medals won in the Catalan University Championships



Victor Ortiz, of the UB, winner of the eighth edition of Unirun.

Additionally, UB Sports manages the Lligues Universitàries de Barcelona [Barcelona University Leagues], an amateur university sports competition in which 1,418 athletes participated this academic year.

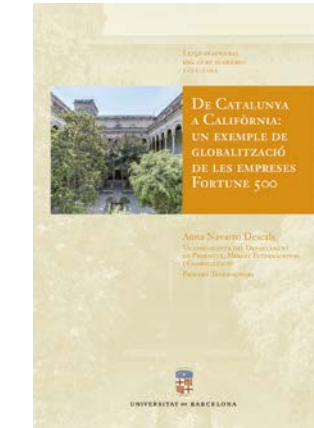
The UB is also represented in **university sporting competitions** held in Catalonia, Spain and Europe. It sent 3,733 athletes to the University Championships, who together took home 126 medals (43 gold, 37 silver, and 46 bronze). The UB won 34 medals in the 2021-2022 **Spanish University Championships**

(CEU), including nine gold, 11 silver and 14 bronze, making it the second best public university in Spain and the top university in Catalonia in number of medals won. The UB was broadly represented by 128 students (72 women and 56 men), who competed in 14 sports: 57 won medals (46 women and 17 men). In the **Catalan University Championships** (CCU), the University took home 34 gold, 26 silver and 32 bronze medals between individual and team events.

A total of 16 UB students were chosen by Esport Català Universitari [Catalan University Sport, ECU] as the **best university athletes** in their respective events, and the swimmer Mireia Pradell was named the best all-around athlete for the 2021-2022 academic year.

The **Unirun** university road race was also held again this year: 1,526 runners from the UB (809 women and 717 men) competed, and the UB won the race for the seventh time.

In addition, 163 students (40 women and 39 men) took advantage of the **Tutoresport UB** programme, which aims to help high-level university athletes strike a balance between excellence in sport and academic success. Over the academic year, 577 students and 300 staff participated in **specific health promotion activities** through various programmes, including Activa't UB conferences and courses and the Senior UB programme for over-55s.



Anna Navarro Descals, vice-president of the Department of Product, International Market and Globalization at Procore Technologies, gives the inaugural lecture for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Institutional and cultural activities

Within the framework of the UB's **institutional activities**, the academic year 2021-2022 kicked off with an **inaugural lecture** entitled "De Catalunya a Califòrnia: la digitalització com a exemple de globalització efectiva" [From Catalonia to California: Digitization as an example of effective globalization], given by **Anna Navarro Descals**, Vice-President of Product, International Market and Globalization at Procore Technologies.

This spring, **honorary doctorates** were awarded to the philosopher Adela Cortina, the immunologist Robert Schreiber and the economist Robin Boadway, who were nominated by the faculties of Education, Biology, and Economics and Business, respectively.

The **Doctors' Senate**, which currently has 1,397 members, awarded its **25th Doctors' Senate Award** to Dr Carme Uribe Codesal from the Department of Medicine of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, for her paper "Cortical atrophy patterns associated with cognitive impairment in Parkinson's

disease". The 9th Doctors' Senate and Board of Trustees Award for the best scientific and humanistic dissemination activities was awarded to Dr Eduard Vieta i Pascual, professor of Psychiatry in the Department of Medicine.

The jury for the 17th edition of the annual **Board of Trustees Awards** awarded the José Manuel Bleuca Prize to Dr Daniel Daví Arderius, and the Ramon Margalef Prize to Dr Albert Cortijos Aragonés. In the 14th edition of the prizes awarded jointly with the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation, the Antoni Caparrós Prize went to Dr Albert Soler Gil for the project "La geoquímica isotòpica: una nova tecnologia per a la millora de la gestió del medi ambient" [Isotopic geochemistry: a new technology for enhancing environmental management], and to Dr Núria Serrat Antolí for the project "Cocreació de projectes educatius de museus: cultura centrada en les persones" [Co-creation of educational projects for museums: people-centred culture], while the Senén Vilaró Prize for the best innovative company was awarded to Qilimanjaro Quantum Tech, SL.

Over the academic year, more than 70 **graduation ceremonies** were held, some for the previous year's



Presentation of the UB Board of Trustees and Bosch i Gimpera Foundation awards for research and knowledge transfer.



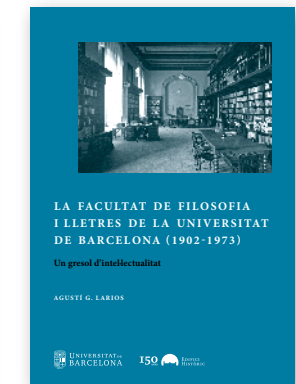
Graduation ceremony for the Food Science and Technology qualifications.

graduating classes, whose ceremonies had to be postponed due to the pandemic. The event to recognize **administrative and service staff who have worked at the University for 25 years** could not be held due to the pandemic.

Notable **awards and distinctions** received by members of the university community during the academic year 2020–2021 include:

The **37th Ferran Soldevila Prize**, organized by the Fundació Congr s de Cultura Catalana [Catalan Culture Congress Foundation], was awarded in the Historic Building’s Ferran Soldevila Garden in honour of the 50th anniversary of the death of this key figure in historiography. It was awarded to Flocel Sabat  i Curull for the work **La pena de mort a la Catalunya baixmedieval. Retrat d’una societat** [The death penalty in late mediaeval Catalonia: portrait of a society].

Additionally, David Bondia, professor of Public International Law at the UB, was appointed as the new **Barcelona Ombudsman**; the Parliament of Catalonia appointed the UB professors of Constitutional Law Enoch Albert , Laura D ez Bueso and Eduard Roig,



as well as the professor of Administrative Law Francesc Esteve, to the **Council of Statutory Guarantees**, and Jordi Matas, professor of Political Science at the UB, will chair the new **Catalan Association of Political Science** (ACCP).

The **2021 ICREA Academia** programme distinguished six researchers from the UB community, and the recipients of the **2021 City of Barcelona Awards** included the Faculty of Philology and Communication professors Edgardo Dobry, Miquel Cabal and Joana Mas . A prize was also awarded to research on which the professors Alberto S ez and Olga Margalef, from the Faculty of Earth Sciences, had collaborated.

The work *Hereta't. Com influeixen en el nostre comportament els gens i la biologia* [Heredity: How genes and biology influence our behaviour], published by Edicions UB, received the prize for the best book on science and technology in the fourth **Joan Llu s Vives Awards** for University Publishing, organized by the Vives University Network. The work *Gu a para formar un gobierno de coalici n* [Guide to forming a coalition government], by Jordi Matas, won the **National University Publishing Award** for the best educational work, and Norbert Bilbeny’s edition of *La Segunda Rep blica espa ola: textos fundamentales* [The Second Spanish Republic: basic texts] received a special mention in the category of best monograph in the social sciences and law.

In the academic year 2021-2022, all formats of the **guided tour service** were resumed. A total of 112 tours were given of the University’s Historic Building, 15 of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences on the Cl nic Campus, and six of the Pedro i Pons Estate. Some 2,427 people attended the tours.

This year, the University of Barcelona also participated in the first edition of the **Model – Barcelona Architectures Festival**, hosting six activities at the Historic Building and seven at the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences on the Cl nic Campus, with 206 participants.

As for the UB’s **facilities**, the Clock Tower was restored and added to the guided tour of the Historical Building. Work also continued on the actions to improve buildings from the faculties of Medicine and Health Sciences and of Pharmacy and Food Sciences, among others. Additionally, work was done to improve the accessibility and modernize the lifts in several buildings, including the Historic Building. The University has also begun the process for the procurement of the architecture and engineering services required to reform both the Col·legi Major Penyafort and the Arts Campus.

Projects aimed at researching and disseminating the UB’s heritage included the most recent activities from the cultural project **Mem ria i her ncia: els espais funeraris a la ciutat de Barcelona**

Award or distinction	Award winner
Vicens Vives Prize for teaching quality	Francesca Peir� Mart�nez Grup d’Innovaci� Docent en Comunicaci� i Mitjans Audiovisuals, coordinat per M. �ngels Garc�a Asensio
Creu de Sant Jordi	Maria del Carme Llasat Botija
Narc�s Monturiol Medal	Roberto Emparan, Isabel Cacheo i Quique Bassat
The Ram�n Men�ndez Pidal National Research Award in the area of Humanities	Margarita D�az-Andreu
Catalan Biology Society (SCB) Leandre Cervera Prize in recognition of a distinguished career	Roser Gonz�lez Duarte
Honoris causa from the University of Granada	Jos� Esteve Pardo
Honoris causa from the University of La Laguna	Maria Teresa Anguera Argilaga
2022 Joan Llu�s Vives Prize for the best book on science and technology	David Bueno
2022 National University Publishing Award for the best educational work	Jordi Matas Dalmases
2022 IEC Award in the Jaume Vicens i Vives Historical-Archaeological Section for Contemporary History	Agust� G. Larios

GUIDED TOURS

112 guided tours of the Historic Building, 6 of the Pedro i Pons Estate and 15 of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences on the Clínic Campus

2,427 people attended

[Memory and legacy: funerary spaces in the city of Barcelona], with the support of the Barcelona City Council. The project aims to showcase the value of Catalan funerary heritage. In all, 23 activities were carried out in collaboration with the National Art Museum of Catalonia (MNAC) and the Barcelona cathedral, in which 203 people participated. Additionally, the exhibition “**La presència de la mort al fons antic del CRAI de la Universitat de Barcelona**” [The presence of death in the University of Barcelona CRAI’s antique collection] was held, featuring a dual virtual and face-to-face format. Some 103 people attended the guided tours. The project **La ciutat cuidadora. Arquitectura, medicina i patrimoni a Barcelona** [The caregiver city: architecture, medicine and heritage in Barcelona], intended to catalogue and disseminate scientific heritage linked to the University of Barcelona, was carried out in col-



laboration with the Barcelona City Council and the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences. The project included eight activities, with 126 participants.

Over the course of the academic year, work continued on the publication of the first volume of the **new catalogue of the University of Barcelona’s paintings**, devoted to the Prado Museum collection held at the University. The catalogue is an interdisciplinary project on which 28 specialists have collaborated.

As for the **conservation and restoration of the University’s historical heritage**, in addition to the aforementioned completion of the work on the Historical Building Clock Tower, in terms of tangible heritage, several original armchairs were restored, 11 benches in the Paranymp Hall were reupholstered, and the entrance doors to the main lobby of the Historical Building were restored. Restoration and conservation work was also done on the liturgical vestments from the chapel, also in the Historical Building.

The Historical Building lobby also served as the backdrop for the presentation of the poster for the 2022 St George’s Day festivities and the exhibition “35+1 cartells de Sant Jordi a la Universitat de Barcelona” [35+1 St George’s Day posters at the University of Barcelona]. Additionally, the new **UB Virtual Museum** website was launched, featuring new sections such as *El blog del MVUB* [The MVUB blog]. The CRAI incorporated new collections from the Pavelló de la República Library CRAI and the Reserve Library CRAI.



• Culture and society

The academic year 2021-2022 saw the organization of the **34th Season of Music at the University**. The initiative resumed its regular activity with a programme of 16 concerts, including three sessions of the traditional Christmas concert. The UB Choir and Orchestra, the Schola Cantorum Universitaria Barcinonensis, and the Faculty of Philology and Communication Choir participated, as did several musical ensembles from public and private institutions, including the Escola Superior de Música de Catalunya, the Coral Jove del Conservatori de Sant Cugat, the Conservatori Municipal de Música de Barcelona and the Conservatori Liceu, among others.

In parallel to the Season of Music, the University collaborated on and provided support for the **Concert for Peace**. Under the slogan “Ukraine needs us”, the concert was held at the Auditori de Barcelona. The UB also hosted a recital by the Coral Sant Jordi choir, in honour of the inauguration of the exhibition “Oriol Martorell (1927–1996). 25 anys seguint l’estela del seu llegat” [Oriol Martorell (1927–1996): 25 years following in the wake of his legacy].

The evening concert series **Els Vespres**, which aims to support and showcase emerging music groups, resumed its regular activity with its 17th winter and 7th summer edition, featuring a total of eight concerts held, respectively, in the Paranymp Hall at the Historic Building and the Pedro i Pons Estate.

In the area of **music teaching and research**, the University signed several agreements and work began on the study and cataloguing of an extensive repertoire of scores held in the CRAI’s antique collection, with a view to publishing them shortly.

The **11th Season of Contemporary Dance at the UB**, entitled “Coreògrafes de la dansa” [Women choreographers], included three sessions intended to pay homage to the innovative and avant-garde proposals of Bronislava Nijinska, Pina Bausch and Trisha Brown.

The **UB Theatre Workshop** resumed rehearsals and participated in the 2nd University Theatre Biennial, organized by the Vives University Network, performing the show *Pantomimes concentrades*, based on the eponymous text by Ricard Salvat, in the University of Alicante Paranymp Hall. Additionally, the **UB**

Press ●●●

The 17th edition of *Els Vespres*, the University of Barcelona concert series featuring up-and-coming musical proposals by local talent, will take place from 5 to 14 July. The concerts will be held at the Agustí Pedro i Pons estate, located in the Collserola foothills, affording exceptional views of Barcelona.

Time Out, 9 June 2022



Poetry Workshop took part in the Barcelona Poetry festival and in World Poetry Day: for the latter, it performed *Vull subornar la joventut* [I want to bribe the youth], a monologue paying tribute to the poet Gabriel Ferrater.

The **Soc cultura** website published around one hundred news items on exhibitions, musical events, guided tours and other types of cultural activities, including, in particular, the *Efemèrides 2022* [2022 Commemorations] section.

Temporary exhibitions in the Historic Building

- Interactive scientific dissemination module on COVID-19
- 4th International Art and Digital Design Exhibition
- “Dones singulars” [Singular women]
- “Grau de Comunicació i Indústries Culturals: 10 anys en imatges” [Bachelor’s degree in Communication and the Culture Industry: 10 years in images]
- “35+1 cartells de Sant Jordi a la Universitat de Barcelona” [35+1 St George’s Day Posters at the University of Barcelona]
- “Retrats mentals” [Mental portraits]
- “Oriol Martorell (1927-1996). Seguint l’estela del seu llegat” [Oriol Martorell (1927-996): 25 years following in the wake of his legacy]



In the area of scheduling **exhibitions**, the collaboration agreement with the Badalona Town Council Culture Area regarding the exhibition programme in the Josep Uclés exhibition space of the El Carme Culture Centre was maintained until 31 December 2021. The last exhibitions open to the public were “It’s a wonderful life” and “Color i esperança” [Colour and hope].

The University also organized or hosted other exhibition projects in the Historic Building’s institutional spaces. The UB’s cultural heritage was additionally present and on display at external exhibitions through the “(Re)conèixer Gaudí” [(Re)discover Gaudí] exhibition, at the National Art Museum of Catalonia and the Musée d’Orsay, to which it loaned a drain cover from the Güell estate pavilions.

Over the academic year, the University worked on the activities to **commemorate the 150-year anniversary of the start of activities at the Historic Building**, which was inaugurated in the academic year 1872-873. Among other preparatory actions, the University chose the logo, announced the contest for the selection of the poster and, in particular, issued a call for photos open to the university community and the public at large.

To maximize and ensure the consistency of the University’s public image, each year the University revises and updates its **Graphic style guide**. It also checks for and monitors the proper use of the UB brand in the various internal and external media and manag-

es brand assignments to companies or organizations linked to the institution. This academic year, the University has also worked on developing a graphic line for the university’s chairs and minor chairs, based on the graphic principles set out in its corporate identity manual.

In the academic year 2021-2022, the main goal set for the UB’s **official merchandise** was to contribute to the institution’s actions in relation to the United Nations’ SDGs by ensuring more sustainable products. Turnover for the year stood at €106,259 and, in its first year, the online store fulfilled 400 orders for users from around the world, registering a turnover of more than €14,000.

Agreements for the **reciprocal publicizing of activities and services** were maintained with the Barcelona Institute of Culture (ICUB), Barcelona Libraries, the Barcelona Municipal Libraries Network and the Barcelona City Council Youth Area.

Edicions de la Universitat de Barcelona has published, in print and digital format, more than 200 works, including institutional books, teaching manuals, popular books, scientific journals and monographs showcasing faculty research. A number of its collections have received the Academic Publishing Quality Seal (CEA-APQ), awarded by the Union of Spanish University Publishers (UNE) and endorsed by the Spanish National Agency for Quality Assessment (ANECA) and the Spanish Foundation for Science



and Technology (FECYT): Barcino. Monographica Orientalia, Col·lecció de Bioètica, Estudis d’Antropologia Social i Cultural, Pedagogies UB, Instrumenta, and Singularitats, the latter with a special mention for internationality. In addition to the prizes mentioned on page 31, the book *Una ben petita antologia universitària* [A very small university anthology] won the 2022 prize for best handmade binding, awarded by the Gremi de la Indústria i la Comunicació Gràfica de Catalunya [Catalan Graphic Industry and Communication Guild].

The UB took part in fourteen national and international fairs, including Catalan Book Week, the Madrid Book Fair, the Liber International Book Fair, the Guadalajara International Book Fair (Mexico), and the Frankfurt Book Fair. Thirty-two book presentations were also held in various bookshops and institutions and, as usual, the UB participated in the annual Sant Jordi day celebrations.

A COMMITMENT TO SOCIETY

1,321 students enrolled in 14 programmes at the University of Experience



The **11th University of Experience**, the UB's learning initiative for over-55s from any learning background, offered 14 study programmes, which joined an offer of 41 courses. A total of 447 lecturers participated in the initiative, with 1,321 students enrolling, 791 for the first time, aged between 60 and 70. In Badalona, the second edition of the Humanities and Psychology courses were held; both programmes had been launched the previous year. Additionally, 14 complementary activities were carried out, some already well-established, such as the chi kung and theatre activities, and others, such as "Història crítica del primer cristianisme" [Critical history of early Christianity] or "L'Univers a debat" [The universe

under debate], being offered for the first time as pilot tests, with the aim of potentially developing in-depth seminars to supplement the training received in the programmes.

The UB continued to offer **University Extension Courses for Senior Citizens in Barcelona**, which was adapted to an online format this year. Conferences and seminars on history, science, culture, art, literature, opera and other topics were offered. The choir's activities were suspended due to the pandemic, but the theatre group continued to meet and a poetry workshop was organized. Face-to-face activities were resumed when the health situation allowed it. This year, there were 3,372 members (75% women).

The **UB Solidarity Foundation** continued to focus on social action, development cooperation, volunteering and the promotion of human rights and a culture of peace, sometimes in collaboration with other



institutions, both within the university community and beyond. The Foundation is committed to working towards an inclusive university and society, promoting social volunteering and pursuing programmes and lines of action that foster inclusion. These include the UB Volunteering programme, social agriculture projects, courses for people with functional diversity, integrating students who lack socio-economic resources into the university, and socio-educational activities in neighbourhoods and schools with higher proportions of at-risk students.

In 2021, the **UB Volunteering** programme resumed its activities with two lines of work: the publication and dissemination of calls for volunteers for private non-profit organizations and the management of its own volunteering initiatives, linked to UB training and research projects. With regard to the recruitment of volunteers for private non-profit organizations, the UB Volunteering website published 33 calls from 19 organizations, including the UB Solidarity Foundation itself. The calls were answered by 68 volunteers and had a total of 411 beneficiaries.

The UB's own volunteers took part in projects such as the Social Policy and University Access (PSAU) programme at the Faculty of Education, which provides social and educational mentoring to students in their final year at secondary schools classified as "high complexity"; the "dret al Dret" [Right to Law] legal clinic at the Faculty of Law, based on a service-learning formula; the FORCES programme run by the Institute for Professional Development (IDP-ICE), which

THE UB SOLIDARITY FOUNDATION

11 international projects, including 6 development cooperation projects



The seventeenth edition of the Research for Peace Prize for high school research was announced.

encourages retired UB teaching staff to provide expert support for research by upper secondary school students; language partner initiatives to support the social integration of new arrivals in the country through the learning of Catalan and Spanish, within in the framework of the University of Barcelona Support Programme for Refugees and People from Conflict Areas; and assistance with online administrative procedures for vulnerable groups, as part of the UB Solidarity Foundation's Social and Educational Action Programme in the northern area of the Nou Barris district.

UB SOLIDARITY FOUNDATION

7,822 direct beneficiaries



The UB signed an agreement with the Palestine Technical University - Kadoorie located in Tulkarm, in the northern West Bank, to improve agricultural production in this region.

As part of its efforts to promote human rights and a culture of peace, the UB worked with the Institute of Professional Development to organize the 17th **Award for Peace Research** for secondary school research projects and the 3rd **Sustainability and Human Rights Poster Awards**, with the aim of involving the university community in the dissemination of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as an instrument to protect and defend human rights.

In the sphere of **international development cooperation projects**, in 2021, the UB Solidarity Founda-

tion gradually resumed its regular activities, giving continuity to four cooperation projects: support for the management of water resources in Saint-Louis (Senegal); implementation of peace agreements in Colombia; the Edible Cities, Network project to build resilient and socially productive cities; and the Wahda project (associated with the UB's Support Programme for Refugees and People from Conflict Areas), which aims to strengthen Tunisian civil society in the defence of civil and political rights and to promote social cohesion, the country's political transition, and regional stability. The University also launched the **Inow Asia project**, on the inclusion in university curricula in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia of training paths on wastewater management. Likewise, in 2022, it launched a **technical capacitybuilding project targeted at women farmer cooperatives in the West Bank**, in collaboration with the Catalan Association for Peace (ACP), the Palestinian Farmers' Union (PFU), and the Palestinian Technical University-Kadoorie in Tulkarm (PTUK). The project aims to help the Palestinian university increase its academic and research capabilities in certain fields related to water management, treatment and use, with a view to building technical capacity and boosting the productivity of women farmer collectives.

The **UB Support Programme for Refugees and People from Conflict Areas** remained active and continued to provide follow-up services, assistance (with housing, tuition fee waivers, psychological assistance, etc.) and support for students from the third



The exhibition "New scenarios, same challenges".

edition of the transition course and previous courses. In the call for applications for the fourth edition of the course, published in February 2022, 16 students were selected from among the 450 candidacies received.

At the same time, the Solidarity Foundation coordinated the implementation of a transition course targeted especially at the student population affected by the **war in Ukraine** and residing in Catalonia, with 14 participants. It is an official university extension course worth 30 credits. In addition to Spanish and Catalan language training, attendees receive assistance to enrol at the University and apply for grants and scholarships, as well as information about housing and emotional support. Additionally, the exhibition "Nous escenaris, mateixos reptes" [New scenarios, same challenges] was held, which was presented together with the transition course and the UB's support programme for teaching and research staff affected by the conflict.

Within the framework of this support programme, the UB continued to participate in the following projects: **CHARM-EU, Include Me, SMILE and Uni (di)versity** (in which the UB is a partner) and **Community** (led by the UB and run by the UB Solidarity Foundation), as well as the aforementioned **Wahda** development cooperation project. The **European Observatory on Memories (EUROM)** also contin-

ued its activity programme, organizing or participating in some 30 activities across Europe, including the educational project for secondary-school students "Art Urbà, Educació i Memòria" [Urban Art, Education and Memory], and the second edition of "Ruta a l'Exili" [Route to Exile], in coordination with the Youth Institute.

The CRAI continued its **community service work** with the Catalan Ministry of Justice. In 2021, two people took part in this programme. At the same time, it actively collaborated with several **social organizations**, such as the Noelia Foundation, the Tallers Foundation and Doctors without Borders. It also took part in the #1Lib1Ref campaign, in which librarians from around the world draw on their expertise to add bibliographic references to Wikipedia articles, and the La Marató de TV3 Foundation fundraiser.

Service-learning projects offer an approach to teaching and research that integrates service to the community and academic learning in a single project in which students learn while addressing real needs in the environment for the purpose of bringing about improvements. Service-learning projects seek to respond to social needs identified by social organizations, educational centres and other institutions and to enable students to take part in the response through their own educational activities.



Since 2013, the Service-Learning (ApS) Group at the UB has been working to consolidate, publicize and spread the service-learning approach at the University of Barcelona. The interdisciplinary working group includes teaching staff from several faculties and areas of knowledge. The Sharing Ideas project offers secondary school students a series of lecture-workshops led by UB bachelor's and master's degree students on topics of general interest related to their studies.

Entrepreneurship and transfer to society

In the area of **entrepreneurship**, a series of actions geared towards helping students generate innovative ideas, develop projects and initiatives with positive impacts on the world, and build their own professional careers continued to be offered.

In accordance with the League of European Research Universities (LERU) recommendations, and based on its strategic areas (innovation, creativity, sustainability and equality), **StartUB!** promotes and carries out all the activities oriented towards enabling the acquisition of an inclusive, sustainable and innovative entrepreneurial culture among the UB community. It offers programmes covering the full entrepreneurship value chain. For the **ideation** stage, it offers a massive open online course (MOOC), Innovation Day, and creativity and design thinking workshops

with more than 14 thousand registered participants, as well as events such as Let'sUB! For the **validation** stage, it offers initiatives such as the Business Model Lab or the From Science to Market programme, where participants can verify their idea's viability and sustainability. This is followed by the **launch** stage and, finally, the **acceleration** stage, targeted at helping the resulting start-ups get established through programmes such as Consolida't or Bridgehead Global.

The **StartUB! Lab** is a free incubation and co-working space located at the Aleu University Residence, in premises spanning more than 400 sq m. It is designed to accommodate entrepreneurial teams of up to 80 people. There are currently 55 projects being incubated and in the process of acceleration, eight of which have women CEOs and 38 of which are directly related to the SDGs. Over the academic year 2020-2021, six start-ups were founded.

Innovation Day, financed by EIT Health, aims to promote university student innovation and entrepreneurship in the field of health. Twenty-seven workshops were organized across Europe. The University of Barcelona workshop was the only one held in Catalonia. Two editions were offered: one in April, focused on sustainability issues, and another in November, focused on health.

The **StartUB! Sprint** programme, carried out with the UB's Social Council, also aims to help students accelerate their entrepreneurial projects, whether



Celebration of Innovation Day to promote entrepreneurship among students.

they are still in the idea development phase or are newly established businesses. Nineteen projects were submitted to the spring 2021 edition. First prize was taken by Hemp and Love, a company that manufactures, markets, distributes and sells locally made hemp fabrics. Second prize went to Vutifoods, a start-up focused on producing animal product analogues with plant-based ingredients. Apis Play, the first board game about the accelerating disappearance of bees and its consequences, also received a special mention. Twenty-five applications were submitted in

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

55 entrepreneurial projects incubated

240 hours of entrepreneurship mentoring

8 start-ups created

PARTICIPANTS IN INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP ACTIVITIES

1,316 students

603 teaching and research and administrative and service staff members

UB chairs and minor chairs

- Smart City European Urban Agenda Minor Chair
- UB Minor Chair on Private International Notarial Law
- UB-Inibsa Dental Chair on Bone Regeneration
- Barcelona Chair on Housing Studies
- UB-AmesPore Chair on Sintered Metal Filter Technology
- UB-Atrys Chair in Personalized Radiotherapy
- UB-Avinent Chair on Research in Digital Dentistry
- UB-BioHorizons Chair on Oral Implantology
- UB-CCIES Chair on Public Service Law
- UB-CETT Chair on Tourism, Hospitality and Gastronomy
- UB-Chartier World Lab Chair on Gastronomy and Aromas
- UB Chair in Cardiac Arrhythmia
- UB Chair on Urban Economics and the City of Barcelona
- UB Chair on Entrepreneurship
- UB Chair on Family Business
- UB Chair on Cellular Immunotherapy
- UB Chair on Innovation in Precision Oncology
- UB-Danone Chair on Healthy and Sustainable Nutrition
- UB Chair on Rare Diseases
- UB Chair in Prevention and Oral Health
- UB Chair on Respiratory Health
- UB Chair on Energy Sustainability
- UB-DENTAID Chair on Soft Tissue Regeneration
- UB-EDU1st Chair on Neuroeducation
- UB-Mutualidad Abogacia Foundation Escuela del Pensamiento Chair on the Economics of Ageing
- UB-Rector Francisco Buscarons Úbeda Chair on Forensic Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
- UB-Adecco Foundation Chair on Professional Integration of People with Disabilities
- UB-Repsol Foundation Chair on Energy Transition
- UB-GILEAD Chair on HIV Infection and HIV-Viral Hepatitis Co-infection
- UB-GSK Chair on Autoimmune Diseases
- UB Hospital Clinic-AstraZeneca Chair on Lung Cancer
- UB Hospital Clinic Chair on Palliative Care
- UB-Bellvitge University Hospital-Abex Chair on Robotic Surgery
- UB-IEC Josep Carner Chair
- UB-ISDIN Live Young Chair for the Study of the Skin Exposome
- UB-Josep Termes Chair on History, Identities and Digital Humanities
- UB-City of Vilafranca Llorens i Barba Chair
- UB-Longevity Institute Chair
- UB Manuel Serra Domínguez Chair on Procedural Law Studies
- UB-Planeta Formación y Universidades Chair on Higher Education Studies
- UB-SEMI-FEMI-Menarini Chair on Internal Medicine
- UB-Siemens Healthineers Chair on Digital Healthcare
- UB-ZEISS Chair on Digital Imaging in Ophthalmology
- UB-Zurich Chair on Insurance
- Jean Monnet Chair on European Private Law
- Jean Monnet Chair on EU Environmental Law
- Unesco Chair in Bioethics
- Unesco Chair on Women, Development and Cultures



The UB-ZEISS Chair on Digital Imaging in Ophthalmology has been created.



the autumn edition. First prize was awarded to the project Clau App, an application for bars and restaurants that allows customers to choose, order and pay, while offering the establishment itself an order management and inventory control process. Second prize went to the Glex platform, which connects expats with professionals, depending on their migratory needs.

To facilitate the pursuit of external funding through projects, contracts and agreements with public and private bodies, the UB implemented a strategy that focuses on creating **chairs and minor chairs** as a framework for collaborating with companies and institutions aimed at achieving objectives of shared interests in training, cultural creation, research, knowledge dissemination and other areas. The UB currently has 45 active chairs (including two Unesco and two Jean Monnet chairs) and three active minor chairs divided among 11 faculties. In 2021, total revenue associated with UB chairs and minor chairs was 1,396,485 euros.

Likewise, with the aim of fostering social and business cooperation, a fundraising and **sponsorship plan** is being designed to enable financing of specific social projects. Ten campaigns were underway during the 2021-2022 academic year: “Connecta UB: Help Us Provide Digital Tools to Students”; “Help Us

Grow Talent”; “Refuge University: Safe Ways to Support Refugee Students”; “Help Us Get Out in Front of Future Pandemics Like the Coronavirus”; “Help Us Detect and Fight the SARS-CoV-2 Coronavirus”; “Emerging Viruses in Catalonia: A Latent Threat”; “24 de maig, 2022, 19h: Teatre Solidari” [24 May 2022, 7 p.m.: Theatre Fundraiser]; “Help Us Prevent New Outbreaks: Discovering Asymptomatic Carriers”; “Apadrina un llibre” [Sponsor a Book], and the Clock Tower campaign.

In order to promote its relationship with society and strengthen relations with its alumni, through **Alumni UB** the University offers a forum for services, knowledge exchange, professional relations, opportunities, professional growth and other advantages. The programme, which has 7,337 members, organized 84 activities in different fields of knowledge, which were attended by 2,175 people, including 1,716 Alumni UB members. It also organized 15 career events. In all, 1,289 new graduates made use of the professional development service. In the area of job offers, the University implemented a new platform at the start of the year, with more offers for UB graduates. A total of 2,265 companies used the platform over the period to post 3,416 job offers. Once again, Alumni UB made itself known among new graduates with its “Congratulations! You’re an Alumni now!” campaign.



2

A university at the forefront of education

- Course offering
- Additional academic opportunities
- Student support
- Teaching innovation, assessment and improvement

Francesca Peiró, winner of the Jaume Vicens Vives Award for quality in university teaching



Francesca Peiró
Full professor in the Faculty of Physics

Francesca Peiró Martínez has been awarded for her excellent teaching activity and for her commitment to improving quality and innovation. Her pioneering work has made a significant contribution to the implementation of active teaching and continuous assessment and to the adaptation of teaching to new virtual environments, encouraging students to build stronger digital skills.

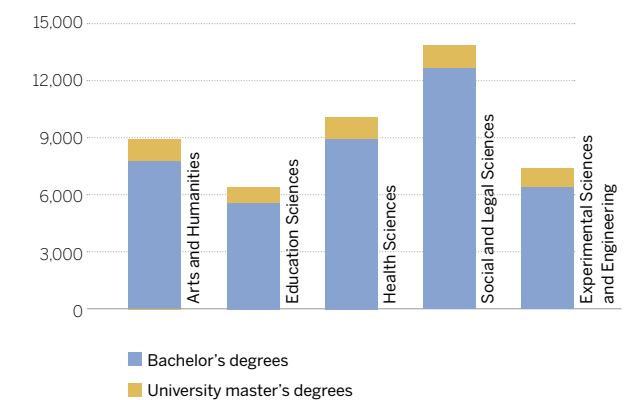
Course offering

In the academic year 2021-2022, the UB offered 72 **bachelor's degree courses** and received 17,806 **first-preference applications** for 10,808 places, putting the demand ratio for places at 1.6. The highest numbers of first-preference applications were received for Medicine at the Medicine Campus-Hospital Clínic (1,764); Psychology (1,185); Business Administration and Management (1,077); Nursing at the Bellvitge Campus (902), and Law (722). In total, 41,717 bachelor's degree students enrolled in UB schools and faculties (including the UB-specific diploma in Private Investigation). Of these, 10,136 were new enrolments and 4,188 were at affiliated centres.

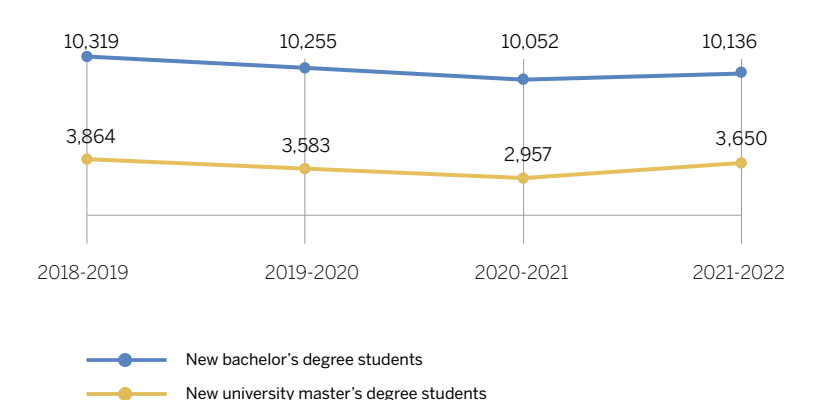
A total of 170 **university master's degree courses** were offered to 5,378 students at UB faculties and an additional 1,079 at UB-affiliated centres. The most popular master's programmes were Secondary and Upper Secondary Education, Vocational Training and Foreign Language Teaching (512), Legal Practice (295), Women, Gender and Citizenship (190) and General Health Psychology (135). Of the total number of students enrolled (including those at affiliated centres), 2,285 (35.7%) are international students, mainly from Latin America, China and (within Europe) Italy. Teaching in foreign languages was also strengthened, particularly at master's degree level, where 21% of instruction was in English.

45,905 STUDENTS
in 72 bachelor's degree courses
(including affiliated centres)

Bachelor's and university master's degree students in UB faculties, by branch of knowledge



New bachelor's and university master's degree students in UB faculties



Postgraduate students

Branch of knowledge/centre	Master's degree courses	Specialization courses	Expert courses	Advanced university courses	University extension courses
Arts and Humanities	45	102	12	0	225
Social and Legal Sciences	1,000	384	222	82	52
Experimental Sciences and Engineering	65	11	34	124	62
Health Sciences	2,251	391	333	179	232
Education Sciences	212	128	50	11	13
Institute of Professional Development (IDP-ICE)	76	137	0	5	0
Institute of Lifelong Learning (IL3-UB)	2,625	1,040	47	47	16
Affiliated schools and faculties	108	163	0	40	141
Total	6,382	2,356	698	488	741
% women	72.7	78.2	63.8	57.0	57.6



A total of 7,211 bachelor's degree students and 33 UB-specific degree students **graduated** from UB faculties, while 2,854 university master's degrees were awarded. In addition, **special academic achievement awards** went to 143 bachelor's degree students and 100 master's degree students (for courses completed in the academic year 2020-2021).

The **accreditation of UB degree programmes**, which began in the academic year 2014-2015, saw 10 bachelor's degrees assessed in 2021, all of which reached the requisite level for accreditation (one assessed as excellent), and 29 university master's degrees (seven assessed as excellent). In total, 63 bachelor's degrees have already undergone the accreditation process, 15 of which were assessed as excellent, and 118 master's degrees, 29 of which were assessed as excellent.

During 2022, external accreditation visits were completed or scheduled at 10 schools or faculties, in which 20 bachelor's degree and four master's degree programmes are being assessed. In addition, in the academic year 2021-2022, the Faculty of Economics and Business and the Faculty of Chemistry each obtained **certification of the implementation of their internal quality assurance system (IQAS)**, awarded by the Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency (AQU Catalunya). With this certification, they were then able to obtain **institutional accreditation** from the Spanish Universities Council, enabling both faculties to renew the accreditation of all their bachelor's and university master's degree courses for an

other renewable period of five years. Currently, the faculties of Biology, Mathematics and Computer Science and Education are in the process of certifying their IQAS in order to be eligible to apply for institutional accreditation.

In the area of lifelong learning, the UB offered 187 **specialization and postgraduate courses** to 2,356 students, 337 **master's degree programmes** to 6,382 students, 118 **expert courses** to 698 students, and 83 **advanced university courses** to 488 students. The high proportion of international students (33% of the total) underscores the strong degree of internationalization that continues to characterize postgraduate studies. The UB's **university extension programme** offered 83 courses, with 741 students enrolled. One master's degree programme, five specialization diploma courses and three expert courses were delivered abroad.

Over the course of the academic year, several **marketing campaigns** were run to promote the UB's course offering and increase the visibility and presence of its brand. Campaigns were launched in various general and specialized educational media to attract master's and bachelor's students, and generate student interest in the School of Modern Languages, Hispanic Studies and the University of Experience, as well as to publicize activities such as the Science Festival, the Els Vespres evening concert series, the "Sponsor a book" and "I am UB" campaigns, and the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Historic Building.

A COMMITMENT TO INTERNATIONALIZATION

36% of university master's students are international



International scope of the student body*

Studies	% International students
Bachelor's degrees	6.7 (3,096)
University master's degrees	35.7 (2,285)
Doctoral studies	33.9 (1,699)
Master's degree courses	35.3 (2,252)
Specialization courses	30.3 (715)
Expert courses	17.6 (123)
Advanced university courses	31.6 (154)
University extension courses	37.1 (275)
Total	13.6 (10,599)

In parentheses, the total number of foreign students.
* Including students at affiliated centres, IDP-ICE and IL3





The University of Barcelona reinforced its **institutional welcome messages** at the start of the academic year with an email to secondary school students admitted to the UB and a welcome event consisting of an escape room, in which 3,784 students took part.

The **SocUB app**, which was launched in September 2020, has added new functionalities to those already available to students, such as the UB ID card and CRAI library services.

Other academic opportunities

This academic year, the **School of Modern Languages (EIM)**, Catalonia's oldest university language school, offered courses to 2,861 students in a variety of formats: face-to-face, blended learning, by video-conference and fully online. The EIM has a broad network of accredited centres in 17 cities that provide quality language instruction.

Additionally, 870 students participated in 21 calls for language certification examinations, including the EIM,

Cambridge, Catalan Universities Language Certificate (CLUC) and Association of Language Centres in Higher Education (ACLES) examinations, among others, with a 95% pass rate. Since January 2021, the EIM has been a Cambridge CELTA (Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults) and the Cambridge DELTA (Diploma in English Language Teaching to Adults) preparation and examination centre. During this first academic year, a total of thirty-eight students were certified as English teachers by Cambridge Assessment.

The EIM's **Language Teacher Training Department** aims to be a forum for foreign language teachers to share ideas and pursue continuing professional development. Over the course of the academic year, the EIM organized the 6th Multilingual Teachers' Day and the third edition of ELTRIA, an international conference for researchers and teachers of English, which was held online for the first time with over thirty speakers and participants from all over the world.

With more than 60 years of experience, the **Institute of Hispanic Studies** provides courses in Span-



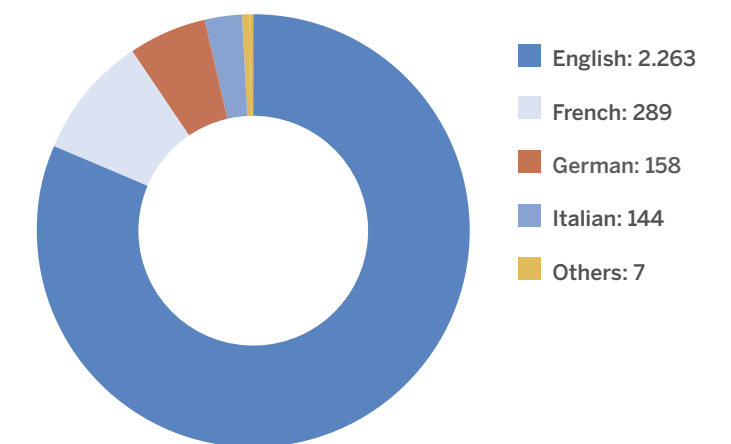
COMMITMENT TO LANGUAGE LEARNING AND CERTIFICATION

2,861 students enrolled at the EIM

ish language and culture to visiting students. Over the course of the academic year, a team of 20 teachers taught general courses on language and culture, as well as specific ones focused on conversation, writing and pronunciation, leading to the award of diplomas and certificates. The Institute also offered intensive Spanish courses for Erasmus exchange students at the UB and through an agreement with the Polytechnic University of Catalonia. A combination of face-to-face classes and distance learning via the UB's Virtual Campus was maintained this year as a result of the period of restrictions arising from COVID-19. The Virtual Campus was also used as a means for administering student level tests.

In conjunction with the Cervantes Institute, the Institute of Hispanic Studies oversaw nine sittings of the official examination on Spanish constitutional and sociocultural knowledge (CCSE), which is required to obtain Spanish nationality, and seven sittings of the official examination to obtain the Diploma in Spanish as a Foreign Language (DELE), for which it offers preparation courses at levels B1, B2, C1 and C2. This year, a total of 1,352 students enrolled in

Students enrolled in courses at the EIM



Spanish language and culture courses, 1,381 students sat DELE examinations and 1,026 people took the CCSE examination.

In addition, the Institute of Hispanic Studies offered placements to students of the bachelor's degree course in Communication and the Culture Industry and the university master's degree courses in Spanish as a Foreign Language in Professional Environments and in Training of Teachers of Spanish as a Foreign Language. It also offers services for the editing of specialist texts and their translation into Spanish and training for teaching and administrative staff from abroad.

Catalan language tuition provided by the UB's Language Services were offered as year-long, single-term and intensive summer courses in a variety of formats





(including the Catalan government’s online parla.cat programme), at CEFR levels A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 and C2. Successful students receive official certificates from the Catalan government and recognition of ECTS credits towards their degree. A total of 73 courses were offered to 1,061 students.

This year, within the framework of the Catalan Inter-university Commission for Language Training and Certification (CIFALC), for the third year running, members of the university community have been offered free level C1 and C2 exams and, for the first time, free exams at level C1 for teaching and research staff.

To support language learning among UB staff, administrative and service staff were offered 11 specific language courses and four focused training units linked to the general offer. Furthermore, in application of Royal Decree 128/2010, additional specific courses were offered and additional level C1 calls were announced for teaching and research staff. More specifically, during the academic year, ten specific courses were run for the certification of teaching and research staff (with 243 participants), and two information sessions and four extraordinary calls for certification were held, in addition to the two ordinary

calls. Two-hundred eighty-eight members of the UB’s teaching and research staff responded to open calls for certification of level C1 in Catalan.

At the initiative of the Faculty of Education, the offering of courses aimed at improving the oral and written Catalan language skills of students enrolled in the

Students enrolled in other course types

	Students
School of Modern Languages	2,861
Hispanic Studies	1,352
Els Juliols summer courses	569
Gaudir UB courses	2,898
Catalan courses (Language Services)	1,061

	Examinations
Foreign languages (EIM)	870
DELE exams (Hispanic Studies)	1,381
CCSE exams (Hispanic Studies)	1,026
Catalan language exams (Language Services)	606



bachelor’s degree course in Teacher in Early Childhood Education and the bachelor’s degree course in Teacher in Primary Education was maintained. Personalized advising and four language workshops (two for writing and two for speaking over the course of two semesters) were offered.

To promote multilingualism, UB students and staff were able to use the self-access online language learning tool Multilingüitzat via Rosetta Stone. Some 1,374 of the 1,870 enrolled language learners were members of the university community.

In addition, the self-access language learning centres promoted informal peer-to-peer activities in different languages. Specifically, 75 conversation groups were organized with 499 participants in English, 10 in French, five in German and four in Italian.

Regarding the non-formal learning activities of Catalan in relation to the linguistic reception of international students, have been made available to them the Language Exchange Service and the CATclub. Student participation in the Language Exchange Service was strong, with 51 international students and 172 local students registered. Exchange pairs were created for Catalan and German, English, Arabic, French, Italian, Japanese, Dutch, Portuguese, Turkish and Chinese. A beginner level conversation group for Spanish speaking students was also launched, with 10 participants. Two-hundred and fifty students registered in the CATclub and 11 cultural gatherings were held.

Finally, 26 language orientation informative sessions were held in the UB’s faculties when the international students first arrived at the University. In addition, the Institut Ramon Llull’s Catalan lectureships continued during the academic year, specifically with universities in Sheffield, Bristol, Liverpool and Los Angeles, which led to the creation of 23 Catalan-English exchange pairs.

Training at the **Institute for Lifelong Learning (IL3)** has returned to normal with face-to-face courses and placements at external centres. The hybrid teaching modalities that emerged in the wake of the pandemic have been consolidated and added to the range of course types on offer, as they have proven to be effective for student learning.

New programmes in the fields of health, engineering and business have been added to the IL3 catalogue, such as the online expert courses in Physical Activity

Students enrolled in lifelong learning courses (IL3)

Type of course	Open courses		Corporate solutions	
	Courses	Students	Courses	Students
Online	344	8,393	25	870
Face-to-face	269	3,718	14	353
Blended learning	63	1,124	21	540
Total	676	13,235	65	1,763



The University of Barcelona's stand at the 2022 Education Fair.

and Health; the postgraduate course in the Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology Industry; postgraduate courses in Mindfulness; and a master's degree in Cybersecurity. The new courses offered during the year also included two face-to-face courses: the master's degree in Business Innovation and the course in Agile Leadership and Digital Transformation.

In addition, the IL3 managed the **Guadir UB** and **Els Julios** courses.



Student support

Many of the programmes and actions related to student support continued being offered virtually.

Information and dissemination

The Student Support Service (SAE) has planned and coordinated several information and orientation activities to facilitate the transition to university for prospective students from varying backgrounds and to provide new students with the tools they need to integrate and adapt to the university setting.

To publicize its **course offering** within Spain, the University of Barcelona participated in the fourth edition of a virtual state-level fair for bachelor's degrees (drawing 5,300 visits) and the third edition of a virtual state-level fair for official master's degrees (over 2,700 visits). Both fairs were promoted by the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities (CRUE) via the UNIferia platform, and in both cases the UB stand was among the most visited. The Saló de l'Ensenyament education fair for potential bachelor's degree students and the Saló Futura for prospective master's degree students were once again held this year. The UB also participated in the Saló Aula in Madrid as well as all the other face-to-face informational fairs and university orientation events that the University usually takes part in.



The new **UBica't** information and academic counselling programme was reintroduced during the academic year to raise awareness of the range of bachelor's degrees offered at the UB. It includes the activities La UB s'apropa, the UB's Open Days and the online activities Inspira't and Pregunta'm. Within the framework of **La UB s'apropa**, 11,768 students from 243 secondary schools received academic advice. The **Inspira't** activities consisted of 57 sessions on different bachelor's degree courses in which a lecturer, a graduate and a current student from the course shared academic, professional and personal experiences. Finally, via the **Pregunta'm** initiative, current bachelor's degree students fielded questions from pre-university students via 69 chat channels. Up to 60 bachelor's degree students, selected as UB Ambassadors, worked to make the **Inspira't** and **Pregunta'm** events a success by providing information, organizing and promoting the talks and attending the chats.

The **UBica't** programme included the activities held for the Saló de l'Ensenyament, in which the ambassadors and other volunteers attended to approximately 30,000 people who visited the University of Barcelona's 180 sq m stand. Lastly, the UB's faculties organized **Open Days** to publicize the bachelor's degree courses they offer as well as the UB's facilities and services; 5,130 secondary and upper secondary school students registered.

In the second edition of the **UB-Santander Awards for the Best Upper Secondary School Research**

Projects, 984 projects were submitted and 80 prizes were awarded across 984 categories (one for each faculty). The University also collaborated on the promotion and management of various **contests and prizes** organized by UB faculties for secondary school research projects, such as the Concòrdia-Fedefarma and Xavier Domingo prizes awarded by the Faculty of Chemistry.

This year, a new edition of the **Secondary and Upper-Secondary Debating League**, coordinated by the Vives University Network, was held online. Twenty-four teams from different upper secondary schools attended the local phase of the Debating League, held in the Historic Building, and each team participated in three debates. The winning team, which represented the UB in the final phase, took second place.

The **accommodation programme** continues to offer information about a variety of accommodation options, including UB residences, affiliated halls of residence, and several private residences with which the UB has agreements. Additionally, the University continued to collaborate with Barcelona Centre Universitari.

In collaboration with the Fundació Projecte Home, an event devoted to informing the public about drug addiction was held again this academic year through a face-to-face session in the auditorium of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences.

FEINA UB PROGRAMME

12,500 external academic placements

As for **information actions**, the University responded to 46,189 queries concerning the academic and service offer and issues with accessing the student intranet and associated services, while the Món UB student information portal received 38,478,791 visits.

In addition, the **CRAI Libraries** continued to provide the UB community with the resources needed to facilitate learning and research, and were made more efficient this year through the addition of the new library management system, Alma. In total, 272,252 documents and 3,724 pieces of equipment were lent in 2021. The UB's CRAI worked to achieve the objectives of the 2022 Iter strategic plan, focusing on improving the user experience and promoting the self-management of educational resources and online training.



Inauguration of the 22nd University Information and Guidance Services Conference: "SIOU and Diversity".

Career advice and employment

In the area of **university orientation**, a number of on-site and virtual programmes were offered, through which 6,825 students were advised on matters such as decision-making, career design and skills development.

Twenty-five online courses were held on **specific skills** and **job hunting**, with 1,302 participants, and four courses were taught on LinkedIn, drawing 123 university master's degree students and 99 trainee researchers.

The **UB Job Club**'s activities were likewise shifted online, and resources and tools were offered to assist students in defining their career goals, building self-knowledge and designing a training plan and professional project. A total of 1,116 students took part: 284 in the three virtual courses held and 832 in the 14 monographs.

In addition, 204 online **personal interviews** were held to provide counselling to students on career prospects, options for continuing their education and changing their area of study.

In this area, 122 **orientation actions** were carried out at UB faculties, addressing specific needs through career guidance programmes provided throughout the bachelor's degree courses and in the context of business fairs. In all, 4,203 students participated.

For the seventh year in a row, the UB also played an active role in the working group on Guidelines and Tools for University Orientation, which is part of Spanish Univer-



sity Information and Orientation Services (SIOU). The University also participated in organizing the 22nd Spanish University Information and Orientation Services event 'SIOUs and Diversity', held at the UB.

The **external academic placements** during this academic year involved 10,652 students, who took place in a total of 12,500 placements in companies and institutions, 9,393 of which were curricular and 3,107 non-curricular. In addition, 1,061 queries were answered through the *sae.feinaub@ub.edu* mailbox, and more than 960 telephone queries related to placements were answered, providing information to students, UB centres and companies.

In the area of employment promotion, students continued to benefit from the **ONCE Foundation-CRUE Placement Grants programme**, now in its fifth call, under which financial aid was awarded to six students with a certified degree of disability equal to or greater than 33%, and from the Catalan government's **Odysseus programme**, which funded work placements for 24 UB students at companies based in rural areas. A total of 107 students from other state and foreign educational institutions also completed **placements** at the UB. Of these, 58 came from other universities and 49 from secondary schools.

In all, 18,854 placement or job offers were received from 4,640 companies.

As for participation in interuniversity **working groups**, the University of Barcelona remained active in the

Press ●●●

The UB is a leading university in Spain in the major international rankings. It is the number one university in Spain with the best graduate employability, and among the top 87 in the world and the top 22 in Europe, according to the QS Graduate Employability Ranking.

El Periódico, 26 April 2022

Coimbra Group's Employability Working Group. It also participated in the Interuniversity Council of Catalonia's Employability Working Group.

Support for diversity

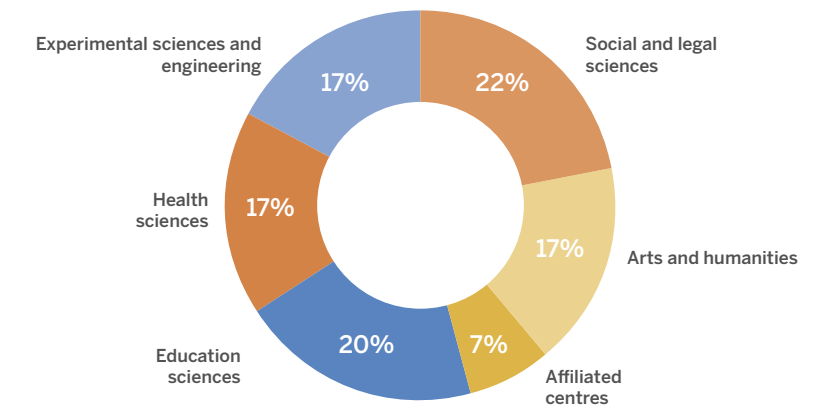
The **Integration Programmes Unit** serves students with specific educational needs and carries out a variety of actions to make the UB an increasingly inclusive university. It gave support to 837 students with disabilities enrolled in a course of study at the UB and to 442 students who, despite not having a certified disability, have special educational needs stemming from various diagnoses.

Over the academic year, the University undertook 3,938 **advisory actions** and/or interventions (2,623 with students, 1,027 with teaching and research or academic and service staff, and 281 externally) and designed 242 personalized study plans. **Material aid** was provided in the form of the loan of support products to 73 students, a library grant of 22 software licences to improve reading and writing, and the provision of transparent face masks for people needing to communicate with 16 students with hearing impairment.

In the area of **personal support**, it has coordinated the collaboration of support students, offered 182 hours of sign language interpreting to five students with hearing impairments, and renewed its financial support programme (up to 4,000 euros) for students with reduced mobility requiring the assistance of other people.



General grants for bachelor's degree and university master's degree courses, by branch of knowledge



Total value (in euros) of general grants for bachelor's degree and university master's degree courses

Grant type	Total value (€)
Tuition fee waiver	10,366,414
Minimum variable amount	69,240
Fixed amount (residence-based)	1,848,800
Fixed amount (income-based)	8,204,200
Variable amount	9,180,153
Excellence grant	241,163
Subsidy for air travel	287,533
Total	30,197,503

bkUB programme: grants awarded by type

Grant type	Number of grants
Study grants for extraordinary circumstances	57
Grants for repeat subject enrolment	161
University master's degree grants	53
Foreign-language study grants	151
Total	422

The third edition of the **Meetup workshops** was also held at the UB. The events for students with autism spectrum disorder are held in collaboration with the Asperger's Association of Catalonia, and this academic year, 21 students from 17 different courses took part.

Additional steps taken to enhance the **employability** of students with disabilities included collaborating with the placement services of various entities and processing work placement grants, in collaboration with Feina UB, provided by the ONCE-CRUE Foundation.

In addition to direct actions aimed at students with specific educational needs, work has continued to improve the inclusion of these people through the **training** of the university community (with the workshop Let's Talk about ASD, attended by 50 students) and with **conferences and seminars such as:** "Higher education in today's world: Universal design for learning", "Identifying psychological issues in the classroom", "Specific educational support needs: Resources and experiences", and others.

The Integration Programmes Unit also participated in university-related **working groups and projects** like the ECHE's Sustainability, Inclusion and Civic Commitment Working Group and the TUHelp research project. It also collaborated on final projects

for the bachelor's degrees in Biomedical Sciences and Sociology, and with different working groups on mental health established within the framework of the Inter-University Council of Catalonia.

As for resources loaned by the **CRAI Libraries**, two tools were made available for users with special needs: BB Ally, which allows teaching staff to improve the accessibility of documents deposited in the Virtual Campus by providing the option of downloading them in different formats, and ClaroRead, which facilitates access to CRAI resources for people with dyslexia. In addition, the University of Barcelona Digitalization Centre (CEDI) collaborated on the digitalization of the recommended reading list for students with special needs.

Grants and financial aid

Over the past academic year, 18,993 applications were received for **general grants for bachelor's degree and university master's degree course**. A total of 11,153 grants were awarded for a combined amount of 30,197,503 euros.

Additionally, 13,743 applications for means-tested **Equity grants** were received, 9,660 of which were successful. These grants subsidize between 70% and

80% of students' enrolment fees, across two means-tested categories.

The **Santander Progreso grant** programme offers funding to bachelor's and master's degree students. This year, 557 applications were received and 23 grants of 1,000 euros were awarded.

Work has continued to consolidate the **Connecta UB** programme, which was launched with the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic to guarantee equal opportunities among the student population. A total of 220 requests were processed, 184 of which were successful, with applicants receiving one of the three types of aid available: the temporary use of a laptop computer, the provision of an internet connection, or both a laptop and an internet connection.

The **Santander Tecnologia-Connecta** programme was also managed this year, under which a total of 234 grant requests were submitted, 90 of which were granted. Each grant includes the loan of a laptop computer and 350 euros towards internet connection costs.

To prevent economic hardship standing in the way of learning opportunities, the University also runs the **bkUB** programme, under which more than 13,000 bachelor's degree students were given free access to paid facilities. A total of 422 grants were awarded.



Grants and financial aid awarded

Grants awarded	Number	Total value (€)
General grants	11,153	30,197,503
Departmental collaboration	112	224,000
Collaboration with UB services	298	1,296,902
Collaboration with UB faculties/schools	136	424,242

Grants awarded	Number	Total value (€)
Equity grants	9,660	—
bkUB programme	422	132,190
Master+ supplementary grants (1st call)	19	63,304
Connecta UB grants	184	—
Santander Tecnologia-Connecta grants	90	31,500
Mobility programme grants	462	110,000
DRAC programme grants	23	4,911
Santander Progrés grants	23	23,000
Santander Erasmus Study grants	51	25,500
Banc Santander grants for SEN	2	4,000
Erasmus subsidies for language courses at the School of Modern Languages	312	111,384

The Spanish Ministry of Education and Vocational Training awarded 114 **departmental collaboration grants**, with a total value of 228,000 euros; 298 **collaboration grants for UB services and units**, with a total value of 1,296,902 euros, and 136 UB faculty collaboration grants, with a total value of 464,241 euros. In the area of collaboration grants with UB services and units, two editions of the new **Master+ UB programme** have succeeded. This programme aims to attract talent and foster the vocational pursuit of scientific enquiry in the UB's research groups: 29 grants were awarded, with a total value of 96,622 euros. In the first call for applications, 19 grants were awarded, amounting to 63,304 euros. The second call for applications will close in February 2023.

The UB granted 462 **mobility programme** grants totalling 110,000 euros: 440 were for exchange periods at European institutions as part of the Erasmus+ programme (200 euros per grant), and 22 were for periods at universities in Europe and the rest of the world as part of the Global UB Mobility and Global Faculty UB mobility programmes (1,000 euros per grant).

Within the scope of **Banco Santander's** international mobility grants, 51 supplementary grants of 500 euros were awarded to internationally mobile students who have participated in some capacity in the Erasmus programme, and two grants of 2,000 euros each were awarded to students with special educational needs (SEN).



The Teaching Innovation Group in Communication and Audiovisual Media, coordinated by María Ángeles García Asensio (right), received the Jaume Vicens Vives Distinction for university teaching quality, together with Dr Peiró (left).

In addition, 312 people received Erasmus fund subsidies for language courses from the School of Modern Languages.

To promote academic mobility between the universities that make up the Vives Network, 23 **DRAC grants** were awarded, totalling 4,911 euros.

This academic year, 205 UB students participated in the **SICUE national mobility programme** (System for Exchange between Spanish Universities) and 362 students from other universities were hosted by the UB.

Teaching innovation, assessment and improvement

The **Teaching and Learning Research, Innovation and Improvement (RIMDA) programme** supports continuous improvement in teaching, fostering teaching innovation and stimulating activities that allow teaching staff to share their experience. This year, it

TEACHING IMPROVEMENT AND INNOVATION

€ 112,000 funds allocated to the RIMDA programme

96 active teaching innovation projects

724 members of the UB community involved in teaching innovation projects

97 consolidated teaching innovation groups

15 teaching innovation groups

1,888 members of the UB community involved in teaching innovation groups

AVERAGE STUDENT SATISFACTION SCORE FOR TEACHING STAFF

7.66 in bachelor's degrees

was allocated 112,000 euros. This year, 20 new **teaching innovation proposals** were presented, ten of which received official recognition, while two were allocated direct funding. All proposals received grant funding for the dissemination of results, and support was provided for the creation of learning materials. There were 96 active **teaching innovation projects**, with the participation of 724 members of the UB community (PDI, PAS and collaborating staff).

For the first time, two separate calls for proposals were launched for the recognition of **improvement projects** (PMD) and **innovation projects** (PID), which received a total of 59 proposals: 22 for the PMD call and 37 for PID.

Accreditation moved forward among the **teaching innovation groups** this year with the evaluation of 112 groups recognized by the RIMDA programme, of which 97 were accredited as consolidated teaching innovation groups (GIDC) and 15 as teaching innovation groups (GID). Specific **financial assistance and support staff** were again allocated to the consolidated groups with the highest scores, while funds also continued to be made available for the dissemination of innovation actions by all groups. In total, 1,888 members of the university community (PDI, PAS and support staff) were engaged in the various activities of recognized teaching innovation groups.

Within the framework of the **Strategic Teaching Project** (PEDC) programme, the INNDOC project is

being developed jointly with the Faculty of Economics and Business. The project involves 26 lecturers, who are working on improvement and innovation projects in the teaching strategies of project-based learning, problem-based learning, gamification and the flipped classroom. Additionally, strategic faculty and school projects in the Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Biology remained active throughout the academic year, involving 55 and 64 lecturers, respectively.

Four of the UB's proposals submitted in the 2021 call for **grants for innovation projects for improving teaching quality in the subject of gender violence** (INDOVIG 2021) were accepted and received funding this academic year.

It is worth highlighting the **distinction for teaching quality** awarded by the UB Board of Trustees, which in its eighth edition awarded, in the group category, the Teaching Group on Innovation in Communication and Audiovisual Media (In-COMAV), coordinated by Dr M.^a Ángeles García Asensio of the Faculty of Information and Audiovisual Media and, in the individual category, the career of Dr Francesca Peiró Martínez, professor in the Department of Electronics and Biomedical Engineering of the Faculty of Physics.

Through an agreement with the platform Coursera, over 50,000 people registered for the UB's **massive open online courses (MOOCs)**, and over 5,000 participants completed them.

AVERAGE STUDENT SATISFACTION SCORE FOR TEACHING STAFF

8.09 in university master's degrees

Over the past academic year, the nineteenth formal **evaluation of teaching activity** was carried out. Of a total of 926 potential teachers (from the ordinary call and previous ones), 491 were evaluated (53%). Of these, 451 members of teaching staff were ultimately assessed and 435 received favourable evaluations (96.5%). Of the total number of potential teachers, 568 came from the ordinary call; in this case, participation was 71.3%, with 405 teachers presented, 384 of whom were evaluated, 97.9% favourably. Participating teachers managed the process via a specific teacher assessment app (ADP) accessible through their Carpeta Docent ["Teacher's Folder"]. As in previous years, participants were asked to complete a satisfaction survey about the process. Satisfaction with the evaluation procedure was rated an 8.11.

The UB continues to collect the opinions of students through **feedback surveys**, administered from the beginning of their studies until they graduate with a bachelor's degree, a master's degree or a doctorate, in order to cover the entire educational cycle. To this end, a **perception survey for incoming bachelor's and master's degree students** was administered and completed by 31.1% and 32.8%, respectively. Of these, 82% of new bachelor's degree students and 70% of new master's degree students stated that the UB was their number one choice of university at which to complete their studies. The **survey on the subjects and teaching staff of the university bachelor's and master's degrees** was supported by a series of actions to foster student participation. Over the two semesters, the participation rates were

21.8% for bachelor's degrees and 36.7% for university master's degrees: 171,605 online responses were received and 16,848 reports were created. The average score for the statement "In general, I am satisfied with the teaching activity carried out by the lecturer in this subject" was 7.66 among bachelor's degree students and 8.09 among university master's degree students.

The results of the **survey on services, activities and facilities** were broadly positive, students giving

Satisfaction and opinion surveys

- New bachelor's degree students
- New university master's degree students
- Student satisfaction with degrees
- Student satisfaction with services and facilities
- Graduates
- Master's degree graduates
- Doctoral studies
- Students at the School of Modern Languages
- Gaudir UB students
- University of Experience students
- Postgraduate students
- Students satisfaction with study and living conditions
- Teaching staff satisfaction with the teaching assessment process



Institut de Desenvolupament Professional
UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA



Centre de Recursos per a l'Aprenentatge i la Investigació
UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA

an average overall satisfaction rating of 7.20 out of 10. Students positively rated the StartUB! programme (foster and support for entrepreneurship), with a rating of 7.81, and gave the study rooms a rating of 7.26. 20.4% of students participated in the version administered this past academic year.

Our **graduates** have also expressed their satisfaction with their completed courses. In the 2021 survey, 81.6% of master's degree graduates and 73.9% of bachelor's degree graduates stated that they would choose the UB again. The **doctoral student satisfaction survey** was completed by 48.1% of the doctoral students who read their thesis in the academic year 2020-2021.

Enrolment in training activities of the Institute for Professional Development (IDP-ICE)

Training activities	Enrolments
In-service training courses for teachers in early childhood, primary and secondary education, vocational training and for other professionals in the social and community field	3,702
Courses in the Research Section	12
Courses in the Community and Sustainability Section	323
Courses for university teaching staff	7,932
Postgraduate courses and master's degrees	195
Total	12,164

In addition, **other surveys** were distributed to collate students' views on the complementary training options offered by the School of Modern Languages, the University of Experience and the Gaudir UB programme.

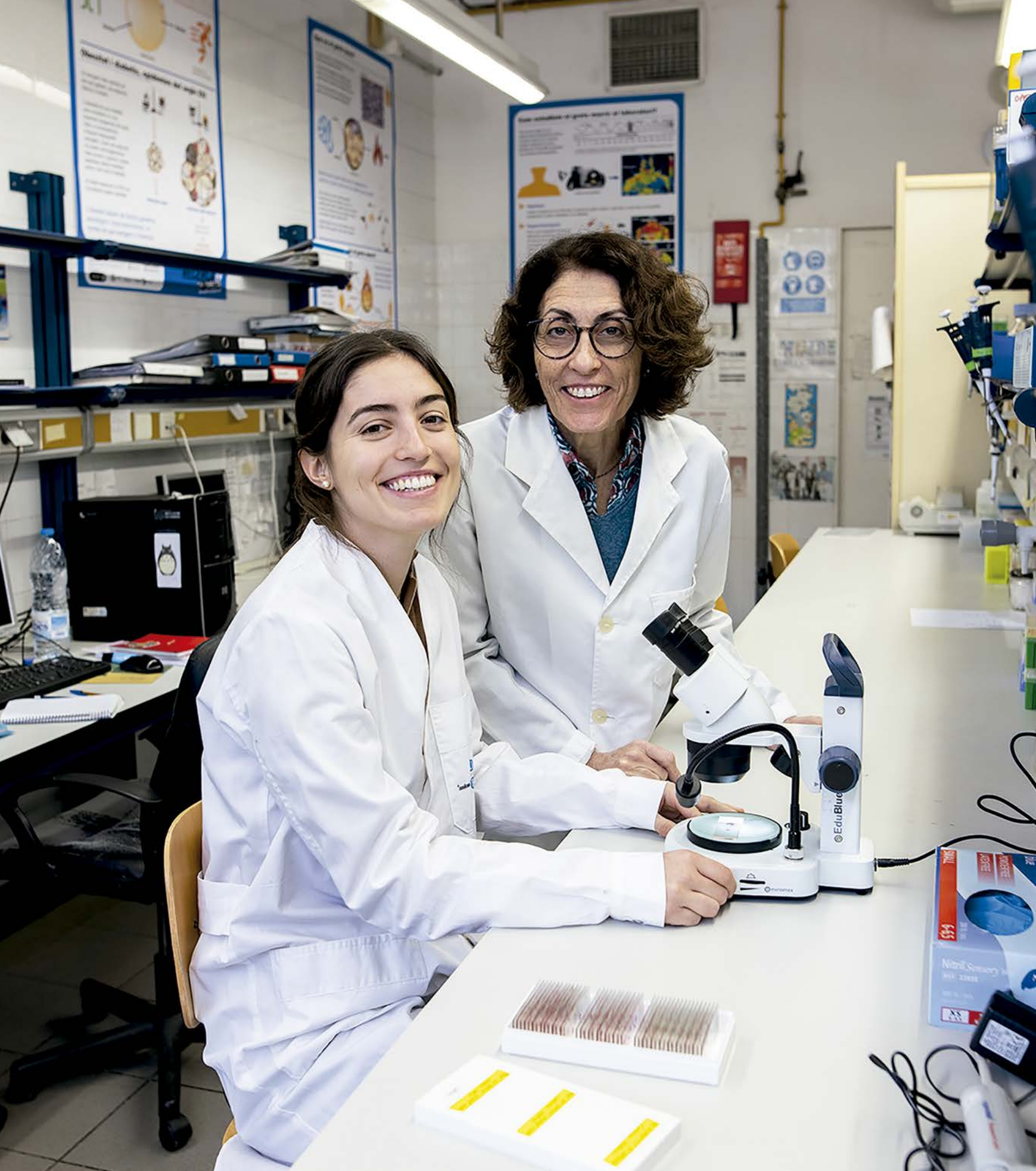
The **Institute for Professional Development (IDP-ICE)** has a long tradition dating back to its creation in 1969 under the name of Institute of Education Sciences (ICE). In the past academic year, it continued carrying out its functions of analysing teacher training needs and designing proposals for action, promoting educational innovation and advising on research, and disseminating good practices and developing training materials in different formats. In total, 351 educa-

tors participated in training activities and 12,164 students enrolled (67.8% of them women).

The **Learning and Research Resources Centre (CRAI)** comprises 16 libraries, the Centre for Research on Plant Biodiversity, the Digitization Centre, the Restoration Workshop, the Cervera Repository and seven cross-university units that collaborate in learning and knowledge creation and facilitate access to and knowledge of a variety of information resources. It has received the EFQM 500+ European Seal of Excellence.

Improvements were also made this year in the **Virtual Campus** with the incorporation of the Zoom video-conferencing tool. The Virtual Campus has also been adapted and configured for mobile devices, and a new functionality has been added that integrates the GR@D and CEL applications, which allows courses to be created automatically, without the necessary intervention of the teaching staff.





3

A university at the vanguard of research

- Promotion, funding and internationalization of research
- Research and scientific output
- Technology, knowledge and innovation transfer
- Doctoral studies
- Dissemination of scientific culture

Maria del Carme Llasat, Creu de Sant Jordi



Maria del Carme Llasat Full professor of Atmospheric Physics in the Department of Applied Physics

Dr Llasat has received the Creu de Sant Jordi 2022 in recognition of her stellar scientific career. The distinction was awarded by the Generalitat de Catalunya, which highlighted “her contribution to the field of physics and to studying, researching and raising awareness of climate change and natural hazards”. She is also recognized as a pioneering female scientist in the area of interdisciplinary studies.

Promotion, funding and internationalization of research

The University of Barcelona is a research-intensive institution in all branches of knowledge with a clear international focus and a firm commitment to serving society through a wide range of innovative and knowledge transfer activities. The University strives to recruit the best internal and external talent to join the UB community. To this end, it has continued to implement programmes for internal promotion and for the stabilization of the **teaching and research staff** (PDI), as well as announcing competitive calls for applications for the selection of new staff.

A selection process was begun in 2021 to hire more than 150 postdoctoral researchers within the national framework of grants for the requalification of the Spanish university system. Several grant types were applied towards this purpose: Margarita Salas grants, grants for the requalification of statutory and non-statutory teaching staff, and María Zambrano grants for the attraction of international talent. The call has a budget of 20 million euros.

At the same time, each year strategic positions are offered for internal promotion in certain areas and measures are taken to facilitate the incorporation of new PDI. In 2021, 13 Ramón y Cajal, 11 Juan de la



Cierva, 11 Beatriu de Pinós, eight Marie Curie and two Beatriz Galindo researchers joined the UB and, through the ICREA Foundation, one new lecturer joined the University, bringing the total number of researchers funded through this programme of excellence to 44.

In addition, work continued to ensure compliance with requirements derived from the **HR Excellence in Research award**, inspired by the principles of the European Charter for Researchers, and an action planned was rolled out to implement good practices in the context of the Human Resources Strategy for Research (HRS4R).

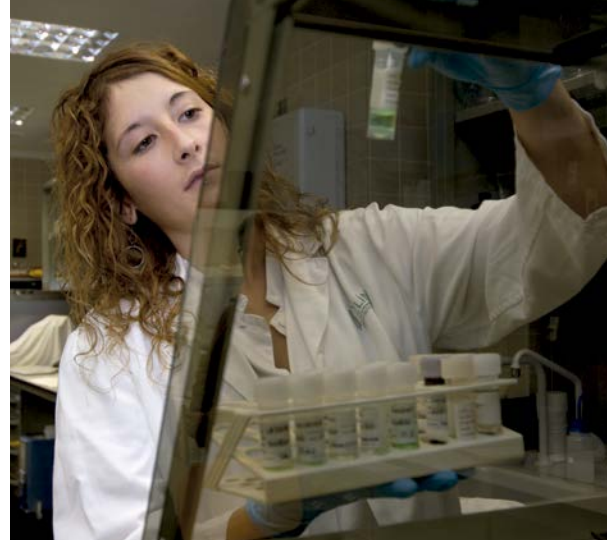
In the area of **scientific publications**, UB research made the cover of the international journal *Nature* with the article “Matters of the Heart”, which describes research conducted exclusively by the Evolution and Development (Evo-Devo) consolidated research group of the Genetics Section of the Faculty of Biology. The journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (PNAS) also published an article by two researchers from the UB’s Faculty of Geography and History and members of the Prehistoric Studies and Research Seminar (SERP) that confirms the human origin of some of the oldest paintings on the planet in the Ardales Cave (Malaga).

The results of the 2020 **calls for proposals** (adjudicated in 2021) of the National Programme for Fostering

Excellence in Scientific and Technical Research (National Sub-programme for the Knowledge Generation in the Knowledge Generation R&D&I Projects category) and the National Programme for Research Aimed at the Challenges of Society (in the Research Challenges category) were similar to those of previous years, achieving total funding of 21.8 million euros and an application success rate of 60%.

The UB also made progress in the **acquisition of new research infrastructure** with a subsidy from the Ministry of Science and Innovation covering the cost of equipment worth 9,876,006 euros, awarded through its **Science and Technology Centres (CCiTUB)**. The subsidy funded 12 new pieces of equipment, including a focused ion beam microscope (FIB-SEM); an integrated preclinical molecular and functional imaging system, the only one in Catalonia; a photoelectron spectroscopy instrument with a scanning microprobe, the only one of its kind in Europe; a MALDI-TOF/TOF imaging platform; a small molecule HPLC-MS platform; a spectral flow cytometer; a high resolution mass spectrometer, and a 400 MHz magnetic resonance spectrometer.

Also in 2021, the UB obtained a grant of nearly 9 million euros from the Ministry of Science and Innovation to install the first very high-field nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) apparatus in Spain through the call for proposals for **Unique Scientific and Technical Infrastructures (ICTS)** funding.



The UB also made significant progress in securing **funding for research**, with seven successful projects involving UB members in the 2020 **La Marató** de TV3 and Catalunya Ràdio campaign focused on improving the quality of life and life expectancy of people affected by SARS-CoV-2.

UB researchers also demonstrated their capacity to attract resources via the **ICREA Academia** programme, which in the 2021 call honoured the scientific careers of six UB researchers, who were awarded grants to conduct their research projects for a period of five years.

The UB was awarded funding for ten projects through the Government of Catalonia's call for proposals within a programme called "Replegar-se per créixer: l'impacte de les pandèmies en un món sense fronteres visibles" (**Pandèmies 2020**) for research projects analysing the impact of COVID-19.

The **Horizon 2020** programme ended in 2020, and the first research project proposals for the successor programme, **Horizon Europe** (2021-2027), would not be evaluated until the end of 2021. The projects awarded during 2021 therefore correspond to the last

Horizon 2020 and other EC directorates general	Projects	Amount (in euros)
Total projects	30	11,086,765
Starting Grant	1	1,498,750
Consolidator Grant	2	3,467,712
Marie Curie actions (individual projects)	6	1,092,395
Marie Curie actions (network projects)	2	469,050
Collaborative projects		
Future and Emerging Technologies (FET) (one led by the UB)	5	3,195,855
Health (one led by the UB)	2	145,000
Climate	2	331,608
Food, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture and environment	1	238,803
Information and communication technologies	1	32,652
Programmes of the DG of Justice and Consumers (one led by the UB)	7	478,669
European Health and Digital Executive Agency Programme (HADEA)	1	136,271

calls of the Horizon 2020 programme. The UB secured 30 projects with the European Commission (EC), for a combined amount exceeding 11 million euros. Of these, 22 are part of the Horizon 2020 research programme, with nearly 10.5 million euros in funding, and eight correspond to programmes sponsored by other directorates general with a total amount of over 600,000 euros.

In the European Research Council, two Consolidator Grants were awarded totalling nearly 3.5 million euros, in addition to one Starting Grant, for almost 1.5 million euros. The UB has maintained its impressive track record in implementing Marie Curie actions, with six individual and two network projects active over the last year. Of the collaborative projects the UB participated in this year, the five signed within the Future and Emerging Technologies (FET) sub-programme are particularly noteworthy: one, led by the UB (StretchBio), received funding totalling approximately 3.2 million euros. Lastly, mention should be made of the six projects obtained within the programmes of the EC's Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers, one of them also led by the UB (NextGenPS), awarded a total amount of approximately 480,000 euros.

Changes took place in relation to research structures at the UB this year with the approval of the amended **regulations on the creation and operation of internal research and transfer structures**, which bring the previous regulations up to date. Specifically, the new regulations unify the UB's research and trans-

fer structures in a single text governing the essential aspects of the procedure for their creation and evaluation as well as their organization and operation.

Three UB research institutes were awarded the **María de Maeztu accreditation of excellence** this year: the Institute of Cosmos Sciences (ICCUB), the Institute of Neurosciences (UBNEURO) and the Institute of Theoretical and Computational Chemistry (IQTCUB). The accreditation provides funding to research organizations that demonstrate international scientific leadership and impact and that collaborate in open access policies for research publications and in the dissemination of knowledge. These units of excellence will become members of SOMMa (the SOMM Excellence Alliance), an initiative that promotes groundbreaking research in Spain.

This year, the University of Barcelona renewed its commitment to the **League of European Research Universities (LERU)**, of which it remains the only Spanish member. The League includes 23 research-intensive European universities, located in 12 different countries. In 2021, UB representatives in the various LERU working groups took part in a total of 68 meetings of the different expert groups into which it is divided: nine policy groups, six ad hoc groups, two network groups and the Assembly of Rectors, as well as four topic-specific groups. In addition, the UB collaborated in the preparation of a number of publications on the analysis and positioning of LERU and in the document *Implementing Open Science*. The Uni-



Press ●●●

The University of Barcelona and Bellvitge University Hospital published an article in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* describing results of SARS-CoV-2 screening and its seroepidemiology in the UB community. This is the first scientific study of COVID-19 screening at a university conducted in Spain. The cross-sectional study involved a sample of 2,784 members of the UB.

UB News, 18 June 2022

versity also set the process in motion to organize a 2022 face-to-face meeting of multidisciplinary scope and character on the social and medical challenges in global health in conjunction with LERU and the European Global Health Research Institutes Network (EGHRIN).

In the **Eurolife network**, the nine member universities implemented various activities within the framework of the DATAETHICS project (“Changing Landscapes in the Health and Life Sciences: Ethical Challenges of Big Data”), within the Erasmus+ strategic partnership programme. This project address-

es the profound scientific, social and ethical impact of the use of big data in health and medical care. Among other academic activities, the UB was responsible for organizing the Summer School “Big Data, Big Implications: Data Protection in Biomedicine”, which took place in Barcelona in 2022.

Work also continued on the SIRA project, which will eventually become the **UB’s research information system**. It will include new applications based on those currently included in GREC, Curricul@, the Research Projects Manager (GPR) and the Research Opportunities Management System.

TEACHING STAFF ENGAGED IN RESEARCH

2,399 academic staff engaged in competitive and non-competitive research groups

Staff engaged in research by grant

	Women	Men	Total		Women	Men	Total
Senior researchers	46	74	120	Predocctoral researchers	311	310	621
CIBER researchers	12	3	15	Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MSCA-ITN-ETN)	2	9	11
ICREA research professors	11	33	44	UB predocs	62	62	124
Beatriz Galindo researchers		1	1	Research staff training grants FI (Government of Catalonia)	61	40	101
Ramón y Cajal researchers	23	31	54	Research staff training grants FI SIDUR (Government of Catalonia)	27	31	58
Project-specific, other calls or no grant		6	6	Research staff training grants FPI (MINECO)	84	86	170
Junior researchers	23	28	51	University teaching staff training grants FPU (MICIU)	61	66	127
Beatriz Galindo researchers	1	1	2	Government of the Basque Country	1		1
Beatriu de Pinós researchers	4	14	18	La Caixa	4	3	7
Juan de la Cierva researchers (new)	4	4	8	Tatiana Pérez de Guzmán	1		1
SECTI postdocs (UB)	14	9	23	Project-specific, other calls or no grant	8	13	21
Postdoctoral researchers	41	40	81	Research technicians	118	95	213
JIN researchers (MINECO)	1	4	5	CIBER technicians	3	2	5
Juan de la Cierva researchers (trainee)	7	3	10	Research technicians	115	93	208
Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MSCA-IF)	7	5	12	Research assistants	155	122	277
Junior Leader postdoctoral fellows (La Caixa)	1	3	4	UB Total	694	669	1,363
Postdoctoral fellows (POP)	2	2	4	Bosch i Gimpera Foundation researchers	261	230	491
Project-specific, other calls or no grant	23	23	46	Bosch i Gimpera Foundation research technicians and assistants	95	22	117

SECTI: Spanish Science, Technology and Innovation System
 POP: postdoctoral orientation period
 MINECO: Ministry of Economic Affairs and Digital Transformation
 MICIU: Ministry of Science and Innovation

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

€ 191,918,183

in funding secured for research and technology transfer through competitive and non-competitive calls



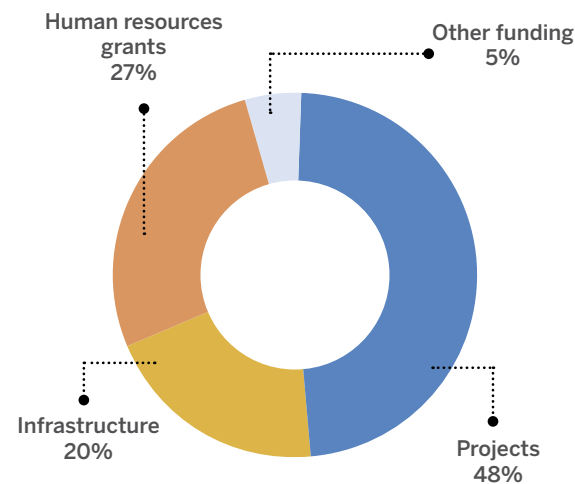
• Research and scientific output

The **competitive research funding secured** by the 16 UB faculties and schools and 18 institutes of the University of Barcelona amounted to 99 million euros, including national and European projects and grants, for a total of 766 research activities. Notably, the UB was awarded more than 20 million euros for infrastructure through two national calls. The La Caixa Foundation's CaixaResearch 2021 call resulted in the award of 1.5 million euros in funding for health research, and the University received over 25.5 mil-

lion euros for projects through the calls of the State Plan for Scientific and Technical Research and Innovation 2017-2020.

The UB also secured funds from the European Commission through 22 European projects linked to the **European Commission's Horizon 2020 framework programme for research and technological development**, totalling 10.5 million euros, and 15 projects funded by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, for a total of more than 600,000 euros. Funding from other European projects this year totalled over 1.3 million euros.

Research funding secured through competitive calls



Funding secured for research and technology and knowledge transfer

Item	Amount (in euros)
Projects	47,551,510
Complementary actions	53,603
Grants for human resources	26,729,587
Other grants	4,586,524
FBG and other research contracts	10,653,178
Research agreements	1,345,836
Infrastructure projects	20,176,809
External CCiTUB services	2,889,980
Funding secured by UB researchers at institutions with UB participation*	77,931,155
Total	191,918,183

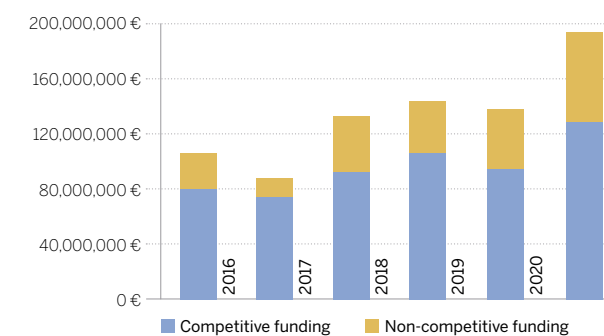
* This includes funding allocated to UB researchers in competitive and non-competitive research activities at IDIBAPS, IDIBELL, IBEC, IREC, IRB, IEB, ISGlobal, IEEC, CREA, IJC and IRSJD.

Research funding secured through competitive calls

Origin	Activities	Total value (€)
Regional government	132	12,128,730
National government	503	68,086,897
Local government	6	89,264
Foreign governments	5	311,473
Other	9	337,456
European Commission	53	12,453,950
Private sector: NPIs* and businesses	49	5,429,020
Public sector: NPI*	9	261,243
Total	766	99,098,033

* NPI: non-profit institution.

Research funding secured



* 2017: no Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness funding call.

Research is promoted and coordinated through **research structures**. In 2021, the UB had 16 of its own research institutes, two university institutes, four research centres, an inter-university research centre, 11 observatories and three documentation centres. In addition, the UB participates with other institutions in 10 joint research institutes, two joint observatories and five inter-university institutes.

As part of the 2017 National Pact for Research and Innovation and the Catalan Research and Innovation Plan calls, which remained valid until Septem-

SCIENTIFIC OUTPUT

7,876 scientific publications indexed in the Clarivate Analytics Web of Science (WoS)

Research institutes and centres

UB research institutes

- Barcelona Economics Analysis Team (BEAT)
- Institute of Archaeology
- Institute of Biomedicine (IBUB)
- Institute of Cosmos Sciences (ICCUB)
- Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (IN2UB)
- Institute of Neuroscience (UBNeuro)
- Institute of Theoretical and Computational Chemistry (IQTC)
- Water Research Institute (IdRA)
- Institute for Research on Biodiversity (IRBIO)
- Institute for Research on Medieval Cultures (IRCVM)
- Institute for Research on Applied Regional and Public Economics (IREA)
- Institute of Research in Education (IRE.UB)
- Nutrition and Food Safety Research Institute (INSA-UB)
- Geomodels Research Centre
- Institute for Legal Research (TransJus)
- UB Institute of Complex Systems (UBICS)

University research institutes

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

Research centres

- ADHUC: Research Centre in Theory, Gender and Sexuality
- Centre for Research in Information, Communication and Culture (CRICC)

- Centre for Sociolinguistics and Communication Research (CUSC)
- POLIS Research Centre: Art, City, Sustainability

Interuniversity research centres

- Barcelona Institute of Analytic Philosophy (BIAP)

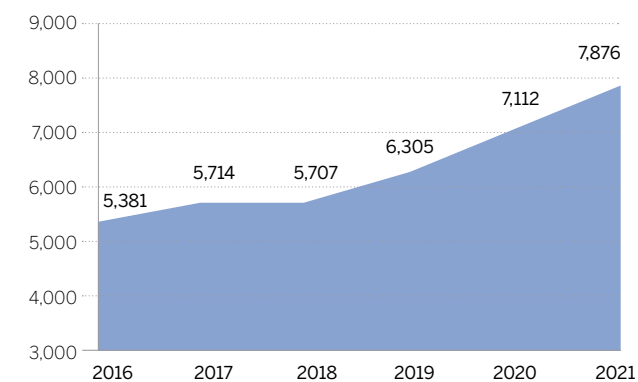
Research institutes with UB participation

- Centre for Ecological Research and Forestry Applications (CREAF)
- AgriGenomics Research Centre (CRAG)
- Barcelona Institute of Economics (IEB)
- Bellvitge Institute for Biomedical Research (IDIBELL)
- August Pi i Sunyer Institute for Biomedical Research (IDIBAPS)
- Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC)
- Institute of Biomedical Research (IRB)
- Josep Carreras Leukaemia Research Institute (IJC)
- The Catalonia Institute of Energy Research (IREC)
- Sant Joan de Déu Research Institute (IRSJD)

Interuniversity institutes

- Barcelona Graduate School of Mathematics (BGSMath)
- Barcelona Institute of International Studies (IBEI)
- Institute for Space Studies of Catalonia (IEEC)
- Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal)
- Inter-University Institute of Women's Studies and Gender Research (IIEDG)

Scientific publications



ber 2021, the UB's portfolio of **research groups** consisted of 250 consolidated research groups, 10 pre-consolidated research groups and eight emerging groups. Additionally, 15 inter-institutional groups managed by the UB were recognized, and the University participates in another 12 recognized groups managed by other institutions.

According to the data collected in the Web of Science (WoS) portal run by Clarivate Analytics, the **scientific output of UB researchers** stood at 7,876 scientific publications: 6,384 were listed in the Science Citation Index Expanded, 560 in the Social Sciences Citation Index, 791 in the Emerging Sources Citation Index, and 141 in the Arts & Humanities Citation Index. The number of scientific publications produced by members of the UB community has been steadily increasing over the past few years.

OPEN ACCESS

34,078

articles in the UB Digital Repository

775

grants for open-access publishing

59,247

open-access documents published

9,119

doctoral theses in the UB Digital Repository



Since 2021, UB research staff can publish in open access in journals with which the UB has reached transformative agreements, which also allows them to opt for open-access publication in hybrid journals and open-access journals. These agreements currently include over 5,500 scientific journals. In 2021, two active journals (with all retrospective issues) and four historical journals from the CRAI Fine Arts Library and digitized by the Digitalization Centre (CEDI) were added on the **UB's scientific journal portal** (RCUB), which includes articles from scientific journals published or co-published by the UB, as well as those that are no longer published but for which the collection is available in digital format.

A total of 14 of the **scientific journals published or co-published by the UB** have been awarded the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology's (FECYT) Seal of Quality: ten were renewed from previous years and four were awarded the seal for the first time. In addition, in the call for grant proposals and recognition of UB scientific journals, all 62 journals submitted were recognized and 60 received funding for publication with a total value of 62,000 euros.

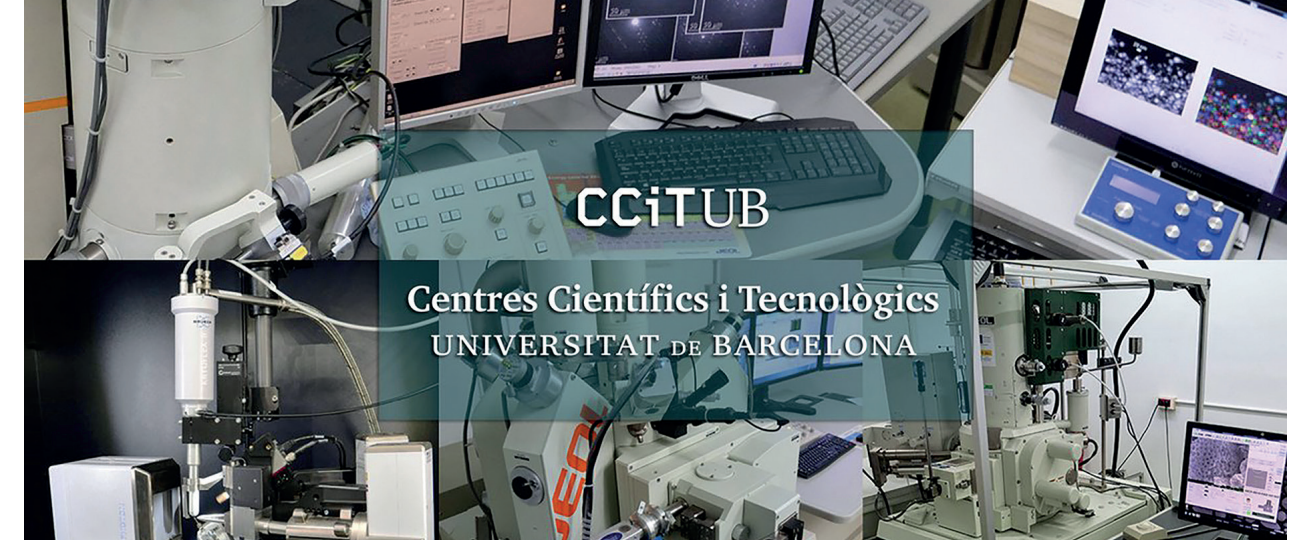
Maintenance of metadata continued in the **UB Digital Repository** (DDUB) in accordance with Relecceta (FECYT) and OpenAIRE (EC) regulations. In addition, 10 new collections were created (two in the institutional community, 19 in the research community, four in the doctoral thesis community and fifteen in the student work community), and work was

undertaken to recover documents written by UB teaching staff, such as articles, books and conference papers, for publication in the Repository. The DDUB currently contains a total of 66,179 documents, 7,819 of which were added in 2021. The Repository received 2,381,655 visits during the course of the year. Work was also carried out to improve the management, preservation and exchange of research data in 2021: the research datasets available in the DDUB were exported to the Research Data Repository of the Consortium of University Services of Catalonia (CSUC).

Since 1995, the **Bioethics Committee (CBUB)** has assessed methodological, ethical and legal aspects of research projects and doctoral theses submitted by UB researchers and doctoral students. In 2021, through specific agreements, the CBUB continued to act as a leading review panel for assessing calls for research funding from organizations like the Agency for the Management of University and Research Grants (AGAUR).

The **Barcelona Science Park (PCB)** promotes innovation and knowledge transfer by strengthening relationships between the University, public research organizations and businesses. In 2021, the PCB served **123 organizations** consisting of 96 companies, six research centres, 13 non-profits and eight UB groups, units and services. Together, these organizations accounted for a total of 2,900 users.

The PCB has a total **built area** of 101,486 square metres and usable space of 59,687 square metres for clients and



services. The total leased area comprises 29,378 square metres, of which 20,244 square metres are dedicated to laboratories and 9,134 square metres to offices.

A total of 1,166 users accessed the PCB's Common Scientific Services through technological platforms over the course of the year to take advantage of its high added-value **scientific and technological services**.

Considerable strides were also made in **strengthening the PCB community** through 13 networking activities, in addition to training events and social activities. In total, 844 participants attended.

In the area of **communication**, the PCB achieved 930 mentions in the general and specialized press and on sector websites. Also appearing were 141 online news items about organizations in the PCB community or about the PCB itself. In 2021, the PCB's website received over 64,000 visits.

In addition, **scientific dissemination** and the promotion of **scientific careers** continues to be actively encouraged through the Research in Society programme, which drew the participation of over 4,900 children and young people.

The University of Barcelona's **Science and Technology Centres** (CCiTUB) represent a national and international benchmark in the provision of research support. Their infrastructures and technical expertise have contributed to making the UB one of only

three universities in Spain with two nodes on the Ministry for Science and Innovation's map of unique scientific and technical infrastructures (ICTS), and the only one in Catalonia.

In 2021, the UB's Science and Technology Centres provided services to a total of 1,293 **account holder** users and/or principal investigators: 435 from the UB, 330 from public entities, and 545 from private companies. **Turnover** for the provision of services reached nearly 4 million euros and user satisfaction was high with an overall rating of 7.84 out of 10. The consistent quality of the CCiTUB is demonstrated by their **ISO 9001:2015 certification**, their listing as an agri-food laboratory in the Registry of the Government of Catalonia, and their renewed generic drug facility registration with the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as a contract analysis laboratory.

Science and Technology Centres

Staff	164
Approximate value of scientific equipment	€42,000,000
Total campus area	12,000 sq m
Users and clients	1,293
Income from services	€3,956,320



The centres began a process of renovation in 2021 based on five **strategic lines of action**: science and technology, promotion and knowledge transfer, communication and digitalization, sustainability, and organization and governance. To strengthen these actions, the centres have reinforced and improved the range of services they offer by **updating and expanding their equipment**. Several new pieces of equipment were added in 2021: a bioluminescence and fluorescence system for in vivo imaging, a microwave sample digester, a device for the automatic analysis of carbonates, and an elemental analyser isotope ratio mass spectrometer for isotopic analysis. In addition, the centres acquired a 500 MHz NMR spectrometer, the result of collaboration with the company Bioiberica SAU, and installed the first imaging mass cytometer in Spain through a collaborative project between the CCiTUB and the Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB).

As part of the plan to renew and expand their range of equipment, the CCiTUB have received funding of almost 20 million euros from competitive Next Generation EU funds, which will make it possible to acquire 12 new pieces of equipment starting in 2022 and thus strengthen their existing two unique scientific and technical infrastructure nodes.

In keeping with their strategic line of action for **digitalization**, in 2021 the CCiTUB participated in the European R-NMR project, which has received funding of 1.5 million euros from the Horizon Europe

framework programme and which involves over 25 European nuclear magnetic resonance facilities. New tools have also been made available to users, like the new digital platform for the evaluation of scientific research projects offered by the Technical Office of the Ethics Committee for Animal Experimentation (CEEA).

In addition, the CCiTUB sought out partnerships for cooperative projects and eight **collaboration agreements** were signed, as well as a new quality agreement for the provision of services, bringing the total number of such agreements up to 20. In keeping with their **commitment to society**, in 2021 the CCiTUB took part in various initiatives related to the SDGs and sustainability, 15 **training activities** were held, and more than 11 schools were visited through participation in the Escolab programme. In the area of **research dissemination**, the CCiTUB continued their support of existing programmes: NanoEduca, 10alamos9 and Nanoinventum, the latter being part of the STEAMcat pedagogical innovation programme of the Government of Catalonia. Lastly, this year also saw the **CCiTUB Equality Committee** become a full member of the University of Barcelona's Equality Committee.



RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

24.13
million euros in contracts

564
contract R&D&I projects

Projects and sums managed for research, technology and knowledge transfer and other FBG services

	Projects	Amount (en euros)
Contract research	564	10,292,679
Contracts and agreements	390	8,938,142
Services delivered	174	1,354,537
Projects and grants	62	10,53,244
European projects	25	9,418,377
National and international research projects	37	1,113,867
Licences	43	143,453
Management of programmes and services	28	3,164,729
Total	697	24,133,105

Knowledge, technology and innovation transfer

The mission of the **Bosch i Gimpera Foundation (FBG)** is to transfer knowledge, technology and innovation from the University to society. In December 2021, the UB Governing Council and the Board of Trustees of the FBG approved the general conditions for entrusting the Foundation – as the UB's own entity – with the activities of innovation, promotion, valorization and transfer of research results, as well as the management of contracts, agreements and projects related to research.

In 2021, the FBG managed 697 **research, transfer and other service** contracts for the University of Barcelona, worth a total of 24.13 million euros, and

FBG: SUPPORT FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP

18 business creation ideas received and assessed

hired 775 people to undertake tasks related to research projects. These projects, valuing a total of 10.29 million euros, include 564 **contract research** projects, which allow companies to undertake innovative projects to improve their products or services. Sixty-two **grants** were obtained for a total amount of 10.53 million euros: 37 from public and private institutions (1.11 million euros) and 25 for research projects funded by the European Commission (9.42 million euros).

The FBG also made advances in the protection of research results and technologies developed by UB researchers, with 43 **licensing contracts** for UB technologies signed this year. Over the course of the year, these licences and others yielded revenues of 233,196 euros. Of the 104 **patents** applied for, 18 are priority patents, 16 are international extensions, and 70 have entered national phases in other countries. The leading sector was biotechnology and health sciences, representing 64% of the patent applications, followed by chemistry and pharmacy with 20% and electronics and sensors with 13%. This year, 132 patent families were available for transfer. Moreover, researchers submitted 43 **inventions** to the FBG for evaluation, three software products were registered and 17 material transfer contracts were formalized.

The FBG is responsible for promoting the **creation of innovative companies** by UB researchers. In 2021, two spin-offs were founded: Reveal Genomics and Oniria Therapeutics. In addition, 18 business

TECHNOLOGIES, MATERIALS AND LICENSES

43 license agreements

104 transfer patents

43 invention disclosures

creation ideas were submitted and assessed, and a total of 22 active investee spin-offs was reached. These companies obtained 6.3 million euros in public and private funding and generated 9.3 million euros in turnover; they were also responsible for the creation of 63 new jobs. Through the company **Innovative and Scientific Culture (CIC-UB)**, the FBG is responsible for monitoring the spin-off companies in which the University of Barcelona invests and is actively involved in the StartUB! tool.

The FBG also furthered its **relationships with companies and organizations** in 2021, organizing and promoting over 14 activities and reaching more than 700 people. This year saw the 7th edition of **Science**

FBG: BUSINESS CREATION

6.3 million euros in public and private funding for → **22** active spin-offs

+ **Partners** and the sixth call of the **Fund to Foster Innovation (F2I)**, a UB grants programme that, since its foundation, has invested a total of 603,000 euros in 34 projects, and has generated seven new spin-offs, 10 licensed technologies, more than 5 million euros in public and private funding, as well as over 35 new jobs. The 2nd UB **Innovation Tickets** incentive programme was also held to promote collaborative R&D&I projects between companies, institutions and research groups.

The **Living Lab UB**, the UB's social innovation laboratory, collaborated in a joint project with the Living Lab of the Mental Health Cluster of Catalonia, continued working on the Good Governance Living Lab, and launched its new the KIDS' CLUSTER project. The FBG participates in various **clusters and communities** in order to intensify collaboration with companies, gain a first-hand understanding of their needs and be better positioned to recommend research conducted at the UB.

The 4th **Open Innovation Forum** was held in 2021, as was the **Technology Showcase**, a new open innovation programme which presents the technologies and patents developed by Catalan research groups to companies. The **1st UB Innovation and Entrepreneurship Day: Let's UB!** was also held, and the 4th edition of the **From Science to the Market** programme featured business proposals linked to health, food, the environment, social engagement and culture, among other areas.



Three **sessions** were also organized to promote and stimulate knowledge transfer for researchers from the Institute of Theoretical and Computational Chemistry (IQTC), the Faculty of Law and the Institute for Professional Development (IDP). The FBG also participated in the **Business Model Lab**, a specific course on business creation with tutorials to help resolve questions, and collaborated in the organization of **Innovation Day (i-Day)**. It also participated in the **Barcelona Deep Tech Node**, an alliance whose mission is to position Barcelona as a benchmark in technology-based entrepreneurship.



17 INDUSTRIAL DOCTORATE PROGRAMMES

In addition, with the aim of promoting the transfer of expertise from UB research groups using **experimental models**, a new tool was developed that consolidates over 100 of these models and that can be searched by the user's area of interest and/or specific sub-area.

In 2021, the **Tecnio** association was created, which brings together and promotes collaboration among research groups with the Tecnio seal. The UB has seven Tecnio groups comprising 194 researchers, and over the last three years they have earned 21.7 million euros, 35% of which was linked to R&D&I pro-

jects; they have applied for 12 patents, and three spin-off companies have been created.

For **publicity and dissemination** purposes, the FBG has produced a video highlighting knowledge and technology transfer, and has continued its interview project featuring researchers from the University of Barcelona and presenting technologies that have come out of the UB and are used in the market. The FBG also stepped up its activity on social networks and 69 news items were written and published on the website and disseminated in the media in 2021.



University of Barcelona Tecnio groups

- Engineering Centre for Instrumentation and Communication Microsystems (CEMIC)
- Thermal Spray Centre (CPT)
- Centre for the Production and Validation of Advanced Therapies (Creatio)
- DataScience@UB
- Centre for Design and Optimization of Processes and Materials (DIOPMA)
- Applied Mineralogy and the Environment (MAiMA)
- Drug Development Service (SDM)

• Doctoral studies

In the 2021-2022 academic year, 46 **doctoral programmes** were offered related to the fields of experimental sciences and engineering, health, social sciences, arts and humanities and education; all of them with a high degree of cross-disciplinarity. Thirteen of these are inter-university programmes, and all doctoral programmes currently offered are available in English. A total of 4,816 **trainee researchers** enrolled in UB doctoral programmes, 34% of whom were international students.

A total of 672 **doctoral theses** were defended, 89 of which received the **international doctorate certification**. In addition, the Governing Council awarded 76 **extraordinary doctoral prizes** and signed 15 **joint supervision agreements** for doctoral theses.

This year, the first edition of the **Antoni M. Badia i Margarit Awards** was held for the best doctoral thesis written in Catalan. These awards want to promote the writing theses in this language, and at the same time recognizing research that has sustainability in mind, the gender perspective and the dissemination of knowledge.

In the **doctoral student satisfaction survey**, overall satisfaction with students' programmes was rated 6.40 out of 10 and thesis supervision was given a satisfaction rating of 8.27; 91% of respondents said they

would repeat their doctoral programme and 88% would enrol in it again at the UB.

There were numerous **grants awarded for trainee researchers** this year, including 621 active contracts for pre-doctoral trainee research staff, 124 of which were funded by the University (Predocs-UB). In addition, 60 grants were awarded for research exchanges: 14 for FPU pre-doctoral researchers (€55,102), 19 for FPI (€72,953), 14 for Predocs-UB (€42,000) and 13 for Montcelimar research periods abroad (€87,160), for a combined total of 257,215 euros.

Doctoral School

Improvements were made in the 2021-2022 academic year to the **online processes for admission and access** to doctoral programmes. A new electronic voting platform was also set up for the award of cum laude honours.

As part of the Doctoral School's multi-disciplinary training activities, **welcome sessions** were held for newly enrolled doctoral students to inform them about issues related to the operation and organization of doctoral programmes at the UB. **Training Capsules** were also again offered online, which made it possible to maintain an audience of an average of 75 attendees per capsule.

In relation to the **Industrial Doctorates Plan**, in the 2021 call the University of Barcelona set up several



projects with companies, which have culminated in 17 collaboration agreements, 16 of which are coordinated by the UB, and one agreement was reached in collaboration with the Hospital Sant Joan de Déu. An **industrial doctorate conference** was organized for the coordinators and heads of doctoral programmes in UB faculties to describe the advantages of joining this project, focusing on the areas of the social and human sciences.

Meanwhile, the 12th **LERU Doctoral Summer School** was organized by the University of Utrecht, this year with the theme “The University of the Future: Rethinking the Role of Universities Worldwide in the Face of the Challenges of the 21st Century”. Two doctoral students representing the UB were in attendance.

Ten grants were awarded in the call for applications for doctoral students from the UB for **training periods in Spain and abroad**, financed by the Montcelimar Foundation and the University of Barcelona. Existing agreements with foreign universities were renewed and extended within the framework of the Erasmus+ programme.

Work continued in the area of quality assurance in official university education through continuing efforts to complete the **accreditation process** for the UB's doctoral programmes. This process began with the accreditation in the general stage, which resulted in a positive report verifying the achievement of all the

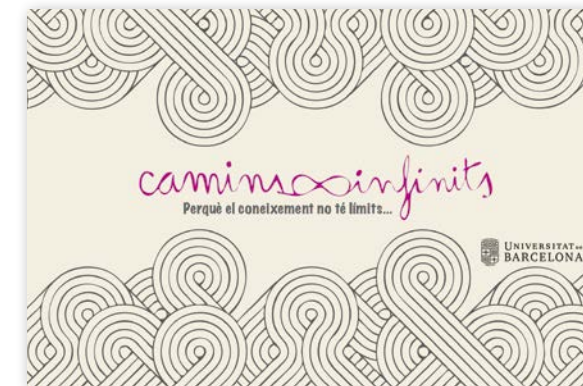
standards analysed as well as progress towards excellence in the effectiveness of the internal quality assurance system (IQAS). For the specific phase, the self-reports analysing the specific standards of each doctoral programme have been submitted and external assessment committees are currently conducting site visits.

Dissemination of scientific culture

The Scientific Culture and Innovation Unit (UCC+i) carried out **scientific dissemination activities** in two overarching areas: support and publicity for the UB's dissemination activities through the web portal and social media, and coordination and organization of the unit's own projects.

To **publicize the UB's dissemination activities**, the portal published information on 148 activities, which received 1,417 visits. To promote the dissemination of knowledge through **social networks**, content related to anniversaries and posts spotlighting researchers and their research were published on Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.

One of the UB's most noteworthy projects is **Camins infinits**, which connects kids in primary, secondary and high school with UB trainee researchers to foster societal interest in science and knowledge. Twenty-five



trainee researchers are currently involved in the programme. They have held 46 chats at primary, secondary and high schools which were attended by over 1,500 pupils.

The **Toc-toc** project features a series of **talks by UB researchers** to facilitate communication between the UB and the various societal stakeholders around Catalonia. Twenty-one researchers are involved in the project and have delivered 31 online talks in 23 different organizations. These events have reached an audience of nearly 1,100 participants.

In observance of **European Researchers' Night**, six **science cafés** were held in the UB's Historic Building. Some 20 UB experts offered a multidisciplinary perspective on subjects as diverse as life and death, life on Mars, the digital revolution, waste, the cities of the future and food labelling. As a result of this activity, explainer videos were produced under the name **Pòsits UB**.

As part of the activities to mark the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, a new edition of the **From Girls to Scientists** project was held for primary school children. Forty-one class groups took part and, for the first time, the **Elles poden, tu també!** [They can do it, so can you!] contest was organized on the UB Divulga Instagram account.

The 8th **UB Science Festival** was held this year in a new extended version, with events taking place over



the course of two days. More than 300 people from the university community were involved in the organization of 50 different workshops, in which over 1,000 people took part. This academic year also saw the resumption of **botanical visits** to the Ferran Soldevila garden and a new edition of **ArqueUB**, a programme of archaeological outreach activities held at the archaeological site on the Humanities Campus in the Raval neighbourhood.

Activities organized jointly with the Doctoral School were also held specifically for trainee researchers, including participation in the competitions **Thesis in 3 minutes**, organized by the Coimbra Group, and **Thesis in 4 minutes**, organized by the Catalan Foundation for Research and Innovation, in which the UB representative won second prize in the Catalan final. Both projects are intended to challenge doctoral students to explain their research quickly and simply, in terms that are easy for the general public to understand, and to encourage them to talk about the research they are working on. In addition, the 2nd **Your Doctoral Thesis in a Twitter Thread: #Hilo-Tesis** contest was held, sponsored by the Scientific Dissemination and Culture Network (Divulga Network) of the Sectorial Commission for R&D&I of the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities (CRUE).



An international university

The internationalization of education and research at the UB

International mobility

The University of Barcelona has received Oleksandr Martinenko and Marina Martinenko, Ukrainian professors affected by the war



Oleksandr Martinenko and Marina Martinenko Professor of Medicine and Professor of Economics, respectively, at Kharkov University

Oleksandr and Marina Martinenko will work at the University of Barcelona as visiting lecturers, in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences and in the Faculty of Economics and Business, respectively. It is the first step in a series of actions that the University of Barcelona will carry out to support the Ukrainian university community affected by the war.

The University of Barcelona's international activity in the academic year 2021-2022 was centred around the creation and execution of the new **UB Internationalization Plan**. To this end, meetings were held with different internal and external stakeholders to gather the information needed for the plan and specific actions were taken to ensure its successful implementation.

The internationalization of education and research at the UB

With the aim of improving and expanding the University of Barcelona's international profile, the University analysed the current internationalization of the University's bachelor's, master's, postgraduate and doctoral programmes in order to take advantage of the opportunities offered by **intensive joint programmes**, which combine synchronous virtual teaching and short-term mobility for face-to-face instruction. Work was also done to review the student recruitment strategy, and an informational document was drawn up to promote the UB to an international audience.

English-language tuition was offered for six full bachelor's degrees (Business Administration and Management, Bioinformatics, English Studies, International Business, Physiotherapy, and Tourism), two of which are taught at UB-affiliated centres. Also taught entirely in English were 32 university master's degrees



(including eight Erasmus Mundus programmes) and 46 doctoral programmes.

New management tools were explored (agreements, electronic signature book, SIRA) to provide improved **support for actions that foster the internationalization** of the UB. These should make it possible to assess the need to reorganize the processes used in international agreements and institutional international projects in order to simplify procedures and better monitor outcomes.

International alliances and networks

In 2021-2022, the University began the process of evaluating its presence and participation in international networks and alliances in order to promote the UB's involvement in initiatives identified as priorities and to duly recognize the efforts of the UB members engaged in those initiatives.

At the same time, the University honoured its commitments in the various alliances with which it is linked through a wide variety of activities. It took part in the General Assembly and the Coimbra Group Universities Annual Conference in Padua, the annual meeting of the European University Association (EEA) in Budapest, the General Assembly of the European University Foundation (EUF) in Berlin, the General Assembly of the Mediterranean Universities Union in Jordan, the ordinary General Assembly of the Ibero-American University Association for Postgradu-



ate Studies (AUIP) in Colombia, and several meetings of the Ibero-American Union of Universities (UIU).

As part of its alliance with the **Ibero-American Union of Universities**, in November 2021 the University of Barcelona organized and hosted the UIU School "Gender and Feminisms", addressed to experts in the field from the five member universities in the union. In the same context, researchers from the University of Barcelona contributed to a monograph sponsored by the Carolina Foundation and prepared by professors from the UIU universities, a collaboration that resulted in a document entitled "The Digital Gender Gap".

In May 2022, various events were co-organized within the framework of the **Unesco World Conference** held in Barcelona in collaboration with the Catalan Association of Public Universities (ACUP), the Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI) and the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB). In addition, as part of World Higher Education Week, the UB hosted the conference "Universities and Lifelong Learning", organized by the Spanish Service for the



CHARM-Eight

CHARM-EU welcomed three new members: Åbo Akademi University, Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg and the University of Applied Sciences Ruhr West.

Internationalization of Education (SEPIE) in collaboration with the UB.

The UB also took part in the activities held by the Sectorial Commission for Internationalization and Cooperation of the **CRUE Spanish Universities**, such as the annual assembly held in Granada, the conference on the International Promotion of the Spanish University System in Elche, and the Erasmus+ Information Days for Mobility in Higher Education held in Madrid and La Laguna.

As a member of the Board of Trustees of the **Confucius Institute Foundation of Barcelona**, the UB participated in several meetings for the purpose of establishing a new framework for collaboration to



In May, the Iberoamerican-European Union Conference: “A shared vision for the future of higher education” took place as part of World Higher Education Week.

improve the visibility and impact of the actions it sponsors. The collaboration resulted in the development of a project to promote the learning of Chinese among UB students and to provide them with tools to get to know the country and take advantage of current and future exchange programmes. In addition, the UB worked in collaboration with Casa Asia on several projects including the conference “LGTBIQ+ Rights and Activism in Asia” and the meeting “Bangabandhu Bangladesh in Barcelona”, which brought together the Bangabandhu community living in the city at the Historic Building.

Actions were also taken in relation to the **CHARM-EU** alliance: a proposal to renew the Erasmus+ project was drawn up and monitoring of the activities carried out within the **TORCH project** continued.

Three new partners joined the **CHARM-Eight** proposal (Åbo Akademi University, Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg and the University of Applied Sciences Ruhr West), which was awarded a grant of €12.8 million in the Erasmus+ European Universities Call 2022. CHARM-Eight will continue to strengthen, intensify and expand the effectiveness of member cooperation in order to advance the process of transformation in higher education towards fully developed European universities with greater impact.

Several actions were also undertaken to strengthen **Euro-Latin American** relations in research-intensive universities, such as the UB’s presence in the



General Assembly of the Ibero-American Postgraduate University Association (AUIP) in Barranquilla (Colombia), and visits to several of the country’s universities. Bilateral meetings were held with a number of universities and associations in this region, and the programme for the incorporation of postdoctoral researchers at the Autonomous University of Chile was presented to the directors of research institutes and vice-deans of relevant faculties.

Work was also carried out towards the review and renewal of the agreement that covers the activities of the UIU, which is in the process of expanding from five to nine members. The Casa del Arte project in Panama was also reactivated, in collaboration with Pablo de Olavide University and the University of Salamanca and with the support of the University of Panama.



International networks and associations

- Francophone University Association (AUF)
- European Association for International Education (EAIE)
- European University Association (EUA)
- International Association of Universities (IAU)
- Ibero-American University Association for Postgraduate Studies (AUIP)
- Interuniversity Centre for Development (CINDA)
- Téthys Consortium of Euro-Mediterranean Universities
- European University Foundation (EUF)
- Euroregion Pyrenees Mediterranean (Eurocampus)
- Confucius Institute Foundation of Barcelona
- Coimbra Group
- Tordesillas Group
- United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI)
- League of European Research Universities (LERU)
- PEACE programme
- Emprendia Network
- Mediterranean Universities Union (UNIMED)
- Ibero-American Union of Universities (UIU)
- Universia
- Continuing Education Network of Latin America and Europe (RECLA)
- Network of European Universities in Life Sciences (Eurolife)
- European Marine Sciences Network (EuroMarine)
- European University Continuing Education Network (EUCEN)
- Vives University Network (XVU)

A COMMITMENT TO INTERNATIONALIZATION

10,599 international students representing 143 nationalities

International higher education fairs

The University of Barcelona, in coordination with the Inter-University Council of Catalonia (CIC), took part in three of the most prestigious **international education fairs** in order to make contact with universities around the world and establish new alliances, strengthen existing ones and promote new partnerships. UB representatives attended the Association of International Educators Conference and Expo in Denver, Colorado, and virtually took part in the European Association for International Education (EAIE) and Asia-Pacific Association for International Education conferences.

Through the CIC, the UB also participated in the **EAIE 2022 Conference** held in Barcelona in September, in coordination with the other universities in the Catalan system. The UB had its own stand at **Study in Europe**, a promotional fair for prospective students held in October and November 2021. Specifically, the University took part in the sessions addressing students from Latin America, Morocco and Algeria.

The UB Refuge Plan

During the first semester of 2022, the development and implementation of the **UB Refuge Plan** was affected by Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the outbreak of war. Through coordinated and consolidated efforts, progress was made in extending solidarity initiatives

for teaching and research staff, as well as in maintaining the actions already planned for students.

In collaboration with research centres and institutes, 15 researchers were hired as part of the **temporary programme to host teaching and research staff displaced by the war**. For students, a new edition of the **UB Refuge course** was created, which allows participants to join the University as regular bachelor's or master's degree students in the following academic year.

At the same time, an **ambassador programme** is being developed that would assign UB representatives



A welcoming event for researchers and students from Ukraine was held in May.



Reception of the Ukrainian academics Oleksandr and Marina Martinenko.

to cooperate remotely with these groups, offering them training and acting as mentors, especially for trainee research staff.

Lastly, the UB is looking into signing a collaboration agreement with the **Scholars at Risk** network and the **New University in Exile Consortium** in order to provide greater geographical coverage for UB activities in support of refugees.

Monitoring the implementation of the ECHE Charter at the UB

Upon signing the **Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE)**, the University of Barcelona assumed a series of commitments that affect individual mobility actions and participation in academic cooperation projects. The most significant commitments focus on meeting the programme's four strategic objectives of digitalization, inclusion, sustainability and civic engagement, but also on ensuring the quality of mobility actions and projects.

To this end, the UB formed the **Committee for the Erasmus Charter Implementation Strategy** (2021-2027), in which several vice-rector's offices and other University units are involved. The Committee drafted a report to act as a possible roadmap for meeting the commitments of the Erasmus Charter, and made suggestions to contribute to the modernization and internationalization of the UB. Three lines of action

Press ●●●

The University of Barcelona (UB) yesterday welcomed Oleksandr and Marina Martinenko, researchers and professors in medicine and economics, respectively, from the University of Kharkov in Ukraine, who have had to leave their country because of the war. They are the first two Ukrainian professionals to work at the institution as visiting professors until 31 December, when they will regularise their employment situation in Spain.

El Punt Avui, 30 March 2022

have been established within this framework: digitalization; integration, new and better forms of mobility and exchange for internationalization; and sustainability, inclusion and civic engagement – sustainable development.

The work of the Committee for the Erasmus Charter Implementation Strategy at the University of Barcelona was completed during the first half of 2022, and working groups were set up for each strategic line of action.

International agreements

Seventy-eight new **international agreements** were signed during the academic year, mainly with institutions in Argentina, Switzerland, China, France,

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS



Japan, Mexico and the United States of America. Most of the agreements signed with European Union institutions were with partners in Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, France and Germany. The agreements formalized this year comprise 16 framework

agreements, 36 exchange agreements, 8 research agreements, 15 joint supervision agreements and 2 doctoral agreements. These bring the total number of institutional agreements in force to 372, not including the over 3,400 Erasmus mobility agreements.

Internationalization, international cooperation, strategic alliances and knowledge transfer projects

Faculty, office or unit	Projects
Fine Arts	2
Biology	4
Earth Sciences	1
Law	7
Physics	6
Economics and Business	12
Education	22
Geography and History	3
Information and Audiovisual Media	2
Mathematics and Computer Science	1
Medicine and Health Sciences	4
Psychology	5
Chemistry	3
Agency for Policy and Quality	1
Cabinet at the Rector's Office	4
Total	77

International academic cooperation projects

The European Union funds highly competitive projects aimed at promoting internationalization, strategic alliances, international cooperation and knowledge transfer in higher education. Apart from international mobility, the **Erasmus+** programme includes KA2 projects (strategic partnerships, knowledge alliances, capacity-building, etc.), KA3 projects (social inclusion, education, training and youth), Jean Monnet activities (chairs, networks, projects and centres of excellence), Erasmus Sport activities (addressing threats to the integrity of sport, promoting voluntary activities in sport, focus on grassroots sport, etc.), and other initiatives and programmes (Creative Europe, Europe for Citizens, etc.).

In the academic year 2021-2022, new projects with UB participation were granted funding. Together with those already under way, the UB is now involved in a total of 77 projects related to internationalization, international cooperation, strategic alliances and knowledge transfer in higher education. Such projects received approximately 77 million euros in



International mobility

Erasmus without Paper (EWP)

For the purpose of monitoring compliance with the UB's commitment to digitalization resulting from the award of the ECHE Charter, a working group was formed to ensure that the deadlines set by the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) are met. The digitalization process is shaped by the **Erasmus without Paper** (EWP) project, which consists of several mandatory phases with the ultimate goal of replacing the exchange of paper documents with data communicated via digital media. This would facilitate the interoperability of mobility data between participating higher education institutions, including bilateral institutional agreements and academic data of mobility actions. Over the course of the academic year, call procedures were handled completely electronically.

Another change that took place this academic year is the compulsory inclusion of the **European Student Identifier** (ESI) for all beneficiaries in learning agreements for the academic year 2022-2023. ESIs are also necessary for the operation of the European Student Card (ESCI) system, which will connect the systems of the universities involved in the Erasmus programme and facilitate cooperation between institutions, the enrolment process, and access to services for students travelling abroad.

direct EU funding, of which the UB obtained almost 7.3 million euros. Highlights include 14 **capacity-building** projects, which seek to support the modernization, accessibility and internationalization of higher education in non-EU partner countries, and 26 **strategic partnership** projects, which are transnational efforts to develop and transfer innovative practices and to foster cooperation, peer learning and the exchange of experiences in the fields of education, training and youth across Europe. The UB also participated in 12 **Erasmus Mundus** programmes.

Most of these projects are in cooperation with European partners, including Italy, France, Belgium, Germany, Portugal, the Netherlands, Greece, Sweden, Cyprus, Ireland, Albania, Romania and Austria. The most intensive international cooperation projects outside the European Union have been with North Africa (Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria and Libya) and Asia (Vietnam, India and Thailand) and, to a lesser extent, with Latin America (Mexico). In all, the UB has established collaboration partnerships with institutions in 56 countries.

TRAINEE RESEARCHERS

10 joint supervision agreements signed

15 grants for training periods abroad

International student mobility

The University of Barcelona manages a number of student mobility programmes and bilateral agreements with other institutions, including, Erasmus+, which includes exchanges within and outside of Europe; Global Mobility UB, with mobility agreements between the UB and other institutions of higher education; Global Faculty UB, with agreements signed between faculties and/or schools; individual applications for international mobility, and the Study Abroad programme.

Erasmus+ study exchanges and placements were once again the most significant framework for international mobility at the UB. Over the academic year, 1,028 UB students undertook periods of study in the EU, 1,318 internationally mobile students were hosted by the UB, and 93 completed traineeship mobility placements. No doctoral students were hosted by the UB this year, but three UB students participated in mobility placements. Eleven UB students participated in Erasmus+ mobility placements outside the EU, and the UB hosted 15 students.

The **United Kingdom's** exit from the European Union and from the Erasmus programme has meant that relations with the UK are now as with any other third country partner outside of Europe. Nevertheless, within the limits of flexibility afforded by the Erasmus+ programme, maintaining the flow of exchanges from that country remains a priority.

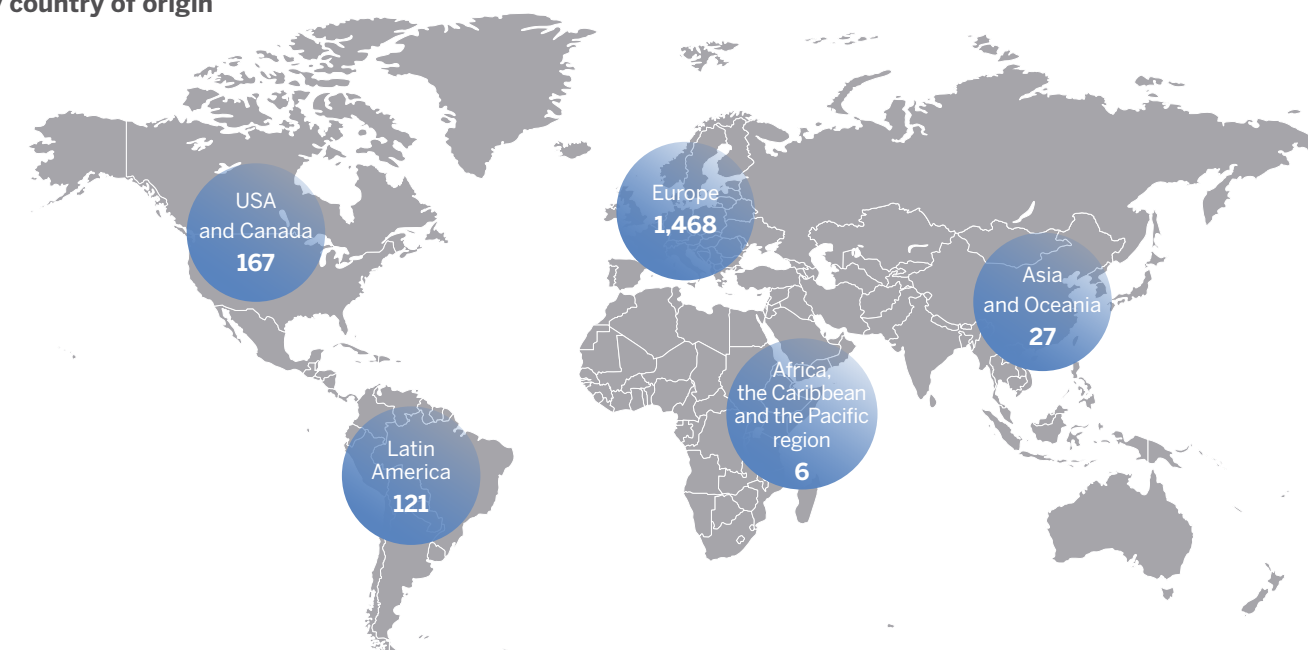
The **Global UB Mobility** framework continues to comprise two programmes intended to increase the visibility of and promote internationalization beyond the European Union. Thus, the Global Mobility UB programme (the framework for agreements between the UB and foreign universities) has welcomed 37 and sent 39 students, and the Global Faculty programme (agreements between UB faculties and schools or faculties abroad) has welcomed 83 students and 92 have gone abroad to study.

Overall, this year's mobility figures were similar to those of the pre-pandemic years, both for outgoing UB students and incoming students from other universities. In fact, the UB received 8% more incoming students on the Erasmus+ programme than ever before in the University's history.

UB students who participate in mobility programmes are eligible for various forms of **complementary financial aid**. This academic year, a total of 440 travel grants were awarded to Erasmus+ students and 22 grants for study periods in the rest of the world.

The **MAEC-AECID** scholarship programme of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation for university master's degree students has allowed the University of Barcelona to host five students from Latin America and three from the ACP area (Asia, Caribbean and the Pacific).

International exchange students hosted by the UB, by country of origin



Lastly, the UB is involved in two non-reciprocal mobility programmes through which it hosts students from foreign institutions who temporarily enrol to study at the University and sends its own students to partner centres abroad. One such arrangement is through **individual applications**, through which 39 students from around the world were hosted at the UB. The other is the **Study Abroad** programme for agreements with university consortia. This programme, which was greatly affected by the pandemic in the past few years, has already exceeded the number of mobility periods registered in the academic year 2018-2019 with a total of 191 incoming students, 154 of whom came from the United States and 37 from Latin America.

The conflict in **Ukraine** prompted the University of Barcelona to provide personalized supervision for each student. The nine students from Russian uni-

UB student mobility by programme

Programme	International students	UB students
Erasmus+ Studies (in the EU)	1,318	1,028
Erasmus+ Studies (outside the EU)	15	11
Erasmus+ Placements (in the EU)	93	108
Erasmus+ Doctorate	-	3
Global Faculty UB	83	92
Global Mobility UB	37	39
Coimbra Group	5	-
Study Abroad	191	-
MAEC-AECID	8	-
Individual applications	39	-
Total	1,789	1,281



versities who were on temporary study periods at the UB also received personalized supervision, support and advice, and were allowed to continue their studies at the University.

As part of its **actions to promote mobility**, the University held the **3rd International Mobility Fair** in October 2021, again in virtual format. The fair has become an event for students and for the exchange of information and communication between students, showcasing the wide range of options available at the University of Barcelona for studying abroad. The UB also participated in **#ErasmusDays** organized by the European Commission, in which students from different countries currently on an Erasmus stay at the UB describe their experiences on the University's YouTube channel.

International mobility of PDI and PAS

Over the course of the academic year, a total of 44 members of UB **teaching and research staff** participated in mobility placements abroad as part of the Erasmus+ programme, five of which were outside the European Union. In addition, 185 international lecturers came to the University of Barcelona on temporary posts, including four researchers from Africa and two from Latin America as part of the Coimbra Group's programme for young researchers.

At the same time, a programme of grants was announced to promote the mobility of teaching and research staff (with a budget of €40,000) and another to facilitate the internationalization of the UB's faculties and schools and academic programmes (with a budget of €70,000).

The UB's **administrative and service staff** also participated in mobility programs, with 12 members travelling to posts within Europe and five outside Europe through the Erasmus+ programme. In return, the UB hosted five workers from other universities, mostly from outside the European Union.

This year saw the return of **Staff Week**, organized annually by the Office of Mobility and International Programmes (OMPI), which focuses on sharing experiences in managing welcome points and hosting international students in general. It took place in the last week of April and was attended by 20 managers



Incoming and outgoing mobility of PDI and PAS by programme

	Teaching and research staff (PDI)		Administrative and service staff (PAS)	
	Incoming	Outgoing	Incoming	Outgoing
Erasmus+ in the EU	-	39	-	12
Erasmus+ outside the EU (teaching mobility)	13	5	5	5
Erasmus+ outside the EU (training mobility)	7	-	-	-
Coimbra Group	6	-	-	-
Other programmes*	159	-	-	-
Total	185	44	5	17

* For PDI: formerly, orientation programmes for international teaching and research staff.

and specialists from other universities in Europe and the rest of the world.

Study permits processed for non-EU students and staff

In the academic year 2021-2022, the UB completed the procedures necessary to secure permits for study periods for 11 non-EU students and to regularize the stays of 80 members of staff and 24 accompanying family members.





UNIVERSITAT^{DE}
BARCELONA



UNIVERSITAT DE
BARCELONA

Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 585
08007 Barcelona
Tel. 934 021 100
www.ub.edu

