



Universitat de Barcelona

# Report on the academic year 2012-2013

The University of Barcelona



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The University of Barcelona

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University of Barcelona

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# Foreword



It is my pleasure to present the latest edition of the Report on the Academic Year at the University of Barcelona, in which you will find a general account of the activities, initiatives and achievements of our institution over the academic year 2012-2013.

During this period our work has been guided by five principle concerns: the pursuit of quality in teaching and research; innovation through internationalization; a commitment to society; a focus on people, and conscientious economic management. At the core of all our activities during the year have been efforts to modernize and increase the transparency and accountability of our management procedures, alongside critical reflection on governance structures and the ongoing reform of the UB Statute.

In the general running of the University over the course of the year we have prioritized a commitment to the environment, ongoing progress in the matter of gender equality, dialogue with stakeholder groups concerning provisions for social responsibility, and solidarity and collaborative work with other institutions and organizations.

The two campuses of international excellence, the Barcelona Knowledge Campus and the Health Universitat de Barcelona Campus, have enabled us to consolidate our prominent international position, and the implementation of policies on internationalization has intensified across teaching, research and transfer activities alike.

Our broad selection of course offerings — covering the major areas of knowledge from fine arts and social sciences to engineering, experimental science and health sciences — have continued to be a hallmark of the UB, placing it among the generalist public universities with the widest-ranging and most extensive selection of academic programmes.

As well as seeing the first graduating class of the new bachelor's degrees complete their studies, this year has been notable for the consolidation of three major projects: the creation of the Doctoral School, which represents a major milestone in the coordination and management of our doctoral programmes; the launch of a UB-endorsed programme of grants and financial aid measures offered alongside the state grants system, which reflect our commitment to ensuring equitable access to higher education; and continuing efforts to expand our offer of complementary training courses, which enhance the service we supply and make the UB a more visible presence in and around Barcelona.

The opening of academic offices in Brazil, China and the United States has extended the international reach of the University, and particular strides have been made towards strengthening ties with higher education institutions in China through the UB's presidency of the board of the Confucius Institute in Barcelona. The University also hosted the first Arab-Euro Conference on Higher Education, which was by representatives of more than 150 universities in some 40 countries.

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

Dídac Ramírez Sarrió  
Rector of the University of Barcelona





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“Interaction between the different disciplines is, for me, fundamental to the university concept, and at the University of Barcelona it occurs in a very rich and natural way.”

**Eulàlia Masana Closa,**  
tenured lecturer,  
Faculty of Geology

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# 1

## A UNIVERSITY SPANNING THE CENTURIES AND SERVING THE COMMUNITY

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Strategic vision of the  
University of Barcelona

Summary of basic figures

Territorial distribution of the UB:  
the campuses and the centres

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# Strategic vision of the University of Barcelona

In the **elections to the Rector's Office** held in November 2012, Dr Dídac Ramírez, professor of Financial Economics and Accounting, Department of Mathematics for Economics, Finance and Actuarial Sciences, was re-elected and is now in his second term of office as rector.

The main lines of action of the UB's governing bodies are set out in the Management Plan 2013-2016 and are grouped into five core areas (people; learning; research and technology transfer; internationalization, culture and relations with society; resource and finance management). The Management Plan describes the objectives and actions for the next four years, which will be evaluated on the basis of a specific set of indicators.

In January 2013, the **UB Statutes Reform Committee** was created to oversee the development of a series of proposals to adapt the current UB Statutes and to modernize the institution. Its members were drawn from different groups and areas within the UB community. As part of the reform process, a new governance model has been designed that will bolster the UB's position as an autonomous institution, strengthen its role as a provider of quality public service, ensure greater academic freedom, optimise efficiency and efficacy, and enable greater focus to be placed on social responsibility. The Committee's proposals were recorded in a report that is now being studied by the **Senate's Technical Committee** for Statute Reform.

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The August Pi i Sunyer Institute for Biomedical Research (IDIBAPS), which is affiliated to the Hospital Clínic of Barcelona and the University of Barcelona, has opened 5,000 sq m of fully equipped facilities for first-class research. The new building was funded by a donation of 8.6 million euros from the Cellex Foundation.

*El Punt Avui*, 11 January 2013

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“The UB distinguishes itself in a holistic way, from the quality of teaching staff and their level of commitment to the classroom environment and how exams are carried out. Honestly, I have never been so comfortable studying as I am here.”

Daniel Marín García,  
student, Faculty of Law

The UB has expanded its presence in the **metropolitan area of Barcelona** with the recent incorporation of the El Carme Cultural Centre in Badalona, where a selection of the University’s further training courses will now be taught. Since April 2013, the

UB’s Area of Further Training has been housed with the Doctoral School and UB Alumni in Casa Jeroni Granell, a 2000 sq m modernist building on the Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes.

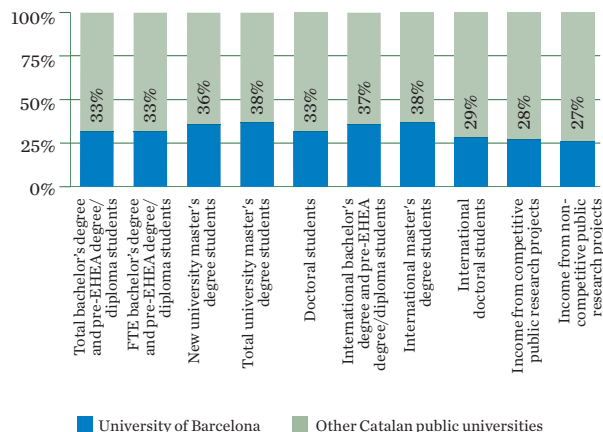
To make the UB a more visible presence in the city, new signs bearing the UB logo have been placed on the facades of UB buildings.



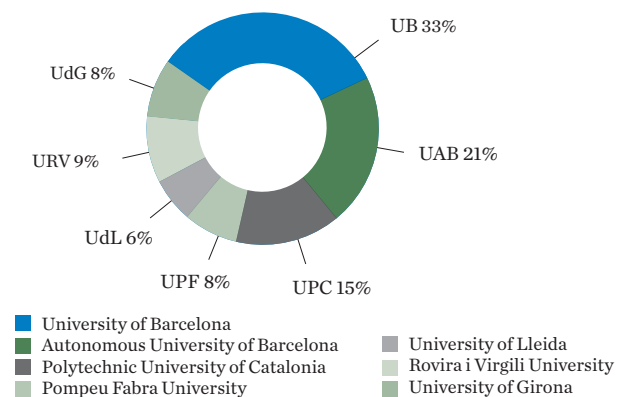
Historic Building

In the area of UB **infrastructure**, the Bellvitge classroom block has been extended with the addition of approximately 8,000 sq m of new spaces. The construction work was funded through the HUBc Campus of International Excellence initiative. In addition, the new facilities of the Cellex Biomedical Research Centre, covering a total built area of 5,000 sq m, have now been opened by the Faculty of Medicine.

### The UB in the Catalan public university system



### New bachelor's degree students in the Catalan public university system, 2012-2013





Faculty of Law

## Summary of basic figures

### Structure

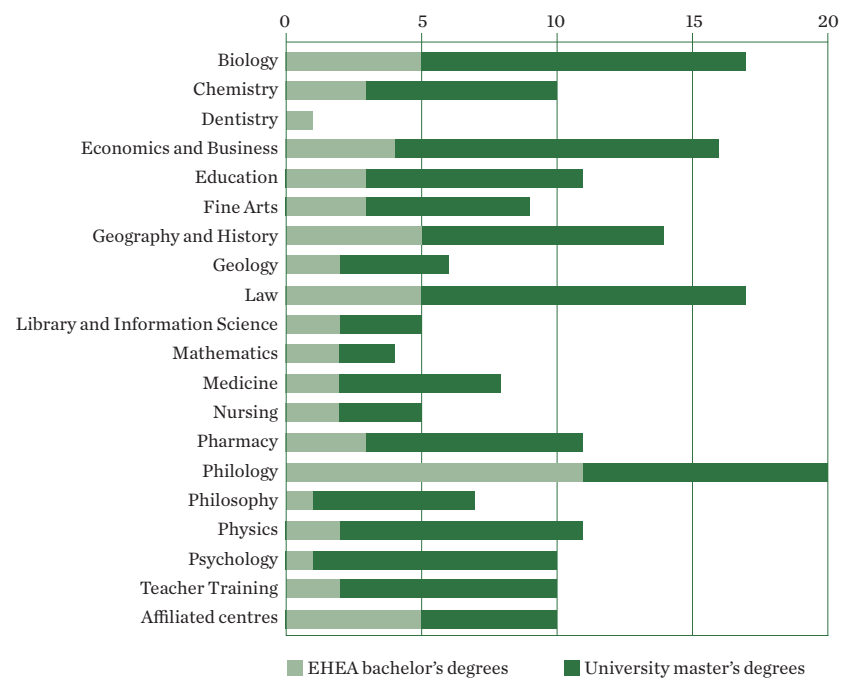
Constructed area (sq m)	609,016
Faculties and university schools	19
Affiliated centres	5
Departments	106
UB research institutes and centres	25
Research institutes in which the UB participates	8
Inter-university institutes	2
Documentation centres	3
Observatories	11

### Course offering

Bachelor's degrees	64
Pre-EHEA degrees	1
University master's degrees	138
Doctoral programmes	71
Doctoral programmes with Pathway to Excellence awards	31
Postgraduate courses	367
University extension courses	49
Corporate lifelong learning courses and open courses (IL3)	408



### EHEA bachelor's degrees and university master's degrees





“In the university model that I know, university autonomy has always been an immutable principle. Now, in this time of crisis, I have a feeling that this autonomy is under threat.”

Fermín Osuna Sánchez,  
member of the administrative  
and service staff, Secretary's Office for  
Students and Teaching Staff,  
Faculty of Economics and Business

## Students

	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	% women
Bachelor's degree and pre-EHEA degree/diploma students	48,555	47,446	46,449	61.6
New pre-EHEA degree/diploma students	11,715	11,739	10,730	61.3
Bachelor's degree and pre-EHEA degree/diploma graduates	8,016	6,382	7,439	65.4
Full-time-equivalent bachelor's degree and pre-EHEA degree/diploma students	39,814	39,471	38,807	62.5
University master's degree students	5,235	5,484	4,878	63.9
New university master's degree students	3,366	3,240	3,117	63.0
University master's degree graduates	2,115	2,765	2,661	64.6
Trainee researchers	4,229	4,681	5,240	57.9
Doctoral theses read	593	566	589	56.2
Postgraduate students (UB-specific courses)	10,175	8,577	7,783	71.2
University extension students	1,229	925	1,146	50.7
Lifelong learning students (IL3)	24,019	17,371	11,610	70.0
Students at affiliated centres (pre-EHEA degrees/diplomas, bachelor's degrees and university master's degrees)	3,219	3,046	3,241	58.1
International students (under exchange agreements)	1,829	1,926	1,929	68.3
UB students abroad (under exchange agreements)	1,072	1,187	1,322	67.0
Students in extra-curricular placements	1,831	2,237	2,248 <sup>1</sup>	

<sup>1</sup> Provisional data.

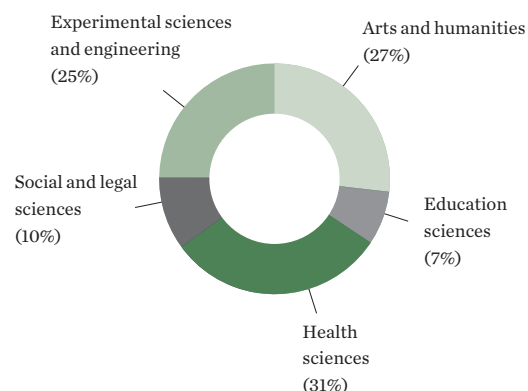
Today, 17 July, the rector of the UB, Dr Dídac Ramírez, and the mayor of L'Hospitalet de Llobregat, Núria Marín, visited the site of the new classroom block on the Bellvitge Health Sciences Campus. The building has been designed to house fourteen classrooms of different sizes, an auditorium and seminar rooms. In total, it will provide 6,000 sq m of new teaching facilities.

*elEconomista.es*, 17 July 2013





### Trainee researchers by branch of knowledge



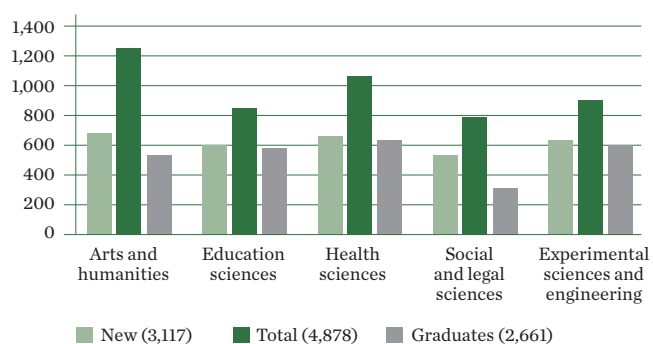
### Non-EHEA bachelor's degree students and official bachelor's degree students by area

	New enrolments	Total	Graduates
Arts and humanities	2,453	8,834	1,260
Education sciences	1,524	5,857	1,202
Health sciences	1,921	8,966	1,469
Social and legal sciences	3,142	16,245	2,521
Experimental sciences and engineering	1,690	6,547	987
<b>Total UB-centres</b>	<b>10,730</b>	<b>46,449</b>	<b>7,439</b>
% women	61.3	61.6	65.4
Affiliated centres	759	2,987	413
% women	56.4	58.2	53.8
<b>Total UB</b>	<b>11,489</b>	<b>49,436</b>	<b>7,852</b>
% women	60.9	61.4	64.8

### Other students

	2012-2013	% women
School of Modern Languages (EIM)	5,627	62.9
Institute of Hispanic Studies	1,933	72.7
University of Experience	468	69.0
Catalan language courses	1,746	68.9
Els Juliols summer courses	1,303	65.0
Institute of Education Sciences	10,334	63.5
Courses for Senior Citizens	3,617	78.0

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



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

### Virtual Campus

	2012
% teaching material available in electronic format <sup>1</sup>	89.9
Users	83,233
Library users	16,150,756

<sup>1</sup> Pre-EHEA degrees/diplomas, bachelor's degrees and master's degrees.



“The main challenge for the UB today is to stay at the forefront as a prestigious university. From my point of view, leadership in research and innovation is closely linked to academic excellence.”

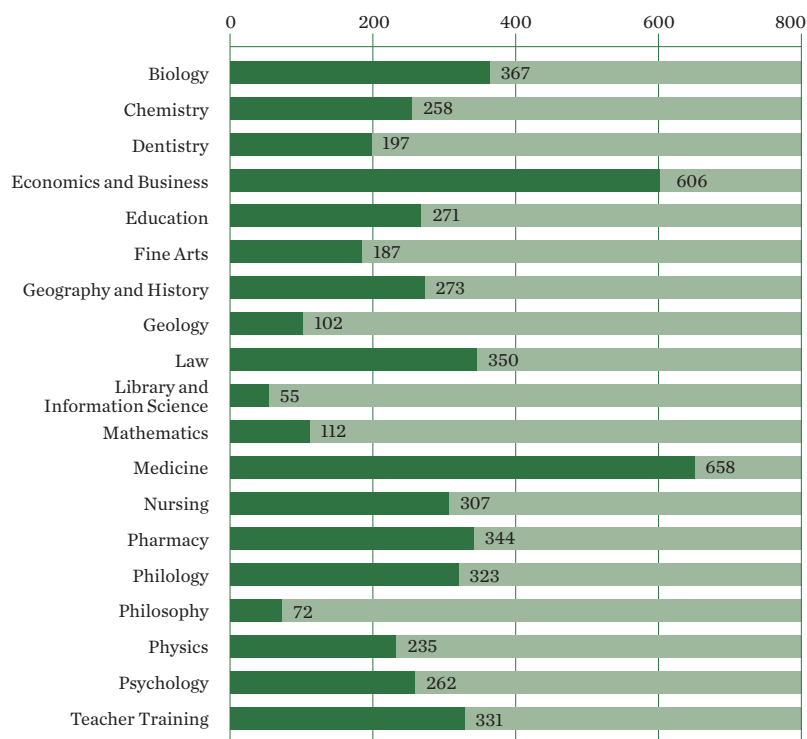
**Pilar Teixidor Casamitjana**,  
member of the administrative  
and service staff, gas chromatography-  
mass spectrometry unit, Science  
and Technology Centres

## Teaching and research staff

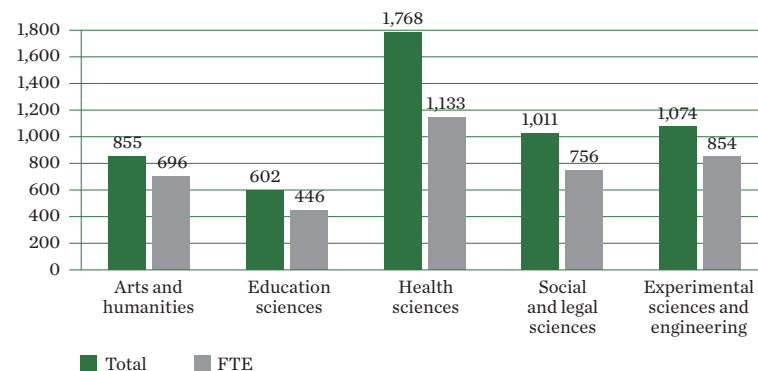
		% women
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,312</b>	<b>44.9</b>
University professors	572	21.0
University school professors	26	57.7
Tenured university lecturers	1,300	44.0
Tenured university school lecturers	224	56.3
Contracted LOU professors	1	0.0
Tenure-track 2 lecturers	294	47.3
Tenure-track 1 lecturers	174	57.5
Temporary lecturers	18	66.7
Temporary full-time lecturers	72	64.9
Adjunct lecturers	1,621	49.4
Adjunct medical lecturers	471	44.8
Assistant lecturers	58	55.9
Other researchers	190	46.8
Emeritus lecturers on the early retirement plan	220	46.4
Others	71	29.6
<b>Full-time-equivalent</b>	<b>3,886.9</b>	<b>45.0</b>
<b>Teaching and research staff with permanent affiliation<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2,489</b>	<b>40.9</b>

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

## Teaching and research staff, by faculty/school



## Total and full-time-equivalent teaching and research staff, by branch of knowledge



	2011	2012	2013
<b>Teaching and research staff</b>			
Total	5,247	5,306	5,312
<b>Full-time-equivalent</b>			
With permanent affiliation	2,526	2,484	2,489
<b>Administrative and service staff</b>			
Total	2,448	2,294	2,412
Publicly-contracted	1,096	996	1,040
University-contracted	1,372	1,298	1,372
<b>Ratio of administrative/service staff to teaching/research staff</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>0.45</b>

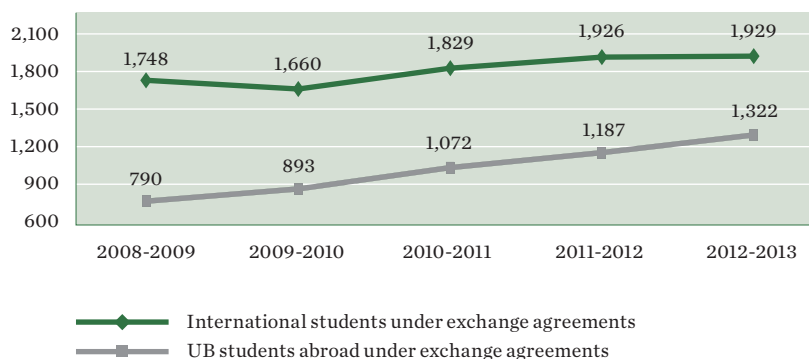
### Teaching improvement and innovation

	2012-2013
Consolidated teaching innovation groups (Government of Catalonia)	71
Teaching innovation groups	7
Financed teaching innovation projects	182
Teaching and research staff participating in ICE training courses (%)	65.9

### Internationalization

	2012-2013
Agreements with foreign universities and other institutions	1,787
Official representations overseas	2
International students	9,910
International teaching staff	179

### Number of students under exchange agreements by year



### Administrative and service staff

<b>Total</b>	<b>2,412</b>
% women	64.7
<b>Publicly-contracted</b>	<b>1,040</b>
% women	82.2
Group A	58
Group B	180
Group C	458
Group D	340
Group E	4
<b>University-contracted</b>	<b>1,372</b>
% women	51.5
Group I	343
Group II	245
Group III	535
Group IV	227
Temporary employees	22
<b>Ratio of administrative/service staff to teaching/research staff</b>	<b>0.45</b>

### Services and activities

	2012
<b>Library</b>	
Monographs	1,719,634
Journals and periodicals	56,452
Loans	927,674
Single-user reading desks	6,210
<b>UB Sports subscribers</b>	<b>7,470</b>
<b>Grant-holders in UB services and faculties</b>	<b>701</b>
<b>Places offered in halls of residence</b>	
UB halls of residence	910
UB-affiliated halls of residence	655
<b>UB Alumni members</b>	<b>8,200</b>



“As a priority, the UB must establish a system of public funding that guarantees it can meet its primary goal, which is the creation and transfer of knowledge and scientific output. Public investment must be returned to society efficiently and effectively.”

**Simón Campos Celada**,  
member of the administrative  
and service staff, Secretary's Office  
for Students and Teaching Staff,  
Faculty of Psychology

### Research and technology transfer

	2010	2011	2012
<b>Income generated by research and technology transfer (thousands of euros)</b>	<b>81,206</b>	<b>76,339</b>	<b>58,393</b>
Research projects <sup>1</sup>	55,887	52,107	41,964
Research projects - FBG contracts	9,642	6,850	9,262
Infrastructure	—	1,659	—
Other grants	11,632	11,217	3,134
UB agreements	2,390	2,503	2,471
FBG agreements	1,655	2,002	1,561

<sup>1</sup> This includes income for projects involving the University of Barcelona, the August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS), the Bellvitge Institute for Biomedical Research (IDIBELL), the Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC), the Institute of Biomedical Research (IRB), the Catalonia Institute of Energy Research (IREC), and the Barcelona Science Park Foundation (PCB).

Research activity	2012
Consolidated research groups (Government of Catalonia)	243
Recognized research groups (Government of Catalonia)	36
Priority patent applications	22
International patent applications (under the Patent Cooperation Treaty, PCT)	15
International patent applications in national phase	15
Technology spin-offs	7
Doctoral theses read	589

Evolution of research activity	2010	2011	2012
Teaching staff involved in R&D projects (%)	69	75.5	65.9
Contracted research doctors	154	231	262
Research-support administrative and service staff	264	277	296
Research grant-holders	989	907	890
Active research projects	657	720	677
Scientific publications <sup>1</sup>	3,723	4,068	4,606

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

Barcelona Science Park Foundation	2012
Barcelona Science Park community	2,268
Private company users	70
Public company users	31

Science and Technology Centres	2012
Internal users (principal investigators)	438
External invoicing (in thousands of euros)	4,748
Value of scientific equipment (in thousands of euros)	41,110





“Society appreciates the access young people have to university education, and the work of research groups is widely recognized. Ensuring these valuations continue to increase comes down to the dedication we all bring to our work on a daily basis.”

**Marina Solé Català,**  
university school professor,  
Faculty of Economics and Business



### Budget 2013 (in thousands of euros)

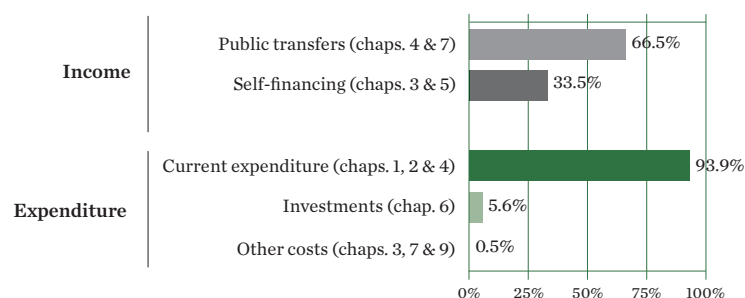
Income		362,708
Chap. 3. Fees and other income		111,532
Chap. 4. Current transfers		228,226
Chap. 5. Income from equity		10,112
Chap. 7. Capital transfers		12,838

Expenditure		362,708
Chap. 1. Staff costs		265,718
Chap. 2. Acquisition of goods and services		60,496
Chap. 3. Financial costs		861
Chap. 4. Current transfers		14,200
Chap. 6. Real estate investments		20,307
Chap. 7. Capital transfers		106
Chap. 9. Financial liabilities		1,020

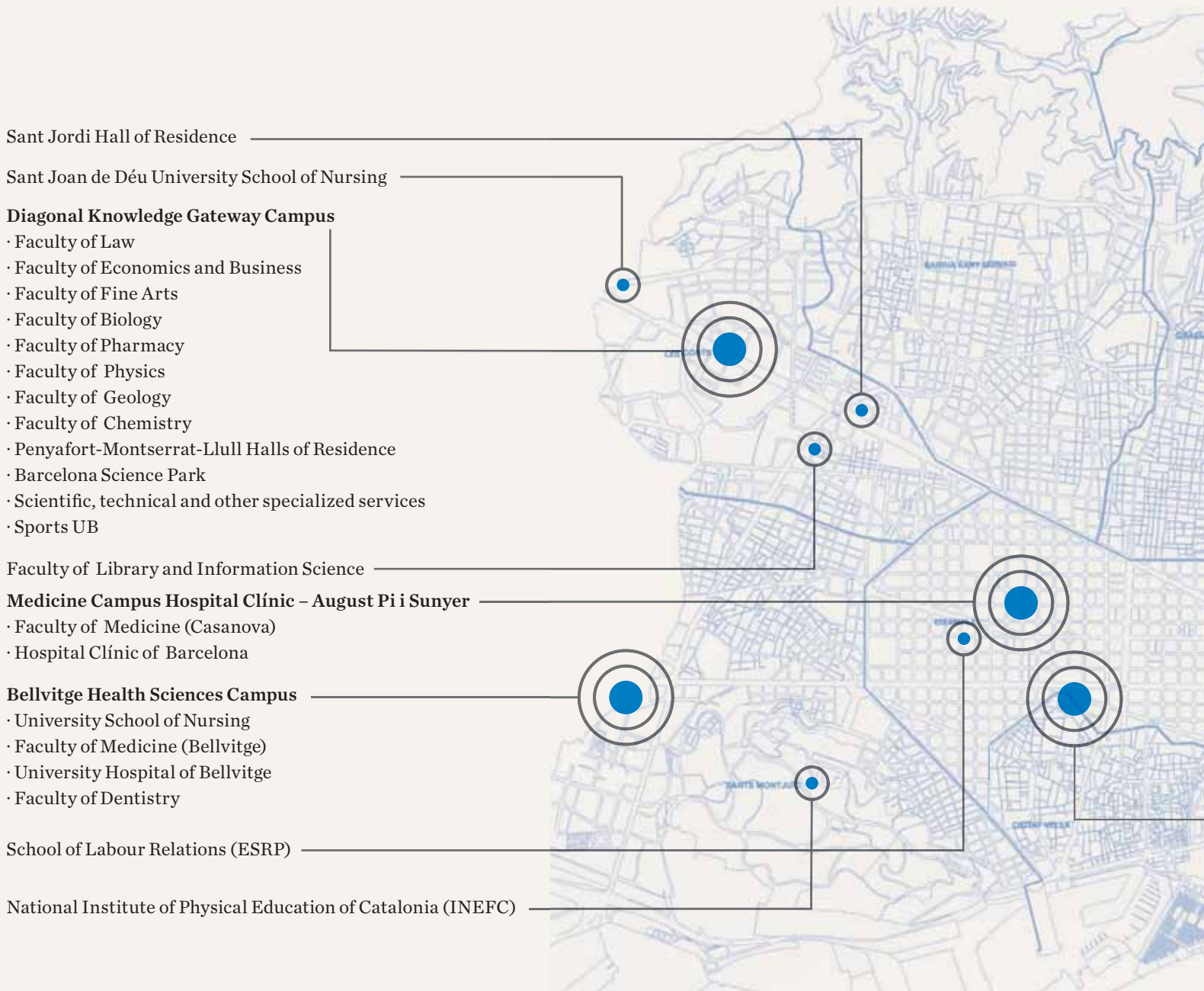
Evolution	2011	2012	2013
Total budget (in thousands of euros)	379,410	368,225	362,708

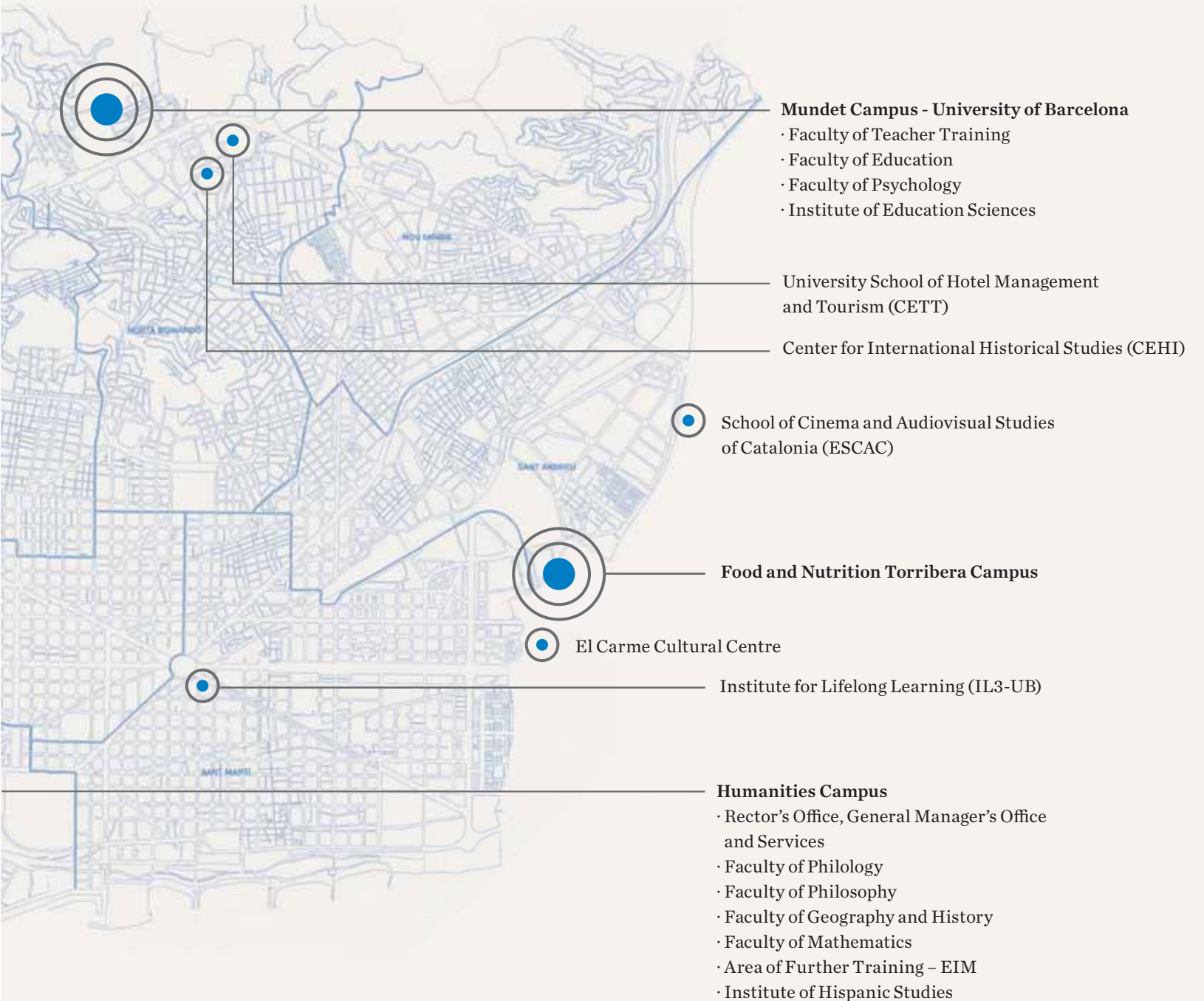
The University of Barcelona expands its activities to Badalona. Badalona City Council has transferred the El Carme Culture Centre to the university. In an initial phase, the centre will be used for teaching the UB's School of Modern Languages courses. The University also plans to offer grants for study at the School of Modern Languages to the best pupils from secondary schools in Badalona.

*La Razón*, 10 September 2013



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









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“Working at the University of Barcelona has given me and continues to give me knowledge, values and maturity.”

**Fermín Osuna Sánchez,**  
member of the  
administrative and service  
staff, Secretary’s Office for  
Students and Teaching Staff,  
Faculty of Economics  
and Business

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# 2

## A UNIVERSITY FOCUSED ON PEOPLE

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Services for the university community  
Institutional and cultural activities  
Student services

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“My four years of study at the University have helped me grow as a person and develop critical thinking skills, and have also given me the chance to improve my capacity to establish relationships with other students.”

Neus Borrego Martí,  
student, Dentistry

## Services for the university community

The University of Barcelona has continued to work actively to ensure the transparency of its management activities, implementing a best practices policy across all areas of its operation, publishing a third **Report on Social Responsibility**, and strengthening its internal control system to improve economic and financial management and guarantee the rigorous application of current legislation.

In the area of gender, the **Equality Unit** has continued its efforts to implement the positive actions set out in the UB's second Equality Plan, incorporating the concept of gender into policies and activities in all areas of daily life at the University.

To facilitate this work and to ensure that the implementation of the second Equality Plan is universally accepted and compliant with current legislation, dedicated working teams have been created, which bring together members from the equality committees at each of the UB's faculties and university schools. The teams operated under the general coordination of the Equality Unit.

The work of the Equality Unit addresses a variety of issues, and over the last year specific steps have been taken to increase the proportion of women in technical professions; to integrate an awareness of equality issues into research activities and specific training courses; to create a cooperation network with other specialist bodies and organize joint ac-

tivities with other international universities; to identify cases of and prevent gender-based violence and discrimination; to provide more extensive help and support to those seeking assistance; to improve the work-life balance; to promote general policies on equality; to raise awareness of equality issues affecting both women and men at the University of Barcelona; to improve the dissemination of information on gender-related actions and activities; and to increase the recognition afforded to women in a broad social sense.

The UB has passed the Spanish labour inspectorate's review of equality plans and protocols for the prevention of sexual harassment. In addition,



Presentation of the UB-Bullipèdia Unit at the Food and Nutrition Torribera Campus

Our commitment  
to the  
environment

60%

selective waste collection  
of total waste generated  
in 2012

the labour inspectorate of the Catalan Ministry of Business and Labour has approved the current degree of implementation of equality strategies at the UB.

The UB has completed the draft of a unified code of action to prevent and respond to sexual harassment and harassment relating to gender or sexual orientation. The code will be applied across all units at the University.

The **Ombuds Office** is an independent body charged with defending the rights and freedoms of students, teaching and research staff, and administrative and service staff. This year, it has responded to 243 complaints and queries, details of which are given in its annual report.

The University of Barcelona has a general commitment to promoting a culture of respect and humanization. In this spirit, the **Office for Conflict Resolution and Mediation** has continued its efforts to facilitate dialogue, resolve conflicts, and offer solutions through mediation, enabling parties to speak voluntarily and on an equal footing.

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

In the area of **occupational health and safety** and risk assessment, conditions have been evaluated in a variety of workplaces, biosafety reports have been compiled for a number of research projects, and coordinated prevention initiatives have been carried out with external partners. OSSMA has provided technical support to a wide range of UB bodies and individual staff members seeking assistance. There has been a rise in the number of cases brought to the attention of OSSMA that deal with specific psychosocial risks and hazards, and numerous assessments have been conducted.

In the area of **emergency preparation and response**, the drafting, approval and implementation of self-protection plans have been completed within the established schedule. Eight emergency drills have been carried out and attendance of training courses has risen substantially.

In the area of **occupational medicine**, the UB coordinates specific health check-ups for staff in different types of workplaces, medical appointments in

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The University of Barcelona's Food and Nutrition Torribera Campus will house a new knowledge unit for culinary information generated by chef Ferran Adrià's El Bulli restaurant. The unit will be called UB-Bullipèdia. Bullipèdia aims to be a leading source of information on food and gastronomy.

*Diari de Girona*, 24 October 2012

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“Working at the UB allows me to interact with a very diverse collective, which means I am growing every day in knowledge and responsibility. Being involved in the exchange between different university groups is also very enriching.”

Dolors Güell Coll,  
member of the administrative  
and service staff, Corporate Training

cases of work-related injury or illness, vaccinations in the event of specific risks, and a flu prevention campaign. The Medical Service been placed under the management of the Occupational Medicine Teaching Unit, which means that medical interns in the Catalan health service now complete rotations at UB medical facilities as part of their specialized training.

In the area of **social welfare**, a new protocol has been drawn up to regulate effective integration of UB employees with disabilities. The protocol, which is currently in the implementation phase, sets out a series of provisions for monitoring the workplace integration of employees with any legally recognized impairment in order and aiding accessibility and adaptation.

**Environmental activities** in the last academic year have focused on complying with the requirements



of the UB's Sustainability Plan. Key actions include the reduction and optimization of electricity consumption, greater dissemination of the UB's natural heritage through guided tours of the gardens of the Historic Building, and the creation of a Mobility Committee for the Diagonal Campus, which brings together representatives of the UB, the Barcelona City Council and the Polytechnic University of Catalonia.

Other important actions carried out within the framework of the Sustainability Plan include a cost analysis for selective waste management, changes to the existing contract for medical waste collection, the extension of secure parking facilities, a redesign of the institutional sustainability indicators, and the drafting and distribution of monthly “eco-tips” bulletins to raise awareness of specific issues among the university community.

In the area of **institutional relations** dealing specifically with sustainability, the UB has subscribed

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The actor and director Robert Redford has thanked the University of Barcelona for its commitment to the environment through its recent collaboration with the International Environmental Film Festival (FICMA). This year, the nineteenth edition of the festival was held. It was hosted by the UB for the first time.

[elEconomista.es](http://elEconomista.es), 6 November 2012

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Our commitment  
to sport

69

medals won by  
UB competitors in  
university championships



to the Unesco Commitment to Sustainable Development and the principles of the Copernicus Alliance of the UN's Rio+20 Earth Summit. It has also contributed to the work of the Residu Zero waste management network and signed a collaboration agreement with the Conama Foundation, through which students of the bachelor's degree in Environmental Sciences were offered the chance to take part in the 11<sup>th</sup> Spanish National Environmental Conference.

**UB Sports** offers 100,000 sq m of facilities for over fifty different sports, making it one of the largest and most comprehensive centres for sport and recreational activity in Catalonia. The facilities, which were originally opened in 1957 and have expanded to become a vital part of the city, are now used by some 1,200 people every day.



UB Sports activities have focused on three main areas: ongoing improvements to facilities, the promotion of physical activity and sports within the university, and opening the service up to the wider community.

UB Sports has achieved impressive levels of participation and its users have won a significant number of trophies and prizes. A total of 1,526 athletes make up the 151 teams involved in UB leagues in 15 different sports. UB teams won 17 medals at the Spanish university games and 52 medals at the Catalan championships. The ongoing financial assistance programme for high-level athletes provided funding for 67 students and involved 19 teaching staff as tutors.



20 million visits to the UB web site  
(almost 55,000 per day)

## Institutional and cultural activities

The **Doctors' Senate**, which has a membership of 944, awarded the sixteenth annual prize for doctoral theses to **Dr Manuel Irimia Martínez** of the Department of Genetics in the Faculty of Biology for his thesis on genomic change and evolutionary developmental biology, looking at the origin and evolution of the central nervous system in chordates.

**Awards and honours** received by the members of the university community during the academic year 2012-2013 include the following:



Award ceremony for the special doctorate prizes and the XVIth Doctors' Senate Prize



Award ceremony for the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation Social Council Prizes

- **National Prize in Research 2012**, Carles Simó
- **Medal of Honour from the Complutense University of Madrid**, Carmina Virgili
- **Honorary doctorate from the University of Almeria**, Jordi Nadal
- **Prize of the City of Barcelona 2012**, Raquel Pelta
- **Otero Pedrayo Prize 2012**, Basilio Losada
- **2013 Sant Jordi Awards from the Institute for Catalan Studies**, Giovanni Cattini, Fàtima López, David Amblàs, Caterina Riba, Arturo Valdivia, Santiago Eizaguirre, Berta Güell, Guillem Valero, Francesc Xavier Vila, Meritxell Talavera
- **2013 Serra d'Or Critics' Award**, Rosa Cabré, Pilar Bayer, Artur Travesa
- **2nd Joan Solà International Prize for Research in Catalan Philology**, Cedric Boeckx, Txuss Martín
- **3rd Ramon Turró Prize for Excellence in the Field of Nutrition**, Abel Mariné
- **Young Researcher of the Year Prize**, Albert Giralt
- **National Prize for Culture (Government of Catalonia)**, Josep Maixenchs
- **Fellow of the American Physical Society (APS)**, Xavier Batlle
- **2012 Professional Excellence Awards conferred by the College of Physicians of Barcelona**, Concepció Bru, Margarita Admetlla, Francesc Xavier Carné, M. Cinta Cid, Agustín Franco, Agustí Jornet, M. Asunción Moreno, Francesca Pons, Josep Roma, Ramon Salazar

“The services the UB offers the entire university community are of excellent quality, as they operate within facilities that are the envy of other institutions and, most importantly, are managed by professional, demanding and committed staff, so that every day the users get the services they deserve.”

**Simón Campos Celada**,  
member of the administrative and  
service staff, Secretary's Office  
for Students and Teaching Staff,  
Faculty of Psychology



- **9th Dexeus Foundation Women's Health Award**, Clara Menéndez
- **Lorenzo Martín-Retortillo Baquer International Award in Legal Research**, Juli Ponce
- **Agustí Duran i Sanpere History of Barcelona Award 2012**, Mireia Comas
- **Lilly Foundation Award for Biomedical Research 2013**, Jaume Bosch
- **Josep Trueta Award of the Academy of Medical and Health Sciences of Catalonia and the Balearic Islands**, Josep Maria Llovet
- **King Jaume I Prize in Basic Research**, Manel Esteller
- **Gold Medal for Merit in Education conferred by the government of Andalusia 2012**, Ramón Flecha
- **3rd Blasco Chair Award conferred by the University of Valencia**, Antoni Martí
- **European Commission's Reference Site Award**, Josep Roca
- **Joan Lluís Vives Prize in Scientific Communication**, Marc Andreu Acebal
- **President of the Institute for Catalan Studies**, Joandomènec Ros
- **President of the Spanish Society for Virology**, Albert Bosch
- **President-elect of the Spanish Society for Neuroscience**, Jordi Alberch
- **Chairman of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities (Academic Committee of Spanish Universities)**, Dídac Ramírez



Tribute to Joan Veny, emeritus professor of Romance Philology

The jury of the **Board of Trustees Awards** presented the José Manuel Blecua Prize to Dr Conxita Boncompte Coll and the Ramon Margalef Prize to Dr John J. Aponte Varón. Some prizes are awarded jointly by the Board of Trustees and the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation; among them, the Antoni Caparrós Award for the best knowledge or technology transfer project was given to the Diopma research group, which focuses on the design and optimization of processes and materials, while the Senén Vilaró Award for the most innovative company went to Neurotec Pharma SL.

The University of Barcelona **honoured** the lecturer **Montserrat Jufresa** of the Department of Greek; the lecturer **Joan Veny**, professor emeritus of Romance Languages with the presentation of the book *De geolingüística i etimologia romàniques*; the lecturer **Roberto Corcoll**, former teacher of German for Business; the lecturer **Sebastià Bonet** of the Department of Catalan Philology; the poet **Witold**



“GEOflaix” Exhibition in the Historic Building

**Gombrowicz**, to mark the fiftieth anniversary of his return to Europe, and the professor of Catalan Philology **Joaquim Viaplana**, who was the recipient of a festschrift in his honour, focusing on questions of flexive morphology and lexis in Catalan.



As part of the UB’s programme of **institutional activities**, the inaugural address for the academic year was given by **Dr Carles Escera**, who spoke about concept of brain imaging in cognitive neuroscience. Dr Escera holds a chair in the Department of Psychiatry and Clinical Psychobiology and is director of the Faculty of Psychology’s Institute for Research on the Brain, Cognition and Behaviour (IR3C).

Guided **tours** of the UB’s Historic Building continued to present the significant historical and artistic heritage of the University. During the year, a total of 120 tours were given to more than 2,000 people.

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

- “**Time, space and innovation**”, by Ángel Orensanz, was sponsored by the Office of the Vice-Rector for International Relations and Culture and curated by the artist himself. The exhibition featured sculptures and banners on display in the gardens of the Historic Building.
- “**Immanent Landscapes**”, by Domènec Corbella, celebrated the launch of a book of essays

on Corbella’s paintings, entitled *Pels camins mudables de la pintura. Assaigs sobre l’obra de Domènec Corbella*. In the gallery of the Paranymp Hall, visitors could see fifteen works from the final years of Corbella’s career, all drawing inspiration from the nature of landscape.

- “**GEOflaix! An alternative look at everyday objects**”, an exhibition of geological materials, was sponsored by the UB’s Scientific Culture and Innovation (UCC+i) unit and organized by the UB’s Faculty of Geology, the Jaume Almera Institute of Earth Sciences (CSIC) and the Geological Institute of Catalonia.
- “**Backward–forwards sculpture show**” was organized for the international seminar “Looking back to look forwards”, organized by the UB’s Centre for Australian Studies and the Centre for Peace and Social Justice of the Southern Cross University of Australia.
- “**Contemporary Art at the UB. Sorigué Foundation**” featured seven video creations and two sculptures by leading international artists. The exhibition, which was organized jointly by the Office of the Vice-Rector for International Relations and Culture and the Sorigué Foundation, was installed around the Historic Building, in the main vestibule, the main staircase, the Aula Magna, the Paranymp Hall, the Arts Library and the Ramón y Cajal Hall.
- “**Amb A d’AstrònomA**” was organized by the equality committee of the UB’s Faculty of Mathematics in recognition of the contributions

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Video art from the Sorigué Foundation's collection is shown in Barcelona in the exhibition "Contemporary Art at the University of Barcelona. Sorigué Foundation". The exhibition, in the Historic Building, comprises six examples of this innovative discipline and two sculptures. The works are displayed in several public areas of the Historic Building, which has been declared a national monument of historic and artistic interest. Entry to the exhibition is free.

*La Vanguardia*, 13 March 2013

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made to astronomy research by internationally renowned women scientists over the past few centuries. (The name of the exhibition is a play on the feminine ending -a to indicate a female astronomer.)

- **Exhibition of Turkish art.** A display of Turkish calligraphy and art was exhibited in the Paranymp Hall on the occasion of an event promoting Turkish culture organized by Casa Turca in Madrid.
- **'Fotómetro'**, an exhibition of documentary photography linked to the project of the same name, was part of Circuit 2013, a series focusing on documentary photography in Barcelona.
- **"Ciència, i punt! L'alzinar"** was an installation recreating Mediterranean woodlands, particularly woodlands dominated by the Holm Oak. The installation was one of a series of activities sponsored by the UB's Scientific Culture and Innovation (UCC+i) unit to promote scientific knowledge.

gang Amadeus Mozart's *Requiem Mass in D Minor* (K. 626), performed by the University of Barcelona choir and orchestra.

The UB's **5th Film Cycle** celebrated the bicentenary of the birth of Richard Wagner, German composer, theatre director, polemicist and conductor. Entitled 'The Music of Richard Wagner in the Cinema', the cycle featured four viewing sessions examining Wagner's music in movie soundtracks. At the end of each session, experts spoke on the subject.

The **3rd Contemporary Dance Cycle**, this year called 'Drifts of Dance', featured three performances of contemporary dance with remarks by



The ground floor of the Faculty of Medicine hosted the **exhibition "Santiago Ramón y Cajal at the University of Barcelona, the Gestation of a Nobel Prizewinner"**.

In the area of **cultural activities**, the UB's **26th Concert Cycle** featured eleven concerts, performed in the Paranymp Hall of the Historic Building, including two Christmas concerts featuring *Carmina Burana* by Carl Orff, and a closing concert of Wolf-



Exhibition on "Santiago Ramón y Cajal at the University of Barcelona, the Gestation of a Nobel Prizewinner"



Guided tours  
of the UB's Historic  
Building

2,000

people  
in 120 tours

Presentation of the  
biography of poet  
Salvador Espriu,  
*Espriu, transparent*,  
written by journalist  
and author  
Agustí Pons



Roberto Fratini, an expert in the theory of dance and theatre and a professor in the Barcelona Theatre Institute.

For the sixth consecutive year, the theatre workshop of the University of Barcelona organized the **UB Theatre Festival**, with eight theatre projects involving works by a variety of playwrights including Shakespeare, Marivaux, Pinter and Espriu. The gardens of the Historic Building were the setting for a performance of the *Ramayana*, a classic Hindu epic.

As part of a year of festivities celebrating Salvador Espriu on the centenary of his birth, the book *Espriu, transparent* by Agustí Pons was presented and performances were given of the multidisciplinary

shows 'Sentit a la manera de Salvador Espriu', which weaves together texts by the poet, and 'Espriu, Salvat i el nostre teatre'.

Barcelona **Poetry Classroom** organized the 19th Conference on Poetry and Interracial Culture, entitled 'Poetry: Rich Brother, Poor Brother'.

The UB's **Virtual Museum** launched a new virtual visit of the landmark spaces of the Historic Building of the University of Barcelona, including 360-degree views of the main staircase and the landing of the Rector's office, the Sciences Courtyard and the Paranymp Hall. In addition, the Architecture Collection has been added to the Virtual Museum, bringing the total number of collections to sixteen. The number of entries in the collections has risen and more items have been documented. The Virtual Museum has two new virtual exhibitions, while the section on temporary exhibitions at the various faculties and schools of the UB has featured 28 shows on a periodic basis.

Key **conferences, workshops and seminars** held during the year included an international conference on experimental poetry; a workshop on the Roman Forum from Antiquity to the digital age; a conference on opera composers; a series of three seminars on the works displayed in the exhibition 'Contemporary Art at the UB. Sorigué Foundation'; a conference on Verdi and Wagner and their influence on Catalonia, held on the occasion of the bicentenary of the year of their birth; and an internation-



“We have to make the most of tangible resources, like size and staff, and intangible ones, such as history and tradition, in order to maintain and improve our position with respect to other universities, both nationally and internationally.”

Fermín Osuna Sánchez,  
member of the administrative  
and service staff, Secretary's Office  
for Students and Teaching Staff,  
Faculty of Economics and Business

al research seminar entitled ‘Image, Devotion and Identity in the Modern Era’.



A tribute was held for people deported to the Ravensbrück concentration camp. Two books were launched, the first containing essays on the paintings of Domènec Corbella, entitled *Pels camins mudables de la pintura. Assaigs sobre l'obra de Domènec Corbella*, while the second is a bilingual edition in Japanese and Catalan of eight Mallorcan folk tales by Antoni Maria Alcover, entitled *Vuit rondalles mallorquines*. The Faculty of Fine Arts launched a scientific journal under the banner *BRAC*. Witold Gombrowicz was recognized at an event held in his honour. The fifty-fifth anniversary of Dutch studies at the UB was commemorated. The second international forum on culture, enti-



Neus Català in the tribute to women deported to the Ravensbrück concentration camp

itled ‘Looking toward the Future’, took place thanks to the sponsorship of the Moscow-based non-profit cultural organization World of Culture. The seventh symposium of the Spanish Association of Literary Theory focused on discussions of reading. The UB held a seminar on Catalan cuisine as an intangible cultural asset of national interest and hosted the first international conference on the critical cartography of art and visuality in the global age.

In the area of institutional relations, the UB took part in the Coimbra Group's working group on culture, arts and humanities, attended the Coimbra Group's 2013 General Assembly; participated in the meeting of the working group on culture, arts and humanities at the National University of Ireland, Galway, and attended the 14th Universeum Network Meeting, which carried the title “University heritage today: Beyond public engagement?”.

The UB and Zurich Insurance Group announced the UB-Zurich Chair in Insurance and the process for the creation of seven more chairs was set in motion. In addition, the University of Barcelona signed agreements with the Sorigué Foundation, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and the local heritage institution Organisme Autònom Local de Patrimoni Víctor Balaguer.

The **E-Administration and Records Office** has continued with its efforts to identify, describe and inventory the documentary heritage of the UB. New

Fundació Banc  
dels Aliments  
of Barcelona

1,435

Kg of food  
donated by the  
UB community



Seminar on "The Construction of Peace,  
Human Rights and Interculturality in Colombia"



offices and repositories were opened on the Diagonal and Mundet campuses. Adding these two repositories to the one already in existence on the Humanities campus, the UB now has three archives in operation, offering a service that is a key factor in the increased effectiveness and efficiency of the UB's management of documents generated and processed by the management offices of the respective faculties and administration offices.

**UB Volunteering**, which is open to the university community and wider society, seeks to build a university that demonstrates greater solidarity and social commitment, collaborating in activities organized by local and regional charitable associations, such the drugs, food, toy and clothing drives carried out by the Red Cross, the Banc dels Aliments and the Arrels Foundation. UB Volunteering also contributes to the organization of activities such as the Trailwalker Race and a yoga course, both of which are linked to Intermón Oxfam.

The **UB Solidarity Foundation** focuses its activities on social action, development cooperation, the promotion of human rights and the establishment of a culture of peace and volunteerism. The foundation provides advice and assessment, carries out its own projects and collaborates in projects organized by other institutions and organizations, which draw on the involvement of members of the university community. Recent cooperation projects include water management in Vietnam, the enhancement of local governability and civic participation in Morocco, rural development and the construction of peace in Colombia, and the implementation of joint postgraduate programmes with universities in Senegal and Mauritania. Social projects in Spain include the UB's collaboration with the charity Fundació Formació i Treball, to collect second-hand clothing for occupational workshops provided to people at risk of social exclusion, and the implementation of a project of community vegetable gardens in various neighbourhoods in the greater metropolitan area of Barcelona.



1st Time Bank Day

In the area of building peace and protecting human rights, which is overseen by the UB Solidarity Observatory and the Paula programme, the Solidarity Foundation and the Institute of Education Sciences awarded prizes for research projects conducted by upper secondary school students on the subject of peace. Under the banner ‘Tardor Solidària’, the Solidarity Foundation also hosted a series of events in the faculties and schools of the UB to raise awareness about the its principal areas of activity.

This academic year saw the launch of a new UB initiative, **The Time Bank**, which seeks to forge

and strengthen ties among individuals and groups in the university community, fostering co-operation, social engagement and solidarity. The initiative is the first of its kind at a Catalan university.

The UB also continued to offer its **Courses for Senior Citizens** (AUGG), attracting a total of 3,617 students, with 3,363 attending classes in the UB’s own classroom spaces. Approximately 80% of participants were women and 5% were aged over 90. Lecturers included UB degree-holders and members of the teaching staff.



Closing ceremony of the Courses for Senior Citizens



## Student services



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

The Student Support Service (SAE) manages and publicizes activities specially designed to provide information and guidance and facilitate the transition to university life for prospective students of all kinds, providing them with the tools needed to integrate and adapt to the university environment.

The UB **presented** its course offerings at the Saló de l'Ensenyament education fair. It also participated in the Saló Futura fair on master's degrees and post-graduate courses, the international student and employment fair in Pamplona and the Saló Aula fair in Madrid, among others.

Throughout the academic year, groups of upper-secondary-school students took part in programmes such as "Apropa't a la UB" (Come to the UB) and "La UB s'apropa" (the UB comes to you). This year, these activities attracted 120 schools and 7,640 students. In addition, various UB schools and faculties took part in Open-House Days, to provide information on the degree offerings and services available to students. A total of 3,294 students participated.

The UB has designed a series of activities at secondary schools to engage students and provide them with information about the bachelor's degrees it offers. The activities include workshops, laboratory



sessions, geological field trips and courses. More than 300 participants attended the "Afternoons with Science and Chocolate", a series of activities for the dissemination of scientific knowledge, featuring talks from UB experts in a variety of fields.

In the area of **competitions and prizes**, the UB collaborated in publicizing and managing the following awards: the fourth annual Ferran Adrià – Gallina Blanca prize, organized in collaboration with the Food and Nutrition Torribera Campus; the first Xavier Domingo Prize, organized in collaboration with the Spanish Committee of Detergents, Surfactants and Related Industries (Faculty of Chemistry); the second School Crystallization Competition, organized by the Faculty of Geology; the sixth annual prizes for research projects by upper secondary school students, sponsored by the Catalan



Saló de l'Ensenyament education fair



Society of Chemistry; the first award in research on information and documentation, organized by the Faculty of Library and Information Science; the eighth Research Prize for Peace, organized by the Solidarity Foundation; the Heracles Prize, organized by the teaching staff of the Faculty of Philology within the Catalan Section of the Spanish Society of Classical Studies, and the Joan Palau Vera Prize, organized by the teaching staff of the Faculty of Geography and History within the Catalan Society of Geography.

In the area of **courses and workshops**, the UB continued its agreement with Projecte Home of Catalonia, holding the fifth edition of its workshop on drug abuse, which explored pathways to integration into the work force; 114 people attended.

As part of the **welcome programme** for incoming students, the UB's faculties and schools contacted

all students who had secured a place at the UB, welcoming them and providing information on enrolment, activities, services, telephone numbers, addresses and other topics of interest in order to improve their integration. International students received relevant information on issues such as conversation guides, guidebooks to the city of Barcelona, information on accommodation and more.

Under the **accommodation programme**, the UB collaborates with the Viure i Conviure homeshare programme and Caixa Catalunya's Lloguer Solidari project. The UB is the Spanish public university with the most students registered in a homeshare programme. The UB also collaborates with the Barcelona University Centre and continues to increase the number of residences, estate agencies and accommodation-related web portals in order to improve the services available to students and help them to find housing that meets their needs.



Faculty of Economics and Business

### Information and documentation

The **student information** line manages information requests about the UB's educational offering and services. The requests come through a variety of channels (face-to-face, email, telephone) and the service responded to 39,331 queries in 2012.

Students can use the **Món UB student portal** to gain access to a wide range of online applications such as electronic mail, self-enrolment, transcript access, grant applications, validations, and other information and services of interest. This year, the average number of monthly visits stood at 1,126,844.

More than 20,000 UB students now receive their grades via smartphone, thanks to the free app "UB Avisos de qualificacions i expedient acadèmic" (UB grade notifications and academic record).

The **self-help resources room** of the SAE provides access to documentation relating to the range of vocational and professional guidance activities available. During the academic year, 35 documents were added to the collection, including monographs, databases of potential employers and specialized journals.

This year has also seen the SAE appear on Facebook and Twitter for the first time in order to reach students with information on activities ranging from university orientation to integration and accommodation programmes.

### Careers guidance and activities

The **Feina UB programme** seeks to help students find employment, providing support and advice to faculties and schools, to the students themselves, and to companies and institutions. During the academic year 2012-2013, the job bank posted 2,779 job offers from companies and institutions and 2,934 new students and graduates signed up. Another key area of activity is the work with UB faculties and schools to improve the management of external placements. A total of 2,300 students took part in professional placements.

This year marked the second edition of the Santander grant programme. Thanks to a collaboration agreement signed between Santander Bank, the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities and the Spanish Confederation of Small and Medium-Sized Businesses, 124 students shared in the 96 grants made available to the UB for paid work placements in the private sector. This number of students is twice as large as the number for the previous year.

Through external work placements and grant programmes, the UB collaborated in the international mobility of students, many of whom benefited from the EU's Leonardo da Vinci programme. Similarly, 66 students from outside the UB received support for work placements at our University, including international and Spanish students as well as secondary school students.



Feina UB  
programme

2,300

students took  
part in professional  
placements



The UB oversees work placement agreements, reviewing and coordinating proposals submitted from the private and public sectors.

A number of UB faculties and schools have hosted business fairs and welcomed requests from the private sector to make presentations to students.

At the institutional level, the UB has taken part in working groups in Spain and across Europe.

The university orientation programme helped students design their professional careers and develop and strengthen their skills. The programme also provided advice on job searches. A key focus of the programme is the processing of requests from students seeking advice about their choice of bach-

elor's degree or master's degree, and a dedicated guidance team assists students who have special educational needs, supporting their academic performance and/or planning their transition to professional life.

The **Training in Professional Competences** programme attracted 934 students. During the academic year, the selection of courses was redesigned and the length of courses extended, enabling students to obtain optional or free-elective credits for their participation. The face-to-face courses provide job-seeking skills and strategies and address the skills and competences most highly valued in the labour market, such as entrepreneurship, teamwork, decision-making and conflict resolution. This year, for the first time, the programme also featured a virtual course on job-seeking strategies offered via the UB's virtual campus, which attracted the participation of 157 students.

The UB's job club, **Club de Feina**, opened on a weekly basis to provide personalized advice, access to resources and tailored activities to help students define their professional objectives, raise their self-awareness and optimize their job-seeking strategies. The Club de Feina received 943 visits: 477 people were given personalized guidance and made use of the technical tools and other resources available, and 466 people attended talks.

The team of counsellors at the Club de Feina conducted 206 **interviews** in order to provide personal





guidance to students from all schools and faculties as well as to students in upper-secondary-school education or vocational training programmes.

The UB organized **tailored activities** on careers at the request of UB schools and faculties and organized career days, which attracted 1,675 participants. The contents of these activities are gradually being integrated into course plans for subjects taught at the UB and into the Tutorial Action Plans for each course of study.

### **Student integration programmes**

The aim of these programmes is to ensure that students who have disabilities or other needs requiring special attention can enjoy equal opportunities in their academic life. The UB's commitment to inclusiveness currently takes the form of three programmes. The first, **Fem Via**, offers direct and specialized attention to students with disabilities. The second, the **Temporary Support** programme, provides temporary additional assistance to students

needing such assistance to continue with their studies. The third, the **Diversity Support** programme, aims to facilitate the incorporation and social and educational inclusion of all students, fostering a climate of co-existence and respect.

The services provided through these three programmes are specialized and confidential, ranging from direct, individualized help to activities aimed at raising awareness among the entire university community. An individualized support plan is established for all students requesting assistance.

Of the three programmes, the most widely used is Fem Via, which is addressed to students with legally accredited disabilities. During the academic year, 598 students with disabilities enrolled at the UB, 124 of whom were new students. In the academic year 2011-2012, 40 students completed their studies with assistance from the Fem Via programme.

In parallel with the work carried out by Feina UB, the UB also offers a specialized job bank to enable students with disabilities to obtain academic place-

“A vast array of public activities, such as conferences, exhibitions, collaborations and so on, are carried out by different people at the University, including students and teachers and members of the administrative and service staff; in other words the entire university community, which is one of our greatest assets.”

Albert Valera García,  
tenured lecturer,  
Faculty of Fine Arts

ments. This is a pioneering project that was launched at the end of the academic year, thanks to an agreement reached with organizations such as the Adecco Foundation, the Sifu Group, the Ecom Foundation and the Inserta Programme of the ONCE Foundation.

During the year, the UB also played an active part in developing inter-university projects and policies through Unidiscat in Catalonia (the University and Disability Technical Committee of Catalonia) and through Sapdu in Spain (the Network of Support Services for People with Disabilities at University). Work also continued to implement and improve the Studia project, which gives academic support to students with long-term illnesses requiring extended hospitalization. To make this happen, the Studia project draws on the collaboration of the UB, the Hospital Clínic of Barcelona and the Catalan Institute of Oncology.

### **UB Alumni**

The University of Barcelona’s commitment to its community extends beyond teaching and research and is not restricted to current students: some 8,200 graduates are now members of UB Alumni. In 2012, the job bank managed by UB Alumni posted an average of four new job offers a day.

In addition, UB Alumni has provided support to more than a hundred alumni seeking to set up busi-

nesses, giving them advice on their business plan, helping them obtain funding or assisting in their business orientation.

There are now 31 local and international alumni groups, notable among them a number of international groups like the one in Brussels, which is formed by over 20 former students and has contributed to the expansion and consolidation of UB Alumni’s network of international contacts.

The UB Alumni Council of Elders, led by Miquel Roca, has broadened the scope of its activities to include initiatives such as the Transmetre Programme, sponsored by Ricard Fornesa, which provides a forum through which older alumni can share their knowledge and experience with younger members.



Working meeting of the UB Alumni Council of Elders





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“I think the dual activities of teaching and research should be considered a single unit, and that we should make sure the public understands that it is precisely in this unity that the real value of the University is to be found.”

**Albert Valera García,**  
tenured lecturer,  
Faculty of Fine Arts

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# 3

## A UNIVERSITY AT THE FOREFRONT OF EDUCATION

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Course offering

Additional academic opportunities

Support services for teaching

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“As a student, being at the UB gives me peace of mind and security. I always know what I have to do and what is expected of me. I know that I will be taught everything that may be asked of me further down the line. To have studied at the UB is an asset and confers prestige.”

Daniel Marín García,  
student, Law

## Course offering

Our course offering for the academic year included 64 **bachelor's degrees**. The new bachelor's degrees in International Business and Interactive Digital Content, to be taught at the School of New Interactive Technologies as of the academic year 2013-2014, will take the total to 66. The bachelor's degree in Industrial Relations has moved to the Diagonal Knowledge Gateway Campus.

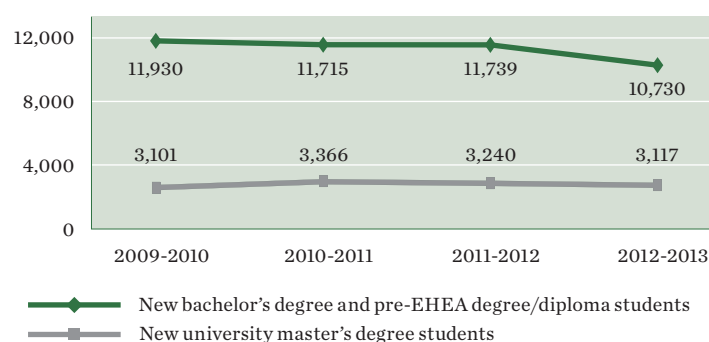
For the academic year 2012-2013, the UB received 16,695 first-preference applications for 10,739 places on bachelor's degree courses, putting the demand ratio for places at 1.55. The highest numbers of first-preference applications were received for Medicine (1,888), Business Administration and Management (1,361), Psychology (1,021), Nursing (918) and Primary Education (905). A total of 46,449 students enrolled at the UB's faculties and schools, including 10,730 new students and 2,987 students enrolled in the five bachelor's degree taught at affiliated centres.

The University of Barcelona will offer a degree taught entirely in English for the new academic year: the bachelor's degree in International Business. On completion of this four-year course, students will obtain both an EHEA bachelor's degree in International Business and a master's degree from an international university.

*La Vanguardia*, 7 July 2013

At postgraduate level, the course offering included **138 university master's degrees**. A total of 4,878 students enrolled in these courses and an additional 254 enrolled in master's degree taught at affiliated centres. The highest enrolment figures were recorded for the university master's degrees in Teacher Training in Obligatory Secondary and Upper Secondary School Education, Vocational Training and Languages (345), Women, Gender and Citi-

**New students in bachelor's degrees, pre-EHEA degrees/diplomas and university master's degrees**



Education adapted to the EHEA

41,215

students enrolled in 64 bachelor's degrees (includes UB-affiliated centres)



Arts Courtyard, Historic Building

zenship (120), Management of Cultural Heritage (99), Neurosciences (97) and Psychology and Education (88). The overall figure included 1,408 international students (27.4% of the total), predominantly from Latin America and, in the case of Europe, from Italy. Tuition in foreign languages was also consolidated over the course of the year, particularly in English, which was used as the language of instruction for 12% of university master's degree classes.

Proposals for new university master's degree courses were submitted, along with a number of applications for renewed validation by the national education authorities. The overall offering planned for the academic year 2013-2014 includes a total of 140 master's degree courses.

For the academic year 2012-2013, the UB consolidated its offering of bachelor's degrees, and the first

graduating class of significant numbers completed its studies. Now that the implementation of the new degrees has been completed, emphasis has shifted to analysing results and assessing the strengths and weaknesses of the bachelor's degrees and university master's degrees under the EHEA framework. This monitoring will serve as a starting point for the accreditation process, which is set to begin shortly in keeping with statutory guidelines.

A total of 7,439 students graduated from bachelor's degrees, pre-EHEA degrees and pre-EHEA diplomas, while 2,661 students graduated from university master's degrees.

During the year, the UB also presented its **special awards** for the academic year 2011-2012: for pre-EHEA courses (82), bachelor's degrees (24) and university master's degrees (76).

The overall course offering also included 177 **postgraduate courses**, 23 **courses leading to certificates of attainment** and 167 **UB-specific master's degrees**, which were taught to 2,811, 453 and 4,519 students, respectively. The presence of a large number of international students (23.1% of the total) is an indication of the extent to which postgraduate study at the UB is becoming increasingly internationalized. The UB's **university extension programme** comprised 49 courses, taught to 1,146 students. A total of five UB-specific master's degrees, one postgraduate course and one university extension programme were taught outside Spain.



Our commitment  
to international  
reach

27.4%

of university master's  
degree students are  
international

### Students enrolled in UB-specific master's degrees, postgraduate courses and university extension courses

Study area	Master's degrees	Postgraduate courses	University extension courses
Arts and humanities	110	72	150
Social and legal sciences	769	661	282
Experimental sciences and engineering	85	112	168
Health sciences	1,404	928	268
Education sciences	129	73	37
ICE	122	100	-
IL3	1,900	1,318	110
Affiliated centres	-	-	131
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,519</b>	<b>3,264</b>	<b>1,146</b>
<b>% women</b>	<b>72.2</b>	<b>69.7</b>	<b>50.7</b>



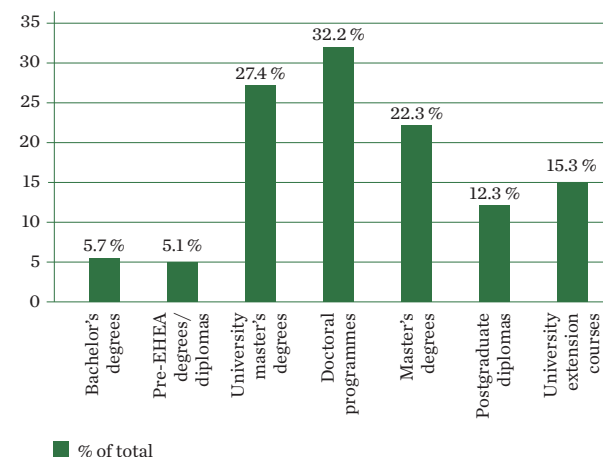
Mundet Campus

### Internationalization of the student community<sup>1</sup>

Studies	International students
Bachelor's degrees	2,353
Pre-EHEA degrees/diplomas	418
University master's degrees	1,408
Doctoral programmes	1,655
Master's degrees	1,012
Postgraduate diplomas	401
University extension courses	124
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,571</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes students at affiliated centres, ICE and IL3.

### Percentage of international students by course type



Our commitment  
to international  
reach

32.2%

of doctoral  
students are  
international

### Grants and other financial aid

The UB processed 18,588 applications for **general and mobility grants** from **bachelor's degree students, pre-EHEA degree and diploma students and university master's degree students**. A total of 10,448 grants were awarded, with an overall value of 28,600,422 euros: of this sum, 10,280,970 euros corresponded to grants for students entitled to partial or total exemption from the payment of tuition fees, 1,939,008 corresponded to general mobility assistance, and 1,291,501 euros corresponded to special mobility assistance. The remaining sum of 15,088,943 euros covered grants for the purchase of books, travel and accommodation costs, and other student expenses.

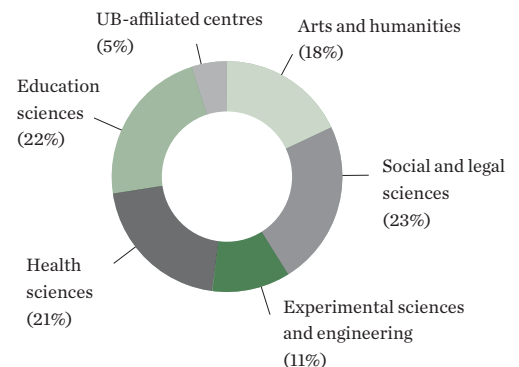
A total of 6,159 requests were received for **equity grants**, which cover part of the cost of enrolment for official undergraduate studies. Grants of different value are awarded according to a 6-level scale based on family income: 4,237 students were eligible for level 1, which entitles them to a reduction of 50% on first-enrolment credits (although 2,599 of these students were also awarded a general grant, rendering them ineligible for the equity grant); 102 students were eligible for level 2 (reduction of 40%); 114 for level 3 (reduction of 30%); 82 for level 4 (20%); and 208 for level 5 (10%). Finally, 1,416 applicants were placed in level 6, which is above the threshold for entitlement to financial support.

The Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport awarded 53 **department collaboration grants**,

with a total value of 413,100 euros. It also approved the award of 400 **grants for collaboration in services** and units, with a total value of 1,811,609 euros, and 301 **grants for collaboration with UB faculties and schools**, with a total value of 1,097,645 euros. In addition, 40 grants were awarded under the **DRAC programme** of the Joan Lluís Vives Institute.

The Spanish financial aid programme for **student mobility, Seneca**, awarded 57 grants with a total value of 263,900 euros. Under other **mobility programmes**, 443 grants were awarded for study within the European Union and 22 were awarded for study outside Europe. Three exchange grants were awarded by the Eurolife university network to students of the master's degree in Biomedicine, and four grants were awarded within the framework of the International Summer School "Management

### Grants awarded to bachelor's degree, pre-EHEA degree/diploma, and university master's degree students





The University of Barcelona has created bkUB, a new student grant programme to help talented students in difficult economic situations to continue to study. bkUB will be implemented this academic year and will have funds of 600,000 euros.

[aprendemas.com](http://aprendemas.com), 3 October 2013

## Grants and financial aid awarded

Grants awarded	Number	Total value (€)
General and mobility	10,448	28,600,422
Collaboration with departments	153	413,100
Seneca mobility grant programme	57	263,900
Collaboration in UB services	400	1,811,609
Collaboration in UB centres	301	1,097,645

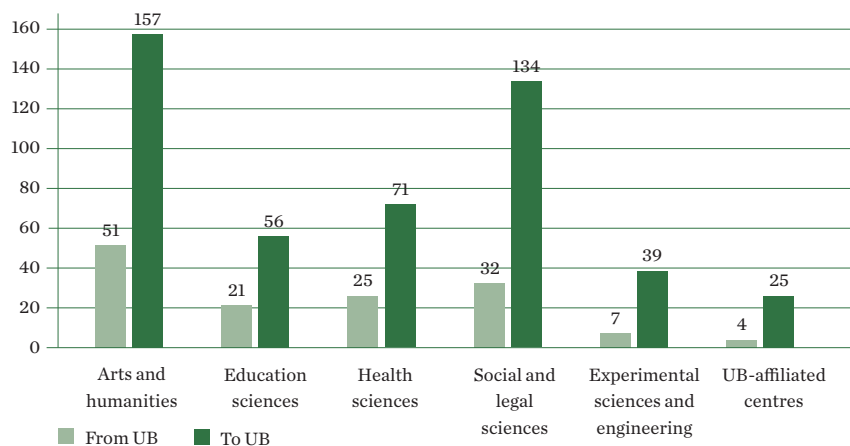
Financial aid awarded	Number
DRAC programme	40
Mobility programme	465
International Summer School	4
Eurolife network grants	3
Santander Iberoamérica	10
Fórmula Santander	4

of Creativity in an Innovation Society”. An additional 14 Santander international mobility grants saw a total of 50,000 euros in financial aid awarded to students in international exchange programmes.

In the framework of the **SICUE national mobility programme**, the University of Barcelona signed bilateral agreements with 48 Spanish universities and offered a total of 2,695 exchange places. The UB ranked second in Spain for participation in and financial support for national mobility programmes.

The UB welcomed a total of 1,929 visiting students on **short placements**.

## Students in the SICUE national mobility programme



## International placement students at the UB

Programme	Total
Erasmus	1,185
Erasmus Mundus Action 1: Joint degrees	73
Erasmus Mundus Action 2: Associations	14
Coimbra Group	4
Bilateral agreements	123
Interuniversity Centre for Development (Cinda)	10
MAE-AECID	24
Specific programmes with the USA (Study Abroad)	271
Carolina Foundation	11
Science without Borders	26
Individual applications	188
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,929</b>

Our commitment  
to language learning

15

foreign languages taught  
at the School of Modern  
Languages

## Additional academic opportunities

Training in languages and Hispanic studies, summer schools and the University of Experience are grouped together in the **Area of Further Training**.

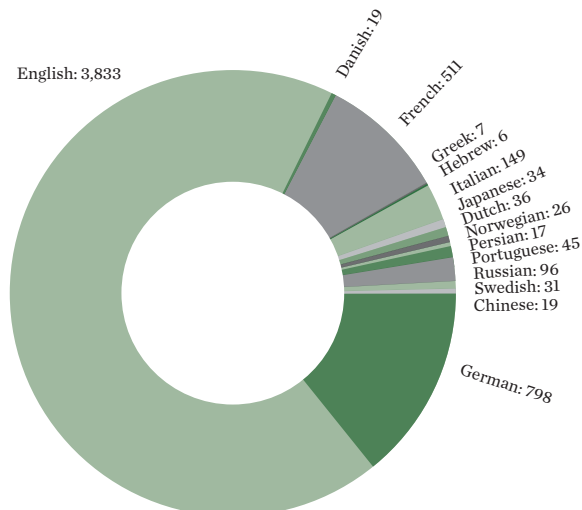
The **School of Modern Languages** (EIM) offers foreign language tuition to the university community and to public and private institutions. It oversees a wide range of courses, founded on over six decades of experience. Tailored professional programmes are also available, designed to meet the requirements of the Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

In the **Educational Programmes** area, the School offered periodic courses in 15 languages during the aca-



Headquarters of the Area of Further Training

### Students at the School of Modern Languages



demical year (Chinese, Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, Persian, Portuguese, Russian and Swedish). These courses were taught by 63 teachers to a total of 5,627. In addition, the EIM carried out 4,962 level tests, 7 credit recognition examinations, 373 language accreditations and 370 official examinations.

In the area of **Corporate Solutions**, the school taught a total of 72 tailored courses for commercial and institutional clients (32 for external companies and 40 for groups within the UB community). A total of 671 students took part.

For sixty years, the **Institute of Hispanic Studies** has been providing courses in Spanish language and culture to visiting students. The Institute delivers

“The University of Barcelona must be able to adapt its course offering to society’s needs while maintaining and improving its quality and excellence, both in teaching and research.”

Fermín Osuna Sánchez,  
member of the administrative  
and service staff, Secretary’s Office for  
Students and Teaching Staff at the  
Faculty of Economics and Business



Spanish courses to students taking part in the Erasmus programme or studying at the UB under other bilateral agreements, as well as running examinations for the Diploma in Spanish as a Foreign Language (DELE), offered by the Cervantes Institute. The Institute designs, organizes and delivers courses for groups with specific needs or requirements.

During the academic year, a total of 1,933 students registered for courses: 334 Erasmus students and 452 students taking part in the 60th edition of the course in Hispanic Studies, Language and Culture for non-Spanish speakers. Eighteen intensive language courses were attended by a total of 369 students. Courses were also offered in Spanish as an instrumental language and Spanish for specific purposes, which include Spanish for Economics and Business, Conversational Spanish, Written Spanish, Reading Short Texts in Spanish, Spoken Spanish for Everyday Situations and Spanish for Negotiations in Professional Contexts. Finally, 308 students enrolled in DELE preparation courses.

During the holiday period, the UB held the sixteenth annual **Els Juliols** programme of summer courses. A total of 1,303 students enrolled in 40 summer courses led by 588 teachers. As part of this programme, the sixth annual women’s summer school was held, in association with the Cornellà City Council.

One of the fundamental aspects of the UB’s mission is to make knowledge and culture more widely available through university extension courses and



lifelong learning. In pursuit of this, the UB completed the third year of programmes offered under the new **University of Experience (UdE)**. The programmes are aimed at all learners over 55 years of age, and no formal educational qualifications are required to enrol. A total of 468 learners took part, 69% of whom were women. The oldest student was 87 years old, although the majority of participants were aged between 60 and 64. During this academic year, the range of study areas was extended with the addition of two new programmes: History of Art, and Health and Wellbeing. The programmes Education and Citizenship, and Libraries and Archives in the Digital Age, were redesigned, and content has been added to the programme in Psychology, bringing the total number to seven. A range of complementary learning activities were also organized,

Our commitment  
to society

468

students at  
the University  
of Experience



such as tailored English courses, physical activity courses including Qigong, a new cookery workshop, and two introductory courses in music and piano, coordinated with the Conservatory of the Liceu. The Coral de l'Experiència choir was formed, the UB took part in the fifth Fira Gran Saló de la Gent Gran de Catalunya, and a book about the University of Experience was published.

**Catalan language** training was offered by the **UB Language Services** in the form of year-long, semester-long and intensive summer courses at CEFR levels A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 and C2 in the official language proficiency framework. Students who complete these courses receive certificates of accreditation issued by the Government of Catalonia as well as recognition of free-elective credits. Catalan tuition was also offered to teaching and research staff in preparation for the UB Catalan language examination offered as a recognized equivalent of the official level C examination. Administrative and service staff attended specially designed courses, for which officially accredited examinations are offered. A total of 93 courses were offered, attended by 1,746 students.



Under the UB's **Plan for Languages**, a new self-access language learning activity was integrated into the Virtual Campus with the help of the Rosetta Stone programme. The initiative had been launched in the previous academic year and is addressed to students, teaching and research staff, and administrative and service staff. Over the year, it attracted the participation of 1,008 individuals from different

groups (726 students, 101 members of the administrative and service staff, 109 members of the teaching and research staff, and 72 other learners). Similarly, the self-access learning centres coordinated conversation groups in English (887 students) and introductory Catalan (13 students), and new conversation groups were launched in French (48 students), Italian (16 students) and Chinese (6 students). The activities of the language exchange service attracted 114 international students and 131 home students, with a total of 18 native languages used. Other group activities included guided tours of Barcelona and a range of cultural events.

The **Institute for Lifelong Learning (IL3)** made progress in the **implementation of a professionalizing model**, adapting its general methodology to include professional placements, which provide key skills and boost students' employment prospects. A particular focus has been placed on ensuring the suitability of the course programme, and providing teaching staff with the necessary training to implement the courses in accordance with the new methodology.

#### Students involved in other academic courses

School of Modern Languages	5,627
Institute of Hispanic Studies	1,933
University of Experience	468
Language Services	1,746
Els Juliols summer courses	1,303



“The UB, at least in my field, which is medicine, has always been known for having a strong interest in teaching and educational innovation, and the results of its graduates are very highly regarded.”

Eliás Campo Güerri,  
full professor, Faculty of Medicine

An interdisciplinary and interdepartmental **work group on innovation** was set up, with the aim of identifying market opportunities and defining new business proposals. Alongside this, a working methodology was established to guide the selection and development of ideas, from the identification of business opportunities through the design and development of viable projects to market launch.

In order to carry out rigorous **quality control** in the monitoring of courses and to facilitate corrective action during the academic year, the UB defined a system of course indicators for departments and areas of study and established a survey procedure and a dashboard of survey results for analysing the quality parameters set by the IL3 under UB guidelines.

The IL3 also implemented a **corporate projects office** to streamline the management of its entire portfolio of corporate projects.

In line with the IL3’s commitment to **technological development** for online training and internal management, a series of enhancements were made to the virtual learning platform, bringing improvements to the management of administrative and academic procedures, completing the migration to Moodle 2.2 (which now hosts most of the courses on offer), and integrating new study options including e-books and e-learning applications.

In the area of **open courses**, 13 new programmes were launched and ten programmes were updated, to ensure on-going relevance to student needs and market requirements. In the area of **corporate solutions**, new opportunities were identified and ad hoc training projects were created for businesses and organizations with more than 250 employees, with training in technical and commercial skills proving the most popular.

### IL3 students

Type of course	Open courses		Corporate solutions	
	Students	Courses	Students	Courses
Distance learning	2,500	63	150	6
Online learning	5,536	165	70	4
Face-to-face learning	2,007	110	223	15
Blended learning	951	34	173	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,994</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>36</b>

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The School of Cinema and Audiovisual Studies of Catalonia (ESCAC) increases its course offerings for next academic year with a new university master’s degree in Cinematography. It will be the first school to offer this course in Spain.

*El Periódico*, 9 July 2013

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“The University makes a wide range of activities available to students to foster learning, such as courses in public speaking and English.”

Neus Borrego Martí,  
student, Dentistry

## Support services for teaching

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

CRAI supports teaching and research staff in the management and provision of information resources and services that assist their work. This encompasses guidance on the creation of materials, publication of materials, expertise in copyright issues, the use of teaching platforms and tools, and **teaching and research innovation.**



### CRAI

#### Library collections

	Total	Acquisitions in 2012
Monographs <sup>1</sup>	1,719,634	67,866
Journals <sup>1</sup>	56,452	23,739
Databases	389	240
Other materials	51,258	707

#### Services

Library users	4,849,368
Loans	927,674
Inter-library loans (UB document request service)	
Requests issued	4,746
Requests received	24,207
Accesses to catalogue	26,305,314
Accesses to e-journals	577,988

#### Facilities

Total area (sq m)	37,118
Single-user reading desks	6,210
Computer terminals for public use <sup>2</sup>	784
Photocopiers	37
Microform readers/printers	67

<sup>1</sup> Includes paper and online formats acquired or received as donations or transfers.

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

“The University must continue to guarantee access to higher education, regardless of personal income.”

Marina Solé Català,  
full university school professor,  
Faculty of Economics and Business



Faculty of Geology

This year saw the consolidation of the portal for the UB’s scientific journals (RCUB) and of the Digital Repository, which are used to **disseminate the scientific publications** of the UB. Work also continued to **expand the library stock**, with new collections added to the Digital Memory of Catalonia (maintained by the Consortium of Academic Libraries of Catalonia, CBUC).

A free inter-library loans service was introduced across all libraries in the CBUC, which is available to students, teaching and research staff, and administrative and service staff.

Finally, the UB curated and contributed to important **exhibitions and projects**, at the University and

in other institutions, which showcased some of the most notable materials in the collections of the CRAI libraries.

The University of Barcelona considers teaching quality to be a primary objective. The **Teaching Improvement and Innovation Programme**, affiliated to the ICE since 2012, contributes to this objective by encouraging continuous improvement in teaching, fostering teaching innovation and promoting activities for the exchange of teaching experiences.

In pursuit of this objective, the UB gives financial support to teaching innovation projects (PID). In 2012, 182 projects received funds totalling 50,000 for **teaching innovation activities** involving 1,287 academic staff.

In the area of **teaching innovation groups**, 71 consolidated teaching innovation groups maintained their accreditation from the previous year and received renewed funding and additional staff support, and seven groups received official recognition for the first time.

The **Institute of Education Sciences (ICE)** of the University of Barcelona was created in 1969. It has a number of specific responsibilities, which include analysing the training needs of teaching staff and designing proposals for action, promoting and fostering educational innovation, providing guidance and advice on research, disseminating good practices, and preparing training materials in a variety of



### ICE activities

Training activities	Total registrations
Lifelong learning for teachers in early childhood, primary, secondary and vocational education and for other professionals involved in community education	4,869
Online training	531
University teacher training	4,714
Postgraduate courses and master's degrees	220
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,334</b>



media. A total of 10,334 people (63.5% women) attended ICE courses during the year, which were delivered by 312 teachers and educators.

In relation to **teaching assessment**, a new procedure was put in place for the **online surveys** that bachelor's degree and university master's degree students complete each academic year to give feedback on subjects and teaching staff. In total, 142,591 surveys were received, with an average response rate of 19.2%.

The UB also maintained its paper-format **opinion survey** on non-EHEA degree courses. Surveys were sent to 325 groups of students, and responses were received from 33.3% of the total: 7,095 surveys were completed and processed.

Finally, the University carried out its tenth full **assessment of teaching staff performance**, which was aided this year by the introduction of a new application for participants and evaluators. A rate of participation of 71% was achieved, and 96% of participants received positive evaluations.





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“The University is the space par excellence not only for integrating research and knowledge transfer through communication, but also for conveying motivations and guidelines relating to where science is heading.”

**Elías Campo Güerri,**  
full professor,  
Faculty of Medicine

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# 4

## A UNIVERSITY AT THE FOREFRONT OF RESEARCH

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Research

Technology and knowledge transfer  
and innovation

Doctoral studies

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## Research

**B:KC** Barcelona Knowledge Campus



The University of Barcelona remains firm in its commitment to be an intensive generator of **quality, frontier research**. Each year, the UB strengthens its position as the leading university in Spain in terms of scientific output, and it continues to be ranked alongside the leading European universities for research, as reflected in its membership in the League of European Research Universities (LERU) since 2010. International reach is essential to maintaining excellence in this area of the UB's activity.

The UB has chosen to make research a strategic focus despite the current economic climate, optimizing resources and making the necessary investment to improve levels of excellence in experimental sciences, health, social sciences and the humanities. In 2012, a total of 174 predoctoral fellows joined the UB through the FPU (53), FPI (43), FI (45) and APIF (33) calls for grant applications. Collaboration grants were awarded and research support technicians were maintained, thanks to co-funding agreements between the Catalan government's fund for the promotion of university research and the research groups themselves. The UB has also incorporated new talented researchers funded under the Ramón y Cajal (19 researchers), Juan de la Cierva (18) and Beatriu de Pinós (7) programmes. In addition, 35 research grants were awarded to researchers with the most hours of dedication to research tasks, and 45 grants were awarded to foster participation in international projects. Organizational support was provided for scientific meet-



Meeting of the League of European Research Universities (LERU)

ings and for 18 projects in the areas of social sciences and the humanities. The institutional work plan for academic staff, put into effect this year, is also a major great step forward, as it helps to identify and assess the research commitments of UB lecturers, with a view to distributing tasks more effectively across the different departments.

In the area of internal funding, programme contracts have been maintained with UB faculties, schools and institutes, and considerable funding has been received through the ICREA programme (ICREA Senior and ICREA Academia), an external assessments were conducted at some institutes with a view to optimizing the use of resources. Internationally, the UB's researchers demonstrated continued success in obtaining competitive fund-



“In my opinion the labs at the Bellvitge campus are fully equipped to train students with the proper materials; this is quite important, as our course is based on the practical application of our knowledge.”

Aida Comas Calonge,  
student, Dentistry

ing, reflected in an increase in funds secured under the EU’s Seventh Framework Programme. In the calls for European Research Council starting and advanced grants, 12 UB projects were accepted and three more are currently in the second evaluation stage. The University of Barcelona coordinates the EU Hydrobond project, which seeks to develop by 2017 superhydrophobic coatings to create off-shore wind turbines that are stronger, more efficient and more reliable than current models. The Horizon 2020 programme marks the start of a new phase for Europe, and the UB’s involvement in LERU puts it in an excellent position at the outset of this new period. This year, the UB took part in 27 LERU working meetings and was been invited to join the steering group of some of the working groups, addressing knowledge transfer, social sciences and humanities, and ethics and integrity in research.

The UB Science and Technology Centres (CCiTUB) continued to implement their optimization and restructuring process, to improve the quality and competitiveness of the University’s research infrastructure. The UB extended its membership commitments in a variety of national and international networks and continues to work on the improvement of research infrastructure in coordination with the BKC knowledge campus and the HUBc health sciences campus. In 2012, the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation (FBG) coordinated 718 projects, with a total funding value of 25.08 million euros, involving 653 public and private sector clients. In ad-

dition, 37 applications were submitted for priority patents and international patents, 12 license agreements were signed and 7 technology spin-offs were launched.

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

The UB also strengthened its presence in open-access journals, publishing over 14,000 documents in the Catalan university system, making it the leading contributor of scientific output. Efforts have also been made to promote open-access publication in forums such as LERU, and open-access formed








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Bottom trawling has significantly altered the relief of the sea floor in only four decades, according to a study published in *Nature* by researchers from the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and the University of Barcelona.

*Ara*, 7 September 2012

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the interdisciplinary focus of the third LERU Doctoral Summer School, organized by the University of Barcelona.

Activities that highlight the UB's social reach include the publication of UB research in the media via the Atomium Culture platform and the joint publication, with LERU, of 18 papers on socially relevant issues including gender, technology transfer, international mobility and research assessment. UB students also participated in LERU activities such as the Doctoral Summer School and the Bright Students Conference.

Under the UB Management Plan, the University has overseen the creation of new research centres and institutes, to strengthen its interdisciplinary focus and coordinate the work of research groups operating in complementary disciplines. At present, the University has 12 research institutes, 2 university institutes, 11 research centres and special research centres, 10 observatories and 3 documentation centres. In addition, the UB participates with other in-

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

#### UB research institutes

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

#### University research institutes

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

#### Research institutes in which the UB participates

- AgriGenomics Research Centre (Crag)
- Centre for Ecological Research and Forestry Applications (CREAF)
- August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS)
- Catalan Institute of Climate Sciences (IC3)
- The Catalonia Institute of Energy Research (IREC)
- Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC)
- Institute of Biomedical Research (IRB)
- Bellvitge Institute for Biomedical Research (IDIBELL)

Scientific output **4,606** scientific publications collated by the Institute for Scientific Information

stitutions in the activities of 8 research institutes, 2 observatories and 2 interuniversity institutes.

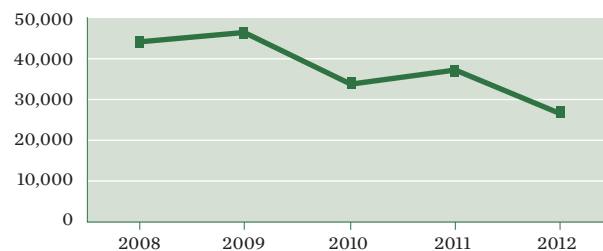
Under the institutional contract programme, the Office of the Vice-Rector for Research, Innovation and Transfer allocated 803,631.48 euros to research centres and 505,000 euros to UB research institutes.

The UB held a **call for grant applications** for social sciences and humanities research projects. Eighteen grants, with a total value of 120,000 euros, were awarded.

As part of its programme of incentives to bolster research activity, the University awarded funding to teaching and research staff involved in 36 research projects and initiatives.



**Evolution of income from research activity in competitive calls** (millions of euros)



**Income for UB research in competitive calls**

	Calls	Amount
Projects and special activities	292	23,247,620
Infrastructure	-	-
Grants	128	3,134,141
<b>Total</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>26,381,761</b>

Source	Calls	Amount
Catalan government	79	907,019.54
Spanish government	238	14,631,286
Others	73	3,528,716
Private companies	1	15,000
European Union	29	7,299,738
<b>Total</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>26,381,761</b>



Barcelona Science Park

Within the framework of the National Agreement on Research and Innovation and the new Research and Innovation Plan, the following **research groups** were listed in the 2009 call for grants: 243 consolidated research groups, 22 emerging research groups, 14 project-specific groups, 33 groups managed by IDIBAPS, 10 managed by IDIBELL and 16 by other institutions to which the UB contributes.

In the area of **scientific output by UB researchers**, 4,606 publications were recorded in the international databases of the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI). Of this total, 3,844 were listed in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCI), 612 in the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) and 150 in the Arts & Humanities Citation Index.

**Income from research in competitive calls** at the 19 UB faculties and schools totalled 26,381,760.56 euros, for 420 research activities. This sum including income generated by national and European projects, infrastructure and other funded projects. Of particular note are four projects within the ICREA Academy programme,

#### UB Group income from research and technology transfer

<b>Research projects<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>41,963,831.97</b>
UB	23,247,620.00
IREC	1,593,285.69
IDIBAPS	6,316,579.47
IDIBELL	4,938,320.27
IBEC	1,004,000.00
IRB	4,684,350.10
CREAF	2,540.00
CRAG	177,136.35
<b>Infrastructure</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Other grants</b>	<b>3,134,140.59</b>
<b>UB agreements</b>	<b>2,471,345.64</b>
<b>FBG agreements</b>	<b>1,560,973.88</b>
<b>FBG contracts</b>	<b>9,262,424.26</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,392,716.34</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes income from research activity carried out by UB research through competitive and non-competitive calls. The abbreviations stand for the University of Barcelona (UB), the Catalonia Institute for Energy Research (IREC), the August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS), the Bellvitge Institute for Biomedical Research (IDIBELL), the Institute for Bioengineering Centre of Catalonia (IBEC), the Institute of Biomedical Research (IRB), Centre for Ecological Research and Forestry Applications (CREAF) and AgriGenomics Research Centre (CRAG).

Research and  
technology  
transfer

58,392,716

euros of UB Group income from research and technology transfer



which establishes financial and other incentives for research excellence among research staff at the public universities of Catalonia. The four ICREA Academy projects represent total income of 900,000 euros.

The UB signed 20 European projects under the **Seventh EU Framework Programme**, for a total amount of 6,240,562.59 euros.

The total number of **agreements** signed during the year was 336, and total income from 95 research-related agreements reached 2,471,345.64 euros.

The **Barcelona Science Park (PCB)** promotes innovation and knowledge transfer by leveraging relationships between the University, public research organizations and the private sector. It provides a shared space and a set of common goals for public research and business innovation. In 2012, the total number of users was 101, including businesses and other institutions (80), UB units and research groups (10) and various PCB services (11). Of these users, 91 were based at the PCB, while the other ten were external partners. The total number of entities represents a user population of 2,268 people.

Medical biotechnology was once again the sector that attracted the larger number of users, although the pharmaceutical, chemical, and food and agriculture sectors were also highly active during the year.

In the area of institutional development, the PCB focused efforts on the roll-out of its **Strategic Plan 2013-2017**, which sets out the key aspects of the Park's mission: to ensure the effective and efficient management of the University of Barcelona facilities it oversees and to offer quality services to clients and users to facilitate the transfer of knowledge between the University, research institutions and the private sector.

Four strategic objectives were established: to develop a business model based on the provision of value-added services; to consolidate the PCB as a benchmark centre for the transfer of knowledge between research institutions and businesses, particularly in the biotech sector, providing tangible and intangible returns for the UB; to ensure the financial viability of the PCB in the medium and long term; and to develop management models that are workable, efficient, effective and innovative.

With regard to **infrastructure**, the PCB now occupies a total space of 86,638 sq m, with a usable working area of 59,260 sq m. During the year, the PCB conducted comprehensive series of **refurbishments and enhancements** of its facilities. This included the renovation of the fourth floor of the Clúster II building, a new entrance and reception area, the completion of the new PCB restaurant and cafeteria, the first phase of the new facilities for the Laboratory Animal Applied Research Platform (PRAAL) in the Clúster II building, a new control centre, the



“The scientific, technological and administrative support that the administrative and service staff provide for teaching and research is – as it should be – very significant. Given that this group includes highly qualified and specialized technical staff, we really should optimize, and thus strengthen, our working relationship with teaching and research staff.”

**Pilar Teixidor Casamitjana,**  
member of the administrative  
and service staff,  
gas chromatography-mass  
spectrometry unit, Science  
and Technology Centres



connection of the electrical installation in the Clúster I building and the opening of new waste storage units.

In terms of **services**, the PCB offers a broad range of scientific and technology services, core scientific services, a radioactivity unit and a special reactions service. The PCB also operates technology platforms in specific fields: Laboratory Animal Applied Research, Combinatorial Chemistry, Nanotechnology, Proteomics, Drug Discovery, Experimental Toxicology and Ecotoxicology, and Crystallography.

In the area of **knowledge and technology transfer**, the PCB has undertaken a consulting project with Ecuador's City of the Future Science and Technolo-

gy Park, organized the first international university extension course on the management of innovation clusters and hubs, hosted several visiting delegations from abroad and participated in various national and international events.

In the area of **scientific communication and dissemination**, the PCB carried out research projects, gave interactive tours of its facilities, took part in the tenth “Live Research” Fair and in the European education portal Xplore Health, organized sessions for secondary school teachers to inform them of the latest scientific advances, provided training on scientific communication to scientists and other professionals in the sector, and contributed to conferences and meetings.

This year, the **National Centre for Genome Analysis (CNAG)** completed its second year of operations and remains under the management of the Barcelona Science Park. The Centre's mission is to carry out genome research projects aimed at improving people's health and quality of life, in collaboration with scientists around the world. Led by Dr Ivo Gut, the Centre has a team of 47 people, comprising laboratory technicians, IT technicians, bioinformaticians, and management and administration staff.

The CNAG is the second centre in Europe for sequencing capacity. Currently, the platform has 12 latest-generation sequencers and the data

“Society is increasingly aware of the importance of research. An informed society is a more responsible and freer society with the tools to improve quality of life.”

Elías Campo Güerri,  
full professor, Faculty of Medicine

processing centre has more than 900 computing nodes, 2.2 petabytes of storage space, an internal network operating at 10Gb per second and numerous direct connections with the Barcelona Supercomputing Center, which also run at 10Gb per second.

The CNAG offers a wide range of applications including whole-genome *de novo* sequencing and whole-genome resequencing (WG-Seq), targeted resequencing of exomes or specific regions (Target-Seq), localization of DNA or RNA binding sites (ChIP-Seq) and RNA sequencing (RNA-Seq).

The CNAG has continued to contribute to the success of Spanish involvement in the **International**

**Cancer Genome Consortium (ICGC)** through its participation in the project on chronic lymphocytic leukaemia led by Dr Elías Campo, of the Hospital Clínic of Barcelona.

The CNAG has also taken part in other projects in areas as diverse as rare or low-incidence diseases, host-pathogen interactions, the preservation of endangered species, evolutionary studies and the enhancement of species of agricultural interest.

The CNAG participates in 16 competitively funded research projects, most of them European, and has established collaboration agreements with 65 public and private institutions involved in sequencing and genome analysis, with a total value of 4.2 million euros.

The **Science and Technology Centres (CCiTUB)** provide advice on experimental techniques and are equipped with the latest scientific instruments to support research and innovation in the fields of chemistry, materials science and biosciences. They also act as intermediaries in university-business relations and promote innovation and technology transfer through agreements and research, development and innovation projects with industry. The CCiTUB also contribute to training through the organization of technology courses and seminars, as well as participating in the actions of international and European research support networks.



Barcelona Science Park

The prestigious magazine *National Geographic* chose the Encantat de Begues as one of the twelve great discoveries of the year. This prehistoric ceramic figurine is the oldest found on the Iberian Peninsula to date. "The recognition is very important, particularly if we consider that the *National Geographic* never publishes articles on prehistory", said Manuel Edo, the director of the excavation and a member of the UB's Research Group on the Prehistory and Archaeology of Garraf-Ordal (CIPAG).

*La Vanguardia*, 03 July 2013

The CCiTUB constitute one of the most extensive mid-sized science and technology infrastructure facilities in Spain or Europe, with highly qualified technical staff and a broad range of characterization technologies grouped in specific units: microscopy and advanced characterization techniques, nuclear magnetic resonance, mass spectrometry, chemical spectroscopy, high-performance biotechnology, radiological protection, and animal facilities.

CCiTUB services are used annually by over one thousand researchers and other clients from different departments and institutes at the University of Barcelona, other universities, public institutions and industry. Industrial clients come from highly diverse fields in the pharmaceutical, cosmetics, chemical, environmental, health, food, automotive and energy sectors.

#### Science and Technology Centres (CCiTUB)

Staff	170
Value of scientific equipment (millions of euros)	41.11
Surface area (sq m)	12,000
External companies	285
Users	1,272
Internal users (principal investigators)	438
Total income (millions of euros)	4.75

The CCiTUB are composed of 36 technical units, which cover an area of more than 12,000 sq m distributed across four of the UB's six campuses and are staffed by 170 highly skilled technicians.

In the area of **accreditation and certification**, the CCiTUB successfully passed the first assessment of the ISO 9001:2011 certification, which had been renewed in the previous year following the initial award in 2005. The animal experimentation units and the radiological protection unit are in the process of obtaining ISO accreditation, to bring their quality structures into line with other services.

In addition, the CCiTUB renewed the Xarxa IT Tecnio accreditation, originally obtained in 2001. This accreditation, which was created by Acció, is held by the principle experts in applied research and technology transfer in Catalonia.

The CCiTUB are listed in the Government of Catalonia Register of Agri-food Laboratories and have been recognized as an accredited contract laboratory for drug trials by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The CCiTUB have implemented a **Technology Action Plan** to foster continuous innovation and improvement and to optimize the coordinated use of technologies and infrastructure.



The CCiTUB have also facilitated growing staff participation in added-value projects, leading to analytical work outside the scope of standard services in a total of 60 projects for the private sector or for research groups from public institutions.

With respect to the previous year, the CCiTUB maintained a consistent number of users: in total, it had some **1,200 different principal users** from research groups affiliated to the UB or to other public institutions or private companies (mainly small and medium-sized businesses).

The CCiTUB carried out work for **438 principal investigators** of projects managed by the UB (at 50 different departments), 461 principal investigators at 68 other public institutions (17 of them operated by the Spanish National Research Council CSIC), and 373 clients from a total of 285 companies in the private sector, of which 85% are based in Catalonia.

A **user satisfaction survey** was carried out as required by the ISO 9001:2008 certification and for accreditation within the Tecnio network of technology innovation centres: the CCiTUB received a satisfaction score of 89.1 out of 100.

The total **invoicing** for CCiTUB projects and services fell 1.23% with respect to the previous year, to 4,747,809.29 million euros (excluding VAT). By sector: pharmaceuticals (44% of invoiced amount), food and chemicals (19%), scientific, technological

and biotech research (29%), minerals and metallurgy (2%) and technical, health and consultancy (6%).

In the basic structure of the CCiTUB, the nuclear magnetic resonance unit is recognized as a “singular scientific-technological installation” by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation. An annual grant programme enables researchers to access the unit’s high-field NMR equipment, and public funding calls are used to secure finances to acquire new equipment.

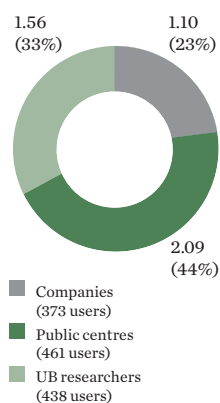
In collaboration with the Barcelona Knowledge Campus, the CCiTUB offered placements to 15 students of official vocational training courses. CCiTUB placements offer six months of training in a specific unit.

The CCiTUB launched a project to improve communication and **training activities** on scientific and technological subjects, and organized dissemination and education activities that generated 51,811.15 euros.

The CCiTUB took a series of actions to optimize the use of internal resources, creating a new web site, a handbook, a technology dossier with a detailed description of the technology portfolio, and a comprehensive services guide covering all of the applications offered to the private sector.

As part of general efforts to **improve CCiTUB equipment**, a series of strategic agreements with user

**Total CCiTUB income (in millions of euros) and percentage of total**







Presentation, in the Faculty of Medicine, of the new Research and Development Unit

groups facilitate the acquisition of a cooling unit for the argon laser in the Raman spectroscopy unit.

Through participation in **public calls**, the CCiTUB made four successful infrastructure applications to the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation through the sub-programme on scientific and technological infrastructure projects co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund. Three requests were also submitted through the sub-programme for technical support staff, in the area of infrastructure, overseen by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness; decisions will be announced in 2013. Finally, following a request submitted by the FBG, a decision was reached on the 2012 university technology transfer plan of the Centre for Innovation and Advanced Technologies (CITA-UB), under which the CCiTUB are integrated into the CITA-UB framework and can receive individual assistance to fund technology transfer actions approved by Acció.

In the area of university-business **contracts and agreements**, the CCiTUB extended the collaboration agreement with the FBG and NanoMEGAS SPRL and maintained collaborations with the Museum of Contemporary Art of Barcelona (MACBA), the Joan Miró Foundation, the Catalan Ministry of Culture, the Institute for Research in Biomedicine, the Spanish national anti-doping agency, and private sector companies. Confidentiality agreements and service contracts were signed with a variety of foundations and companies.

**Internationally**, as part of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures, the Advanced Optical Microscopy Unit participated in the Euro-BioImaging programme in representation of the Spanish Network on Advanced Optical Microscopy. As part of this involvement, the CCiTUB organized the Network's first conference, during which participants were introduced to the latest advances and technologies in advanced optical microscopy for biology and biomedicine.

The UB's **Bioethics Committee (CBUB)** assesses and prepares mandatory reports in the different areas of bioethics and conducts ethics assessments of international research projects managed by the FBG and the PCB. During the academic year, the CBUB worked with the Agency for the Administration of University and Research Grants (AGAUR) to assess the ethical compliance of submissions from applicants for Beatriu de Pinós grants, which are awarded by AGAUR. The CBUB also began the assessment process for projects submitted in the next Acció call, for the Tecnio spring programme, which is part of the Marie Curie Actions of the Seventh Framework Programme.

In October 2012, various members of the CBUB were appointed to the LERU Special Working Group on Research Integrity. The CBUB has been identified as a benchmark for the implementation of this type of committee model across LERU's member universities, which aims to raise levels of research integrity.

“I think society is well aware of the importance of research and university studies. Clear evidence of this is the popularity of science reporting, and they do an excellent job of communicating.”

**Eulàlia Masana Closa,**  
tenured lecturer,  
Faculty of Geology

The CBUB continued to coordinate the Network of Ethics Committees in Universities and Public Research Centres in Spain and to oversee the maintenance of the Network’s website.

The CBUB is also involved in the ethical evaluation and, where appropriate, the authorization of doctoral theses that involve human experimentation or use biological specimens of human origin. Work also began on a specific protocol for the area of hu-

man and social sciences, which pursues different objectives and employs different methodologies to biomedicine.

The CBUB’s educational tasks during the year included providing information and advice to UB lecturers, researchers, departments and faculties with regard to the mandatory participation of students in research activities through academic activities and placements.



Research and  
technology transfer

52

patent applications  
required in 2012

## Technology and knowledge transfer and innovation



The **Bosch i Gimpera Foundation (FBG)** is the UB's centre for the transfer of knowledge, technology and innovation. It is responsible for advancing the research carried out at the UB and through the UB Group, creating spin-offs based on UB-generated knowledge or patent licenses, establishing research contracts with the private sector and public institutions, and offering advice, consultancy, assessment services, expert analyses and technical support. The FBG is the UB's technology springboard and is officially supported by Acció, the Catalan governmental agency dedicated to raising the competitiveness of Catalan businesses.

In the area of **contract research projects**, the FBG provided consulting and analytical services to corporate and institutional clients, seeking to improve competitiveness in both the public and the private sectors. These research projects generated total income of 10.89 million euros from 591 contracts.

In the area of **research projects with competitive funding**, the FBG was awarded financial support by public and private institutions for 13 projects, with a total value of 1.40 million euros. For research projects funded by the European Commission, over 200 proposals were submitted, and 42 were successful, generating funds of 8.09 million euros: of the successful projects, 26 fall within the scope of the Seventh Framework Programme, 12 not, and four are managed by the European Research Council (ERC). The UB is the coordinator of the Advanced Treatments for Water Sustainability in Eu-



Bosch i Gimpera Foundation

rope and China (WATECH) project and the recipient of an ERC starting grant for the project Holography for the LHC Era.

In the areas of **protection, valorization and licensing**, 12 new license agreements were signed. Total income during the year from new and existing agreements was 190,359 euros. Licensed technolo-

### FBG contracts and agreements

	Number	Amount (thousands of euros)
Projects	435	10,793
European projects	42	8,090
Collaboration agreements	190	1,561
Management of programmes and services	51	4,637
<b>Total</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>25,081</b>



gies include software for controlling avatars via brain signals, a surface treatment with an anti-fogging effect, hybridomas producing monoclonal antibodies that target leukocyte membranes, a high-resolution technology for the study of materials, derivatives of small interfering RNAs, antibacterial peptide compounds, a program to identify new drugs for low-incidence diseases, cell models based on nucleoside transporters, a device generating electrical power from fine motions, elements to calculate the optical constants of materials, a low-temperature-resistant plant and the related production system, and a device for preserving liver grafts.

A total of 22 priority patent applications were made, 15 international patent applications were submitted under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), and 15 patents entered national phases in Europe, the United States, Japan and Brazil. In addition, 45 invention proposals were put forward by researchers and evaluated by the FBG, a programming technology was recorded in the Spanish intellectual property register, and a new procedure for coating materials was filed with a notary public as a trade secret.

In addition, 18 joint ownership contracts were negotiated and signed with other institutions involved in the cooperative development of a new technology for which a successful patent application was submitted.

In 2012, there were no public calls to conduct proof-of-concept studies. The FBG formed alliances with

## Valorization and licensing 2012

	Number
Invention proposals	55
Priority patent applications	22
International patent applications (PCT)	15
International patent applications in national phase	15
Transfer projects	115
License agreements	12

multinational companies such as Lilly and GSK, who have open innovation programmes. The aim of these alliances is to drive the development of UB projects.

The FBG's **support for entrepreneurs and business creation** led to the creation of seven companies (Advanced Nanotechnologies SL, Smart Nanotech SL, Impetux Optics SL, Smalle Technologies SL, Shoocolabs SL, Omicron Lighting SL, and Proteodesign SL). The FBG also consulted to 40 initiatives, including new entrepreneurial projects and business plans, companies in the Bioincubator, and firms in which the UB has a stake. With the FBG's support, the companies Iproteos, Smalle Technologies, Genmedica Therapeutics, VCN Biosciences and Endor Nanotechnologies obtained public and private funding and won industry awards.

Through the company Innovative and Scientific Culture (CIC-UB), the FBG is responsible for monitoring spin-offs in which the UB has a stake. In 2012, CIC-UB became a shareholder in Advanced Nanotechnologies SL and Smalle Technologies SL as initial compensation for the know-how contributed by the UB and for a joint patent shared with the CSIC, respectively.

The year saw the creation of the **Barcelona Institute of Entrepreneurship (BIE)**, which is entrusted with the task of promoting entrepreneurship among professionals at the UB and the FBG and seeks to foster collaboration between research groups, tech-





nology centres and companies interested in pursuing projects that generate entrepreneurial ventures in various branches of knowledge.

In the area of **administration and management** of research and transfer projects, the FBG oversaw 51 UB programmes and services, with a total value of 4.64 million euros. In 2012, the number of personnel contracted by the FBG to work on project-related tasks was 226: 152 on national projects and 74 on European projects.

The Health and Safety Unit, which was created in 2011, paid visits to 53 companies and conducted 20 workplace assessments, 23 lighting studies, 5 studies of data display screens, 4 heat stress studies and 3 noise studies. Of the 439 FBG employees and grant-holders, 66% underwent medical check-ups.

Current competitive projects include an OTRI grant, a strategic transfer plan (PETRA) and financial assistance for a support technician. All three are funded by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness.

### Entrepreneurship 2012

Business creation proposals received	26
Entrepreneurship projects overseen	40
New technology spin-offs	7
New companies in which the CIC-UB has a stake	2

To **promote the UB's scientific and technological offering**, UB research services have been grouped by business sector and catalogues have been produced in which the specific areas of expertise are described in detail. The FBG attended over a dozen national and international trade fairs and conferences on the subjects of innovation and technology transfer, making contact with over 190 companies, 76% of them foreign. A total of 37 protected technologies were offered.

At the **Centre for Innovation and Advanced Technologies of the University of Barcelona (CITA-UB)**, an External Advisory Committee was formed, with representatives of five companies: one for each of the five areas of expertise in which the CITA-UB's services are offered.

In relation to the work of the **Government of Catalonia's reference networks for research**, the FBG took over the management of the agriculture network, bringing the number of networks managed by the FBG to six out of a total of eight. The FBG also oversees the **UB Entrepreneurship Chair**, which has organized a variety of activities as part of the University Entrepreneurship Network (XEU), a network formed by the main public universities in Catalonia to foster entrepreneurial spirit, promote innovative ideas and generate knowledge for assessing university entrepreneurship.

The FBG forged contacts with 11 of the 22 **Catalan clusters** identified by Acció, which are formed by a

## Research and technology transfer

# 7

## technology spin-offs

total of 1,000 companies that account for 30% of Catalonia's GDP. The FBG also maintained contacts with Connect-EU groups, with a view to the integration of UB research groups and taking an active role in the definition of new collaborative projects at national and European level.

Within the framework of the Spanish government's **Campus of International Excellence (CEI)** programme, three UB researchers were advised by the FBG and awarded funding through the *Fortalecimiento* sub-programme, which promotes public-private

collaboration, entrepreneurship and technological development. The researchers also received business support and advice from RedEmprendia.

In the area of **communication and dissemination**, the FBG organized a number of conferences to promote various forms of knowledge transfer, which were attended by nearly 400 people. The Coolinside project, which uses technology developed by the UB to create an electrosurgical device for coagulation and the cutting of biological tissues that can dramatically reduce blood loss during liver cancer operations and shorten hospital stays, was the invention displayed at the exhibition "Aquí, els nostres invents". The FBG showcased the board game *Inventum* at the public event "Festa Ciència i Tecnologia", and the game is now on display at the toy museum in Figueres.

### Special chairs

- Unesco Chair for the Environment and Sustainable Development
- Chair in Family-Owned Business
- Ramon Llull Chair
- Joaquim Xirau Chair
- Unesco Chair on Women, Development and Cultures
- Ramon Trias Chair on the Catalan Economy
- Unesco Chair in Bioethics
- Danone – Sant Joan de Déu Hospital Chair in Baby Nutrition and Environmental Health
- Pascual Maragall Chair of Economy and Territory
- UB Chair for Research and Training in Internal Medicine
- Entrepreneurship Chair
- UB Chair in Energy Sustainability
- Josep Termes Chair for Leadership, Citizenship and Identities
- Chair for the Integration of Disabled People in the Labour Market

The fifth annual **Board of Trustees and Bosch i Gimpera Foundation Awards** were presented to the researchers behind the best knowledge transfer project (Antoni Caparrós Award) and the most innovative business (Senén Vilaró Award). The winners were Dr Mercè Segarra of the Diopma Research Group, which is affiliated to the UB's Department of Materials Science and Metallurgical Engineering, for a project on copper recycling technology and how its transfer to a company encouraged the company to undertake continuous investment in R&D&i to get through the crisis; and the creators of the spin-off Neurotec Pharma SL, a company located in the PCB-Santander Bioincubator and represented at the event by Dr Marco Pugliese.

## Doctoral studies

The **Doctoral School** of the University of Barcelona (EDUB), formally created in March 2012, will be responsible for organizing the academic training and professional preparation of doctoral students within the framework of the UB's general science and research policy. It will give young researchers the chance to pursue their goals in a multidisciplinary environment framed within a coherent scientific project and structured across a variety of programmes.

The **mission** of the EDUB is to oversee the UB's doctoral programmes, promoting excellence, visibility and internationalization. The pursuit and support of academic excellence in the training of doctoral students will focus particularly on promoting knowledge generation and transfer, making the EDUB a key agent in the consolidation of the UB's international reputation as a centre for excellence in research.

The **strategic objective** of the EDUB is to build an administrative and academic model for doctoral studies at the UB that ensures the quality of the academic offering and facilitates efficient management. This encompasses the planning, implementation, monitoring and assessment of doctoral programmes and other training activities in the area of research, attaching particular importance to cross-disciplinarity.

During this academic year, the EDUB's offering comprised **71 cross-disciplinary doctoral pro-**

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The Gaia satellite will map the galaxy like never before. Around 400 European scientists are involved in this project, including 30 researchers and technicians from the UB's Department of Astronomy and Meteorology. The UB researchers played an important role in the conception and design of the instrument, and in the processing and simulation of mission data.

*El Punt Avui*, 24 October 2012

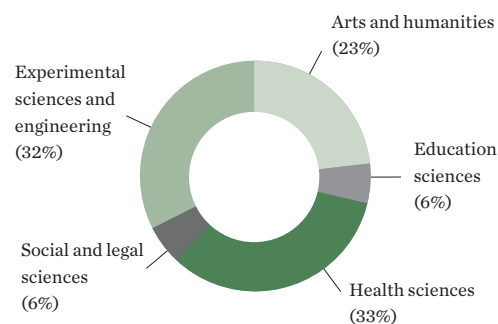
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**grammes** in the five branches of knowledge: experimental sciences and engineering, health sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities, and educational sciences. Four of the programmes are offered jointly with other universities in Spain and 31 have received **Pathway to Excellence Awards**, which are issued after an assessment made by the National Agency for Quality Assessment and Accreditation (ANECA) and awarded by the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport in recognition of the quality of a doctoral programme.

A total of **5,240 students** enrolled in doctoral programmes, 32.2% of them international students.

With respect to **doctoral qualifications**, the Governing Council presented 70 **special doctoral**

**Doctoral theses defended by branch of knowledge, 2012-2013**





A university at the forefront of research

Faculty of Biology

**Distribution of financial assistance for the preparation of doctoral theses provided by the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport (MECE), the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MEiC), the Government of Catalonia (GC) and the University of Barcelona (UB)**

	Grants and contracts		Financial aid for stays	
	Number <sup>1</sup>	Amount <sup>2</sup> (thousands of euros)	Number	Amount (thousands of euros)
For university teacher training (MECE) – FPU	207	3,132	49	279
For research staff training (MEiC) – FPI	223	2,725	71	437
For research staff training (GC) – FI	205	3,143	–	–
For trainee research staff (UB) – APIF	213	2,393	–	–
Teaching and research grants (UB) – ADR	38	243	–	–
For researcher training, UB-specific programme	2	26	–	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>888</b>	<b>11,662</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>716</b>

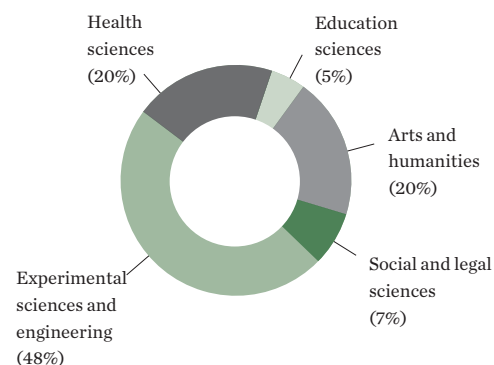
<sup>1</sup> Includes renewals of existing grants and contracts.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes enrolment fees.

**awards** for outstanding theses, corresponding to the academic year 2011-2012.

The total number of **doctoral theses read** in 2012-2013 was 589. In 2012, a new Royal Decree governing official doctoral studies came into effect, according to which universities must store successful doctoral theses in an institutional repository in using an open source format. To meet this requirement, changes were introduced to the procedure for the **electronic publication** of doctoral theses, and new templates were prepared and distributed for

**Financial assistance for doctoral theses, by branch of knowledge (based on number of grants)**



compiling data and enabling authors to control access to their theses. As of June 2012, doctoral theses are uploaded simultaneously to the TDX thesis and dissertation online repository and to the UB's own digital repository (DDUB). This year, a total of 382 UB doctoral theses were uploaded to the repositories, 378 of which were defended in 2012.

In the area of **internationalization**, the **European Commission** selected the Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorate in Fetal and Perinatal Medicine, which is coordinated by the UB with participation from the



Trainee  
researchers

589

doctoral theses  
read

Catholic University of Louvain and Lund University and will begin in 2013-2014. The UB also became a partner in the Erasmus Mundus Joint International Doctorate in Transdisciplinary Global Health Solutions (TransGlobe), coordinated by the University of Amsterdam with participation from the Institute of Tropical Medicine (Belgium) and Bordeaux Segalen University.

As part of a global strategy to promote the internationalization of doctoral programmes, the preparation of doctoral theses under joint supervision and the attainment of the title of European doctor, and to foster staff and student **exchanges** with France, the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport launched a call for funding requests that received applications from the Doctoral School of the University of Barcelona. A cooperation project in the field of biotechnology was submitted jointly with the French Institute of Doctoral Schools. The project, ED 436, is entitled “Medicine, Toxicology, Chemistry, Environment” and is carried out under a collaboration agreement with Paris Descartes University.

In the area of **research stays and joint thesis supervision**, 38 doctoral theses were prepared under joint supervision with other (predominantly European) universities in the academic year 2012-2013.

In order to regulate research stays and promote training activities for doctoral students of the University of Barcelona, the UB entered into agree-



Faculty of Medicine

ments with universities and research centres and began the process to conclude two framework agreements for the development of joint thesis supervision with the University of Antofagasta (Chile) and the Autonomous University of Nuevo León (Mexico).

The Doctoral School took part in **summer schools** organized by international networks of which the UB is a member, selecting candidates, managing travel, and providing funding for specific activities.

The **Industrial Doctorates Plan** is an initiative for the academic year 2013-2014 launched by the Cata-



Faculty of Physics

#### Doctoral School: international activities

- IFPU Doctoral Summer Seminar 2013 (Prague): Global Health in the 21st Century
- LERU Doctoral Summer School 2013 (Paris): Development of leadership skills for employment in enterprise, government and academia
- IRUN - BIT International Doctoral Forum 2013 (Beijing): Electronic Science & Technology
- IRUN - EU Summer School Information Foraging 2013 (Nimega): Computer Science, Information Science or Artificial Intelligence
- IRUN - Graduate Students Conference (Esztergom): Conference for Graduate Students, organized by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

lan government as part of its strategy to boost knowledge and technology transfer. A pilot scheme is already underway, and the University of Barcelona is participating in four of the selected research projects in the areas of physics and chemistry: “Nanoprint: the development of ceramic nano-devices printed with inkjet technology”; “Guaranteed microstructure optimization for a more sustainable manufacturing process: adaptation to 2011 legisla-

tion on new grades of materials”; “Development of a drug that can be produced on an industrial scale”, and “Microscale weather forecasting using adaptive numerical schemes”.

The Industrial Doctorates Plan provides new mechanisms for the integration of doctoral students into the research structures of companies and institutions to complete the activities for the preparation of their doctoral theses.

In October 2012, a call for funding applications was held to support the design of industrial doctorate proposals. The UB will coordinate successful proposals in the fields of materials, chemistry, geotechnology, biotechnology, ICTs, economics and health. The UB will also participate in a variety of projects coordinated by other Catalan universities in the areas of food, bioengineering, sustainable energy, cultural and creative industries, and information and communication technologies.



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“New things and ways of thinking are always being discovered. One of the great things about the UB is that they have people everywhere. Literally. This really helps when it comes to forming an opinion and an identity as an adult.”

Daniel Marín García,  
student, Law

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# 5

## A UNIVERSITY WITH INTERNATIONAL REACH

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International institutional activity

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

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## International institutional activity

The University of Barcelona's **international strategy** is built around four principal areas of action: focusing on the value of global research and education through unilateral promotion and particularly through agreements with prestigious universities in other countries; boosting multidisciplinary research on the most relevant topics today; adapting course offerings to meet changes in international demand; and ensuring that the organizational structure and management capacities have the necessary flexibility to implement the strategy successfully.

The University of Barcelona has a high degree of international integration, especially in the area of research and in associations with other institutions. UB teaching staff and other groups in the university community are encouraged to involve themselves in international initiatives of high scientific and academic value and receive support throughout the process. Indeed, all members of the university community should adopt an international perspective in their daily activities, to ensure the continuous modernization of the UB.

The **main areas** that form the focus of the UB's international policy in the medium term are: to extend the spatial and functional reach of its international actions; to increase mobility so that UB students have the widest possible range of options to take part in international experiences; to attract international students; and to integrate an inherently international perspective into the internal and external operations of the UB.



Clock Tower and Beltry of the Historic Building

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The University of Barcelona hosted the first Arab-Euro Conference on Higher Education, which was organized by the European University Association (EUA), comprised of around 800 universities in 47 countries, and the Association of Arab Universities (AAU), which has 600 members in 22 Arab countries. The result of this meeting was a strong commitment to seek cooperation agreements. It was decided that an annual conference should be held and a permanent secretary's office set up at the UB.

*Ara*, 3 June 2013

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“I believe my field of study is of a particular prestige coming from the University of Barcelona. Having studied at the UB will be impressive to people outside Spain.”

**Ben Hickman,**  
student, Applied Linguistics  
and Language Acquisition  
in Multilingual Contexts

In recent years the University of Barcelona has increased its level of interaction with research-intensive nations, has established centres in developing countries, and is forging relations with rapidly developing nations where there is great demand for higher education. It is continuing to explore other potential locations and increasing the number of research and education agreements and collaborations in which it takes a role. The UB is also building strong relations in the areas of international business and philanthropy. One of the UB's priorities is to establish joint postgraduate programmes with universities in other countries. It seeks to deepen ties with prestigious international research centres and to take advantage of all the potential benefits of belonging to the most influential international networks, such as the League of European Research Universities (LERU), the Coimbra Group, and the European University Association (EUA).

### **International institutional activity**

The University of Barcelona provides teaching in countries where there is an increasing demand for higher education. This is achieved through collaboration agreements with local institutions and by setting up offices to meet local demand with a quality product.

This academic year, the UB opened academic offices at three leading universities in Brazil, the United States and China. With the help of public funding

granted to the BKC campus of international excellence, the UB has entered into new agreements with the University of São Paulo, Nova Southeastern University, and Tongji University, Shanghai.

The University of Barcelona hosted the first meeting of the Consortium for Advanced Studies in Barcelona (CASB), a collaborative initiative developed by the nine leading US universities. In response to an increasing interest in Barcelona and Catalonia, the US partners offer their students the opportunity to complete placements at four of the most distinguished universities in Spain, which form the Barcelona Group (BG).

The UB organized and hosted the first Arab-Euro Conference on Higher Education (AECHE), which brought together the Association of Arab Universi-



Meeting of the Consortium for Advanced Studies in Barcelona (CASB) between Catalan and North American universities



First conference of the Arab-Euro  
Conference on Higher Education (AECHE)



ties (AAU) and the EUA and their members. The aim of this pioneering event was to promote cooperation between universities in these two major regions.

More than twenty delegations have visited the University, including representatives of university institutions, consulates and embassies from around the world (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Ecuador, Egypt, Japan, Mexico, Peru, Singapore, South Africa, Ukraine and the United States); private international organizations, such as the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), the Mediterranean Universities Union (Unimed) and Santander Bank; and the French, Japanese and Peruvian Ambassadors, among others.

At the same time, UB representatives have visited and attended meetings at the University of São Paulo; the Federal University of Santa Catarina; the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru; the University of Hong Kong; the University of Poitiers; the National University of Ireland, Galway; Ghent University; the Sapienza University of Rome; the Lomonosov Moscow State University; the Affiliate of South Ural State University in Nizhnevartovsk (Russia); Saint Petersburg State University; and Luhansk Taras Shevchenko National University (Ukraine).

Meetings of international networks have enabled the UB to build contacts with numerous universities and explore opportunities for collaboration. The UB has maintained a strong presence in the most influential European and international networks. It attended the Coimbra Group's General As-

sembly, which was organized by the National University of Ireland, Galway, and took part in meetings of the Group's various working committees. It also attended the general assembly of the EUA and other international meetings, such as those of the International Research Universities Network (IRUN), Unimed, the International Forum of Public Universities (IFPU) and the Vives Network of Universities.

During the academic year, 55 new exchange agreements were signed, adding to the 1,800 agreements already in place. Many of the new agreements have been signed with partner universities in Eastern Europe, Asia and the Middle East. The UB has also reinforced its existing partnerships in Europe, North America and Latin America.

Furthermore, the University of Barcelona has taken on the presidency of the board of the Confucius Institute of Barcelona, with the aim of strengthening ties with Chinese higher education institutions.

The University has continued to work with the Ramon Llull Institute to establish Catalan assistantships at international universities. It also participated in international fairs and exhibitions, including the International Exhibition and Conference on Higher Education at ar-Riyād, (Saudi Arabia), the conference and exhibition of the Asia Pacific Association for International Education in Hong Kong, and the 25th Annual Conference of the European Association for International Education in Istanbul.

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Dídac Ramírez, rector of the University of Barcelona, took up the two-year presidency of the board of the Confucius Institute of Barcelona, with the aim of strengthening cultural ties between China and Catalonia. The UB presidency began with the rector's trip to China as the guest of Hanban, the headquarters of the Confucius Institute.

*ABC*, 26 September 2013

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The University's desire to build a strong international profile is reflected in its impressive student **exchange figures**: more than 10,000 students from 126 different countries were involved in some capacity in the UB's internationalization initiatives over the past year.

The University obtained EU funding for its participation in 47 institutional teaching projects, ten of which it coordinates. In the framework of the Erasmus Mundus programme, the UB has headed six projects and taken part in a further four projects with universities in the rest of Europe, in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon, and in countries in the Maghreb and Sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean, the Pacific region, and the Persian Gulf. In total, more than 150 students and members of teaching and research staff were awarded Erasmus Mundus grants during academic year 2012-2013.

Actions to increase the visibility of internationalization at the University of Barcelona included the

organization of an institutional event to welcome international students and the Erasmus Staff Week, which was attended by 31 representatives of administrative and service staff from 17 countries.

Within the University, the International Mobility Committee has been promoted as a tool for communication between the Office of the Vice-Rector for International Relations and the faculties and university schools. The Committee is comprised of the vice-deans responsible for international relations in each of the schools and faculties; the International Mobility and Programmes office; and the Office of the Vice-Rector for International Relations. Strengthening the links between vice-rectors' offices has led to a growing number of Erasmus Mundus programmes in which the UB takes part. In addition, the Doctoral School is involved in international projects, one of which is the coordination of the Erasmus Mundus programme (Action 2) Nova Domus with European, Canadian and US universities.

Closing ceremony  
of the Erasmus  
Staff Week





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

## Student mobility

The number of UB students at foreign universities under mobility programmes totalled 1,322, which is 11.2% more than the figure for the previous academic year. The number of international exchange students at the UB reached 1,929, at the same levels as 2010-2011. In **Europe**, student mobility for academic and professional placements is largely organized under the **Erasmus** exchange programme. The preferred destinations of UB students over the course of the year were Italy, the Netherlands, Germany and the United Kingdom. By contrast, most of the international students at the UB came from Italy, Germany and France. The centres that sent the most students to foreign universities were the faculties of Economics and Business, Biology, and Teacher Training; the centres that welcomed the most international students were the faculties of Economics and Business, Philology, and Law. During the year, 35 UB students took part in preparatory minority-language courses



Institutional welcome of international students



at European universities, thanks to a funding agreement with the EU. Flemish, Italian and Slovenian proved the most popular language choices.

University of Barcelona students are offered placements in the **United States** and **Canada** under specific **bilateral agreements** with different universities. The number of UB students who took up placements in these countries was slightly higher than the previous academic year. A total of 271 American and Canadian students were welcomed to the UB under the **Study Abroad** programme, 14% less than the previous year. The faculties that sent most students to universities in these countries were Economics and Business, Fine Arts, Law, and Geography and History, while the largest numbers of incoming exchange students were received by the faculties of Geography and History, and Philology, under the Study Abroad programme, and Economics and Business, Law, and Psychology, under specific bilateral agreements.

The number of exchange students from the University of Barcelona travelling to **Latin America** remained at practically the same levels as the previous year, while the number of incoming exchange students from this region decreased by 9%, due to a reduction in funding from the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID). The preferred destinations of UB students were Mexico, Brazil and Chile, while the largest numbers of visiting students came from universities in Mexico, Brazil and Colombia.

Mobility in the frame-  
work of exchange  
programmes

1,929

international  
students welcomed  
to the UB

### Student mobility, by programme and geographical area

Programme	Europe (EU)	Central and Eastern Europe (non-EU)	United States and Canada	Latin America	Asia and Oceania	Total	% women
Erasmus: Academic study	1,022	54	0	0	0	<b>1,076</b>	67.7
Erasmus: Placements	85	11	0	0	0	<b>96</b>	70.8
Erasmus Mundus Action 2:							
Associations	0	8	0	0	0	<b>8</b>	75.0
Coimbra Group	5	2	0	0	0	<b>7</b>	71.4
Bilateral agreements	0	0	43	57	15	<b>115</b>	57.4
Individual applications	6	2	2	2	1	<b>13</b>	61.5
Interuniversity Centre for Development (Cinda)	0	0	0	7	0	<b>7</b>	71.4
<b>Total UB students</b>	<b>1,118</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1,322</b>	<b>67.0</b>

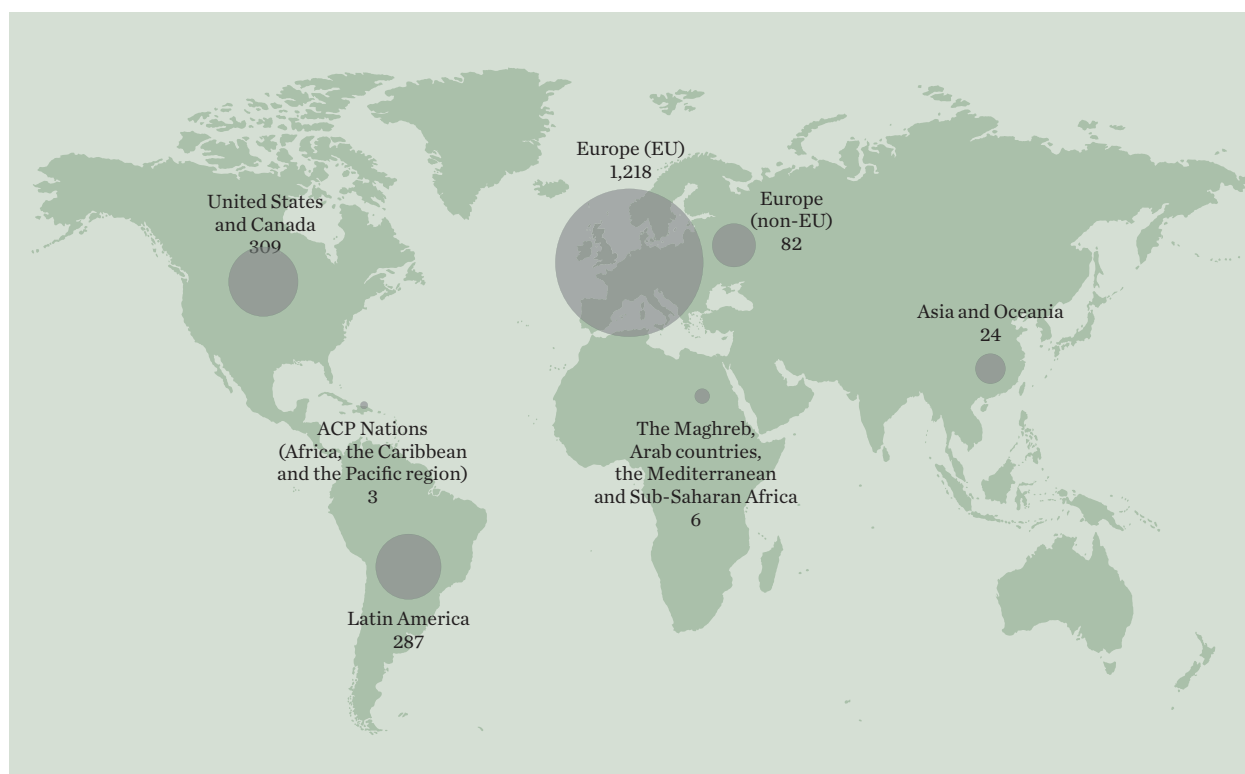
### International student mobility, by programme and geographical area

Programme	Europe (EU)	Central and Eastern Europe (non-EU)	United States and Canada	Latin America	The Maghreb, Arab countries, the Mediterranean and Sub-Saharan Africa	Asia and Oceania	ACP Nations (Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific region)	Total	% women
Erasmus: Academic study	1,131	54	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1,185</b>	67.3
Erasmus Mundus Action 1: Joint degrees	46	3	0	12	1	9	2	<b>73</b>	71.2
Erasmus Mundus Action 2: Associations	0	10	0	0	4	0	0	<b>14</b>	85.7
Coimbra Group	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>4</b>	75.0
Bilateral agreements	0	8	32	75	0	8	0	<b>123</b>	74.8
Individual applications	37	7	6	132	1	5	0	<b>188</b>	61.2
Specific US programmes (Study Abroad)	0	0	271	0	0	0	0	<b>271</b>	72.3
MAEC-AECID	0	0	0	21	0	2	1	<b>24</b>	58.3
Interuniversity Centre for Development (Cinda)	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	<b>10</b>	70.0
Science without Borders	0	0	0	26	0	0	0	<b>26</b>	76.9
Fundació Carolina	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	<b>11</b>	72.7
<b>Total international students</b>	<b>1,218</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1,929</b>	<b>68.3</b>

“The UB has an international profile thanks to experience accumulated over its long and historical existence. This gives it a certain advantage and is recognized internationally throughout diverse university environments.”

**Simón Campos Celada,**  
member of the administrative  
and service staff, Secretary's Office  
for Students and Teaching Staff,  
Faculty of Psychology

### International exchange students, by country of origin



For the first year, the UB has lent its support to an agreement between the State Secretariat for Education, Vocational Training and Universities of the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport and the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq) of the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation. As a result, Brazilian bachelor's degree students funded through the **Science without Borders** programme

have spent year-long placements at the UB. This year, a total of 26 Brazilian students completed periods of study with the faculties of Biology, Pharmacy and Chemistry.

Exchange actions with the **Maghreb, Arab countries, the Mediterranean and Sub-Saharan Africa** were carried out mainly under the Erasmus Mundus Action 1 and 2 programmes. Students involved in

Our commitment  
to international-  
ization

9,910  
international students from

126  
countries

these exchanges were from Jordan, Syria, Egypt and Qatar.

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

A new geographical area, the **ACP**, has been created that groups together African, Caribbean and Pacific nations. Within this area, students have come to the UB from Jamaica and Nigeria, as part of the Erasmus Mundus Action 1 programme, and from Senegal, with MAEC-AECID grants.

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

This year, the AECID did not provide funding through the Inter-University Cooperation and Scientific Research Programme (PCI). However, activities were ongoing in the framework of projects funded under the previous call for proposals and which have been granted extensions.

The involvement of administrative and service staff in Erasmus mobility placements increased with respect to the previous academic year: 24 members of staff took up the offer of placements at institutions in Italy, Finland, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Portugal, Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Ireland and Sweden.

The University of Barcelona also organized its third Erasmus Staff Week, which received 90 applications from which 32 participants were selected, from universities in Germany, Poland, Italy, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Greece, Hungary, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Cyprus, France, Ireland, the Czech Republic, Romania and Turkey.

### Other programmes. Erasmus Mundus

Under **Action 1** of the Erasmus Mundus programme, a total of 74 students took part in the current offer of master's degrees. Of these, 42 joined the Faculty of Psychology on the master's pro-

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

	UB teaching and research staff	UB administrative and service staff	International teaching and research staff	International administrative and service staff
Erasmus programme	42	24	-	33
Erasmus Mundus Action 2: Associations	1	-	7	-
Coimbra Group	-	-	1	-
Consortium for Advanced Studies in Barcelona (CASB)	1	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>33</b>



“The UB has a multidisciplinary collective of researchers, teams, organizational and support structures that is large and very solid, and an international profile that facilitates exchange and reinforces collaboration.”

Eliás Campo Güerri,  
full professor, Faculty of Medicine

gramme Work, Organizational and Personnel Psychology (WOP-P); 27 joined the Faculty of Teacher Training on the master's degree Learning and Teaching of Spanish in Multilingual and International Contexts (MULTIELE); and five joined the Faculty of Chemistry on the master's degree in Quality in Analytical Laboratories (EMQAL).

For the last time, a call for proposals was announced for joint master's degree and doctoral programmes. Two projects coordinated by the UB were selected: the **European master's degree in Quality in Analytical Laboratories** and the **doctorate in Fetal and Perinatal Medicine**. A further two projects, in which the University of Barcelona is an active partner, were also selected: the **international doctorate in Interdisciplinary Solutions for Global Health**, coordinated by VU University of Amsterdam, and the **master's degree in Chemical Innovation and Regulation**, coordinated by the University of the Algarve.

In the framework of **Action 2**, the UB welcomed 14 students and seven lecturers and researchers from universities in Russia, Jordan and Syria, while eight UB students and one lecturer completed placements at Russian universities.

Under the projects selected for the 2012 call for applications (**Eranet-Plus**, between Europe and Russia, which is coordinated by the University of Barcelona; **Avempace II** with Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and the Palestinian Territories, coordinated by the Technical University of Berlin; and **Stettin** with

ACP nations, coordinated by the Aix-Marseille University), placements at the UB were offered to 34 students, while 13 students, lecturers and researchers from the UB were offered international placements for the academic year 2013-2014.

In the framework of **Action 3**, two projects coordinated by the UB were selected: **Synergies and Innovation Linking Europe, the MENA region and the Gulf in Higher Education & Research**, which aims to act as a link between Europe, the Middle East, North Africa and the Persian Gulf area in order to create synergies between higher education institutions and industry in the three regions. The other project is **Boost Erasmus Mundus, europeAn higher education and Employability through video Sharing community (tuBEMATES)**. The aim of this project is to increase the visibility and attractiveness of European higher education by promoting and disseminating the transnational experience of Erasmus Mundus to Asian higher education institutions.

In the area of **calls for European cooperation in education** (Tempus, Edulink, Cost-Action, Europe for Citizens), a total of 48 proposals were prepared for consideration: 11 with the UB as project coordinator and 37 in which it acts as a project partner. The UB continues its coordination of two European projects: COST Action. Chemical Approaches to Targeting Drug Resistance in Cancer Stem Cells, and the intensive master's degree in History and Culture of Food. The UB is currently involved in 18 European projects: two as coordinator, and 16 as a project partner.











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