



Report
2022-2023
University of Barcelona



UNIVERSITAT DE
BARCELONA

Report
2022-2023
University of Barcelona

Edited by:
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This latest edition of the REPORT on the academic year at the University of Barcelona provides renewed evidence of our commitment to transparency and our accountability to the university community and to wider society. On the pages that follow, you will find a summary of the key data relating to the most prominent projects and activities we have carried out over the academic year 2022-2023.

Our teaching is innovative and of the highest quality, while the excellence of our research ensures a high impact, placing us among the European and global elite. A commitment to knowledge transfer, dissemination and internationalization, our engagement with people and society, and the pledge to uphold the values of ethics, inclusion, sustainability and welfare – together with memory and culture – have underpinned and will continue to guide the actions of our University.

I invite you, then, to read the REPORT on this academic year. As you will see, it reflects both the tangible results the institution has achieved and, more broadly, the rigour and responsibility with which all members of the University of Barcelona community approach their work.

Joan Guàrdia
Rector of the University of Barcelona



UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA



The University of Barcelona

UB identity ●

Structure and basic figures ●

Geographical distribution: campuses and faculties ●

• UB identity



- **Public.** The University of Barcelona is the foremost public university in Catalonia, ensuring universal access to higher education. Its results are conveyed to society and its goals are shared through teaching, research and knowledge transfer, contributing to social and scientific progress.
- **Historic and urban.** Founded in 1450, the UB is uniquely entwined with the city of Barcelona and its history. Its six campuses are spread across the city and act as hubs of activity in each of their locations. Moreover, these deep roots in the community extend across the metropolitan area (with schools and faculties in Badalona, Santa Coloma de Gramenet and L'Hospitalet de Llobregat) and much of the surrounding region.
- **Universally renowned.** The UB is renowned throughout Spain and the rest of the world as a benchmark for education, science and thought. This is reflected by its position in the foremost international rankings, its leadership in key changes of university policy, and its extensive participation in international networks. Its dynamic, critical, constructive, plural and human spirit is placed at the service of society, where it strives to defend values of freedom, democracy, justice, equality and solidarity.
- **Ethical and transparent.** The UB employs a model of good governance and comprehensive, efficient management for the allocation of resources, which bolsters its accountability and underpins its institutional and social leadership in the Catalan university system and beyond. These principles are also reflected in its research, which builds from a foundation of social responsibility and a commitment to open science.
- **Generalist and multidisciplinary.** The University offers a broad selection of bachelor's degrees, master's degrees and research projects covering the many disciplines that make up the principal branches of knowledge: arts and humanities, social sciences, health sciences, experimental sciences and engineering. Cooperation and collaboration within and among each of these disciplines is the key to the University's leading role in opening up the frontiers of knowledge and increasing its impact in every area of its activity.
- **Sustainable.** The UB is committed to and constantly reviews its efforts to support the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across all of its activities. The inclusion of cross-cutting areas such as gender equality and the climate emergency are a reflection of this commitment.
- **Inclusive.** The UB promotes and defends the equality of all people, especially the most vulnerable, and respects and protects the diversity and inclusion of all groups, beginning with the eradication of all types of gender discrimination. As part of this responsibility, it strives to safeguard the well-being of individuals in each aspect of their working conditions.
- **Committed to quality teaching.** The UB's community of more than 6,000 lecturers and professors pursues the shared goals of excellence and innovation in teaching. Each year, the demand for places exceeds availability by 30%, and student performance rates are currently 85% for bachelor's degrees and 92% for master's degrees. The teaching staff strive to adapt to emerging global challenges, like the growing use of artificial intelligence, and demonstrate a clear vocation for international collaboration, as reflected in the UB's renewed leadership of the CHARM-EU European university alliance.
- **Research-intensive.** Researchers from the UB – the only university in Spain to boast membership of the League of European Research Universities (LERU) – are cited in the most prestigious scientific publications. The research conducted at the UB and its facilities, such as the Barcelona Science Park and the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation, is carried out in close collaboration with leading actors in science, business and technology, working at the forefront of innovation.
- **Entrepreneurial and innovative.** The University of Barcelona, in particular through the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation, actively promotes business creation and provides funding, guidance and training resources for entrepreneurs. The UB prioritizes public impact in all its knowledge management endeavours and fosters innovative activities and projects that generate value for society.
- **Catalan and international.** The University of Barcelona is a key institution in the Catalan university system and a crucial actor in the management of knowledge in Catalonia. In addition to its contribution to the use and prestige of its core institutional language, Catalan, it is also involved in driving progress across the whole of Catalonia, engaging in international research and teaching to broaden cooperation and dialogue, especially with the rest of Europe and Latin America.

• Structure and basic figures



73,900
FOLLOWERS ON X

63,100
FOLLOWERS ON INSTAGRAM

218,000
FOLLOWERS ON FACEBOOK

• **Structure**

- 17 faculties
- 10 affiliated centres
- 60 departments
- 1 training and research unit
- 37 UB research structures
- 18 research structures with UB participation
- 661,821 sq m of constructed area

• **Course offering**

- 73 bachelor's degrees
- 16 dual study pathways
- 172 university master's degrees
- 47 doctoral programmes
- 956 postgraduate courses
- 802 lifelong learning courses (IL3)

• **Students**

- 41,095 bachelor's degree students
- 5,523 university master's degree students
- 10,994 postgraduate students (provisional data)
- 7,079 bachelor's degree graduates
- 3,039 university master's degree graduates
- 15,641 company placements

• **Teaching quality**

- 97 consolidated teaching innovation groups
- 118 active teaching innovation projects
- 82.6% PDI involved in training activities at the IDP-ICE
- 420 lecturers with positive evaluations in the teaching assessment process

• **Doctoral studies**

- 4,490 trainee researchers
- 742 doctoral theses read
- 20 industrial doctoral projects
- 10 joint supervision agreements signed

• **Research**

- €253,442,817 research funding secured
- 1,111 active research projects
- 10 projects awarded by the European Research Council
- 7,599 scientific publications
- 222 postdoctoral researchers
- 627 trainee predoctoral researchers
- 415 research technicians and assistants

• **Transfer activities**

- 737 Bosch i Gimpera Foundation contracts
- 87 patent applications
- 8 new technology-based spin-offs
- 310 Bosch i Gimpera Foundation researchers
- 111 Bosch i Gimpera Foundation research technicians and assistants

• **Internationalization**

- 1,419 UB students in mobility programmes
- 1,909 international students at the UB as part of mobility programmes
- 2,642 agreements with universities and other institutions outside Spain
- 72 active Erasmus+ programmes

• **People**

- 6,328 teaching and research staff
- 4,111 full-time-equivalent teaching and research staff
- 2,370 technical, management, and administrative and service staff (PTGAS)
- 406 interns in services and faculties

• **Gender**

- 64.8% women bachelor's degree students
- 57.2% women trainee researchers
- 48.8% women members of teaching and research staff
- 30.6% women full professors
- 63.8 % women members of technical, management, and administrative and service staff (PTGAS)

• **Budget**

- €485,663,213 total budget
- 77% of total income from public transfers
- 23% of total income from self-finance
- 89% current costs

• **Services**

- 16 libraries
- 1,731,506 monographs and print journals
- 19,084 UB Sports users
- 8,070 UB Alumni members
- 4,422 companies offering placements or jobs

• **Society**

- 9,384 direct beneficiaries of the actions of the UB Solidarity Foundation
- 43% reduction in water consumption (2017-2021)
- 30 students received under the UB's support programme for refugees and people fleeing conflict zones
- 6 international development cooperation projects
- 14 University of Experience programmes

• **Culture**

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

• **Sustainability**

- Data relating to the period 2018–2022:
- 13% reduction in water consumption
- 10% reduction in electricity consumption
- 20% reduction in natural gas consumption
- 18% reduction of total CO₂ emissions

Information correct at:
 • Staff: December 2022
 • Teaching: June 2023
 • Research: May 2023

Faculties

| | Bachelor's degrees | | | University master's degrees ² | | | Doctoral | Teaching and research staff (PDI) | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| | Bachelor's degrees ¹ | Bachelor's degree students | Bachelor's degree graduates | University master's degrees | University master's degree students | University master's degree graduates | Trainee researchers | Permanent PDI | Non-permanent PDI |
| Biology | 6 | 1,935 | 380 | 16 | 434 | 289 | 401 | 186 | 203 |
| Chemistry | 3 | 1,465 | 214 | 11 | 221 | 135 | 250 | 140 | 125 |
| Earth Sciences | 2 | 411 | 88 | 4 | 58 | 41 | 130 | 56 | 49 |
| Economics and Business | 5 | 6,645 | 981 | 18 | 607 | 263 | 248 | 251 | 395 |
| Education | 5 | 5,803 | 1,207 | 14 | 851 | 589 | 281 | 141 | 517 |
| Fine Arts | 3 | 1,511 | 262 | 5 | 77 | 40 | 106 | 59 | 165 |
| Geography and History | 5 | 2,732 | 408 | 12 | 573 | 234 | 411 | 128 | 159 |
| Information and Audiovisual Media | 2 | 584 | 93 | 6 | 132 | 50 | 28 | 35 | 41 |
| Law | 6 | 5,241 | 894 | 12 | 538 | 248 | 237 | 153 | 295 |
| Mathematics and Computer Science | 2 | 1,154 | 173 | 3 | 58 | 34 | 89 | 61 | 59 |
| Medicine and Health Sciences | 6 | 4,352 | 839 | 12 | 476 | 307 | 1,607 | 310 | 1,386 |
| Pharmacy and Food Sciences | 3 | 2,486 | 410 | 7 | 187 | 157 | 319 | 148 | 240 |
| Philology and Communication | 11 | 2,828 | 424 | 9 | 314 | 144 | 265 | 149 | 193 |
| Philosophy | 1 | 715 | 100 | 6 | 139 | 51 | 175 | 27 | 47 |
| Physics | 2 | 1,141 | 206 | 13 | 306 | 189 | 199 | 136 | 151 |
| Psychology | 1 | 2,092 | 400 | 10 | 426 | 205 | 244 | 104 | 219 |
| % women | — | 64.8 | 66.7 | — | 63.6 | 63.3 | 57.2 | 43.5 | 51.3 |
| Total | 61 | 41,095 | 7,079 | 159 | 5,523 | 3,039 | 4,990 | 2,084 | 4,244 |

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

EMPLOYABILITY

According to the eighth employment outcomes survey, carried out by the Catalan University System Quality Assurance Agency (AQU) in 2023, the **employment rates** for UB graduates are 89.6% for bachelor's degree holders, 92.0% for master's degree holders and 96.8% for doctoral degree holders.

Position in the foremost international rankings

1 Shows the UB's ranking in Spain



Position in the QS World University Rankings by subject

| Scope | World position |
|---|----------------|
| Arts and humanities | 97 |
| Engineering and technology | 147 |
| Life sciences and medicine | 57 |
| Natural sciences | 65 |
| Social sciences and business management | 107 |

HIGHLY CITED RESEARCHERS

The University of Barcelona is, once again, the university in Spain with the most researchers considered among the most influential researchers in the world, and it is the second-ranked research centre in Spain, after the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC). The UB has a total of 11 researchers in the prestigious Clarivate Analytics list, which names the experts that lead research projects with the greatest international impact in several fields of study.

• Geographical distribution: campuses and centres

CEI International Affairs

Sant Joan de Déu Teaching Campus

Diagonal Knowledge Gateway Campus

- Faculty of Biology
- Faculty of Chemistry
- Faculty of Earth Sciences
- Faculty of Economics and Business
- Faculty of Fine Arts
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Pharmacy and Food Science
- Faculty of Physics
- Barcelona Science Park
- Penyafort-Montserrat Hall of Residence
- Science and Technology Centres
- Sports
- Student Support Service (SAE)
- Yugo Aleu University Residence

School of New Interactive Technologies (ENTI)

Pavelló Rosa – General Services

International University Center of Barcelona (UNIBA) – Barcelona Culinary Hub (BCH)

Campus Sants

- Faculty of Information Science and Audiovisual Media
- General services

Clínic Campus August Pi i Sunyer

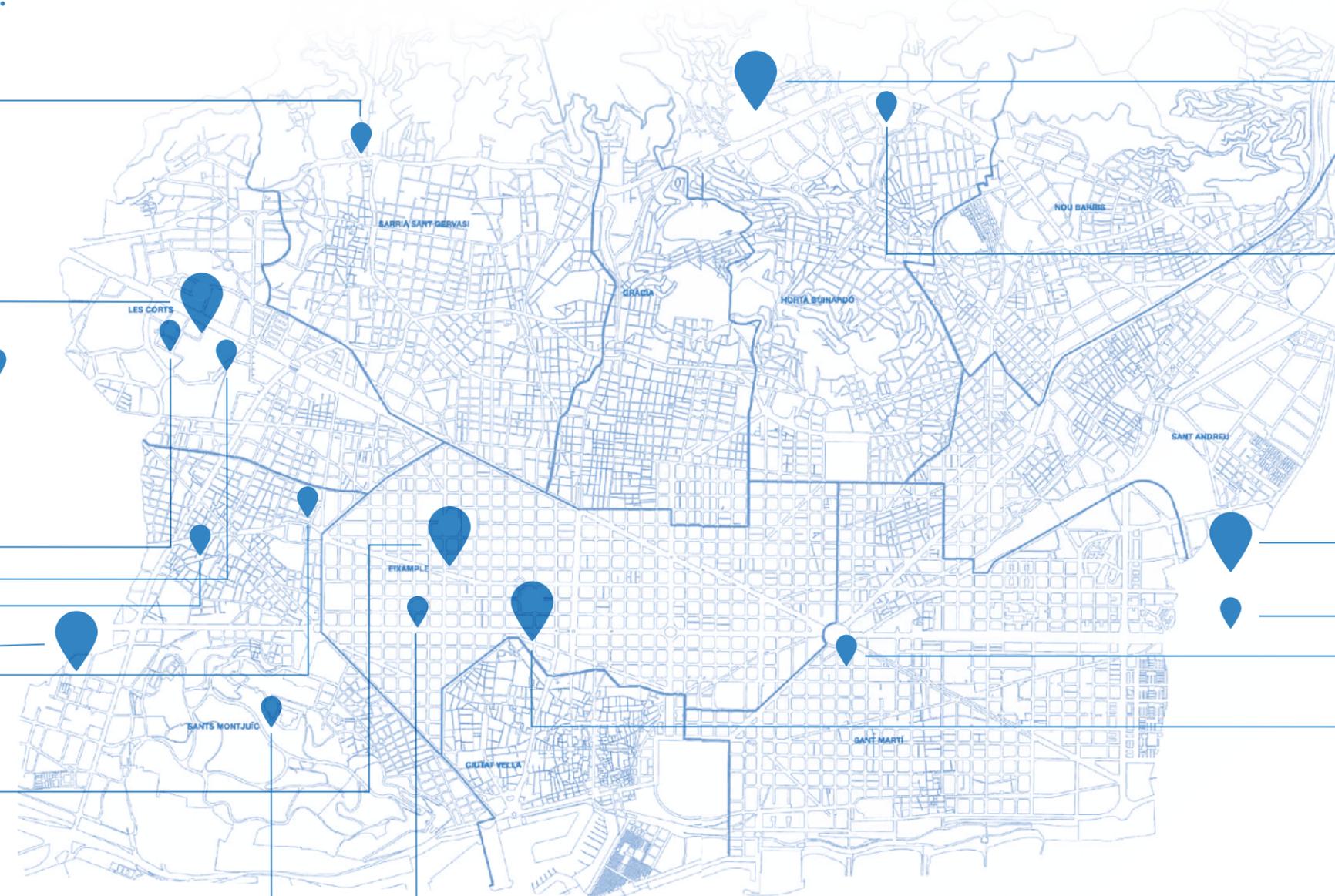
- Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences
- Faculty of Nursing
- Hospital Clínic of Barcelona

Bellvitge Campus

- Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences
- Faculty of Nursing
- University Hospital of Bellvitge

School of Public Relations (ESRP)

National Institute of Physical Education of Catalonia (INEFC)



Mundet Campus

- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Psychology
- Institute for Professional Development (IDP-ICE)

Barcelona School of Tourism, Hospitality and Gastronomy (CETT-UB)

School of Cinema and Audiovisual Studies of Catalonia (ESCAC)

Institute of Public Safety of Catalonia (ISPC)

Torribera Campus

- Faculty of Pharmacy and Food Science

El Carme Cultural Center

Institute for Lifelong Learning (IL3)

Plaça Universitat Campus and Raval Campus

- Faculty of Geography and History
- Faculty of Philology and Communication
- Faculty of Philosophy
- Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science
- Alumni
- Doctoral School
- Institute of Hispanic Studies
- School of Modern Languages (EIM)
- Rector's Office, General Manager's Office and general services

661,821sqm

OF CONSTRUCTED SURFACE
area across 6 urban campuses
and other buildings

103,597sqm

OF TEACHING FACILITIES
(classrooms, computer rooms and
teaching laboratories)

42,113sqm

OF RESEARCH LABORATORY
FACILITIES



1

A university engaged with society

Transparency, ethics and good governance

Sustainability and quality of life

Institutional, cultural and heritage activities

Commitment to society

Entrepreneurship and innovation

◀ Concert celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Historic Building.



• Transparency, ethics and good governance

The name of the University of Barcelona is synonymous with a dedication to service to society and the defence of the values of free thought, critical awareness and positive progress, as well as a guarantee of quality and innovation in all the areas in which it is active. The University's policies on ethics, integrity, transparency and good governance are periodically updated and expanded upon and ensure **open, accessible, participative governance**.

Over the years, the UB has developed its own framework of **institutional integrity** through the approval of specific policies in this area. The University's **Regulations on Transparency, Access to Public Information and Good Governance**; the **Code of Ethics on Integrity and Good Practices**; and the **Mechanisms for Compliance with Regulations on Institutional Integrity at the University of Barcelona** set the highest standards of behaviour and strengthen the process by which the University holds itself accountable to society.

This year saw the launch of the **UB's Ethics and Institutional Integrity Mailbox**, which assesses and responds to messages and queries, while the **Ethics Committee** continued its work throughout the University. In addition, the UB's **Anti-Fraud Committee** consolidated the functions assigned to it, and anti-fraud

committees were created for all UB Group entities. The University also continued to implement its **Code of Conduct for University of Barcelona Officers and Senior Officers**, which sets out values, principles, guidelines and models of conduct and serves as a set of objectives and commitments for those responsible for the institution. Seventy-six percent of the UB's elected officers have signed the commitment so far.

Together, these initiatives comprise the essential elements for establishing a united sense of community at the University of Barcelona. The Governing Council's approval of the **regulation which approves the University of Barcelona's policy on peaceful co-existence and outlines conflict resolution mechanisms** complements the Code of Ethics, which has become a key instrument for establishing those rules and their interpretation.

In issues related to **equality**, the University continued to implement its **Third Equality Plan**, approved in 2020, through actions in all of the plan's focus areas. To increase the public visibility of the institutional equality policies included in the first focus area, the website of the Equality Unit was updated and the Equality Unit was added to the SocUB app.

Negotiations continued with social partners regarding the Plan's third focus area, which resulted in the approval of the Negotiating Committee Regulations, and a company was appointed to diagnose the situation based on the data from the same focus area. In

relation to the Care Working Group, a breastfeeding and care room was opened on the Bellvitge Campus, and several faculties joined the network of Sustainable Menstruation Friendly Toilets. In addition, this academic year saw the publication of the *Guide to Care, Work-life Balance and Time Management in the University Community*, which gives advice on how to more effectively combine work and home life and manage time in line with the universal right to a balanced life.

With regard to the fourth focus area of the Equality Plan, dedicated to teaching with a gender perspective, the Gender Perspective in Teaching, Research and Transfer Working Group published *Cross-disciplinary Rubrics for Introducing the Gender Perspective in Teaching Plans*, and offered a modular course called The Gender Perspective in Teaching, Research, Transfer and Quality Processes.

The fifth focus area is dedicated to research and transfer and this year included the fifth edition of the **Clara Campoamor and Rosalind Franklin Awards** for the best bachelor's degree and master's degree final projects with a gender perspective. The awards for the previous edition were also awarded during the academic year. In addition, the second **Badia and Margarit Awards** were held for the best thesis written in Catalan as were awards in categories like best thesis on equality and other sustainable development goals. As part of the **UB classrooms named after women** campaign, the third building of the Faculty

• UB bodies engaged in social responsibility and ethics

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



The 2nd Badia and Margarit Awards for best thesis written in Catalan was announced, in the gender equality category.

of Biology was named after the scientist Mercè Durfort and, within the Faculty itself, the Berta Cáceres Student Centre was inaugurated. The Núria Folch Philosophy Seminar Room was also inaugurated in the Faculty of Philosophy.

Actions in the sixth focus area of the Plan included the publication of *The Guide for Following the University of Barcelona Protocol for Preventing, Identifying and Responding to Sexual Harassment and Harassment on Grounds of Gender, Gender Identity or Sexual Orientation, and Other Sexist or LGBTIQ+-phobic Behaviour*. In addition, the protocol, updated and approved by the Governing Council, was the focus of a publicity campaign in different media and on a variety of platforms.

As part of the implementation of activities within the seventh focus area on diversities, a collaboration agreement was signed with the Department of Equality and Feminisms in response to the need for support, assistance and guidance of people in situations of discrimination or any type of violence, including harassment due to sexual orientation or gender identity and expression, and an action roadmap was drawn up.

Along the same lines, the LGTBIQ+ Working Group organized several events, such as the celebration of Lesbian Visibility Day, during which the prize for the Santa Jordina competition was awarded; the addition of inclusive toilets in the Faculty of Information and Audiovisual Media; and participation in the 2nd Meeting of the Universities for Diversity Network (RUD).

Events were also organized on 25 November to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women; 11 February for the International Day of Women and Girls in Science; and 8 March in honour of International Women's Day. Training courses were also held on preventing and addressing gender-based violence, subsidized under the State Pact against Gender-Based Violence. One example is the course called Following the University of Barcelona Protocol for Preventing Male Violence and LGTBIQ+-phobic Violence, which was offered in collaboration with the IDP-ICE. In commemoration of 25N, one conference was held on cyber-violence and another on the visualization of male violence in contemporary art. In addition, a manifesto on 25N was read and the Clara Campoamor Awards were presented for the best bachelor's degree final projects with a gender perspective.

The University continued its involvement in national and international **networks** dedicated to gender, such as the Vives University Network, the Network of Gender Equality Units for University Excellence (RUIGEU), the Women and Science Committee of the Interuniversity Council of Catalonia, the Universities



for Diversity Network (RUD), and the equality committees of many other international networks.

Ten cases underwent processes of **mediation** this academic year, and the **Ombuds Office** continued its work to safeguard the rights and freedoms of UB students, teaching and research staff and technical, management, and administrative and service staff. In 2022-2023, the Office dealt with 109 cases and responded to 187 queries.

• Sustainability and quality of life

The UB remains fully committed to achieving the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This year, the **Sustainable Development Committee** spearheaded the drafting of the **University of Barcelona's Agenda 2030**, an action plan for integrating the SDGs into the University and published the fourth **Sustainability Report**. The report specifies the social, economic and environmental impact of the University in the academic year 2020-2021 and includes the contributions that have been made to the SDGs and the goals of the Agenda 2030. The standards of the GRI (Global Reporting Initiative), adapted to the university context, were applied in the preparation of the report, and for the first time a paper-based leaflet was published featuring some of the highlights of the report.

Throughout the academic year, actions were undertaken related to **sustainability and environmentally responsible behaviour** included in the **Roadmap** of sustainability measures. The plan envisages actions over the course of three years and sets out the following objectives: progressively adapt UB buildings to environmental regulations; strengthen sustainability requirements in administrative contracts and concessions; promote sustainable mobility; encourage a culture of consumption that minimizes the generation of waste; improve safety in teaching and research laboratories; incorporate the perspective of sustainable development into the academic curriculum; foster the development of a more inclusive university, and set a date to achieve carbon neutrality at the UB by 2050. To implement these objectives, eight working groups have been established to assess, diagnose and propose actions to achieve them.

This academic year, the University of Barcelona was designated, together with the Technical University of Catalonia (UPC-BarcelonaTech), as the representative of the university sector in the Barcelona Citizens' Council for Sustainability. The Council is an advisory and participatory body that acts in areas related to sustainability and which seeks to promote new strategies for the involvement, accountability and participation of citizens' organizations.

The introduction of the SDGs in teaching was reinforced through the UB's collaboration with other universities in the League of European Research

A COMMITMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENT

13.4% reduction in water consumption since 2018

Global and SDG position in THE Impact Rankings

| THE IMPACT RANKINGS 2022 Ed.2023 | | OVERALL POSITION |
|--|----------------------------|------------------|
| | | 101-200 |
| 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | POSITION 101-200 | |
| 1,218 | Participating institutions | |
| 4 QUALITY EDUCATION | POSITION 93 | |
| 1,304 | Participating institutions | |
| 5 GENDER EQUALITY | POSITION 101-200 | |
| 1,081 | Participating institutions | |
| 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE | POSITION 63 | |
| 873 | Participating institutions | |
| 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES | POSITION 98 | |
| 860 | Participating institutions | |
| 13 CLIMATE ACTION | POSITION 75 | |
| 735 | Participating institutions | |
| 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS | POSITION 47 | |
| 910 | Participating institutions | |
| 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS | POSITION 201-300 | |
| 1,625 | Participating institutions | |

Universities (LERU) within the framework of the ad hoc sustainability group established for that purpose. This year, the group prepared an article on the League's position in this area.

In addition, a training course was held for technical, management, and administrative and service staff called Words or Deeds: Introducing SDGs into Your Work.

In the area of **safety, health and the environment**, some of the initiatives worked on over the course of the academic year include managing health and safety in the workplace; promoting prevention in all areas of the university community; providing support for research; promoting emergency preparedness and response; fostering sustainability; and ensuring social care. A total of 727 activities were completed in these areas.

The **Technical Unit of the Risk Prevention Service** offered the university community specific informative documentation and online training content on health and safety for field activities in the Antarctic area, in oceanographic expeditions and in the maritime environment. In addition, further training was provided for those in charge of the groups that lead these outings and specific risk assessment documents were drawn up for the different tasks they undertake.

The **Medical Service** performed 863 job-specific medical examinations, 280 of which were for at-risk groups; received and processed 1,794 illness reports; attended



to 104 workplace accidents, and administered 737 flu vaccinations to UB staff, thanks to collaboration with public health authorities and the accreditation of the UB health centre.

In the **area of training**, 722 people took part in the 19 training courses organized during the year, including a seminar on risk prevention in research laboratories, which was attended by 302 participants. The Welcome Plan on safety, health, environment and social care for new staff was also maintained with the participation of 245 workers. In addition, the Medical Service provided the ASI+DEA (immediate medical assistance and defibrillation) course to 45 people and the refresher course in basic life support with AED to 61 people, both in relation to the Self-Protection Plan.

Significant progress was also made in the area of the **environment** with a new evaluation under the aegis of the voluntary agreements programme for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, an initiative of the Catalan Office for Climate Change of the Government of Catalonia. The emissions inventory for 2021 totalled 24,755 tonnes of CO₂, of which 3,948 were direct and 20,807 indirect. A programme of measures and actions was presented to reduce these emissions in 2022. The values detected increased compared to the previous year due to the recovery of mobility and the incorporation of new categories of emissions in the inventory.

The UBici Fleet was launched as part of the UB's commitment to promoting sustainable mobility. The



fleet consists of twenty bicycles on loan for work-related journeys. In the same vein, the campaign to improve safety in parking areas for scooters and bicycles in buildings also continued this year. Various selective waste collection points were also set up, the network of water fountains available in buildings was extended, and the UB administered the third edition of its sustainable mobility survey.

In the area of **social care**, the UB published information on public services for citizens, as well as monthly health tips and recommendations for healthy habits within the framework of the Business Solidarity Programme of the Spanish Association against Cancer (AECC), in which the UB participates. The UB's 2022 calendar provided monthly messages on the Decalogue of Positive Mental Health and the 2023 calendar was designed with advice on workplace ergonomics and organization. In addition, the University marked World No Tobacco Day with the publication of a new video calling for the compliance with smoke-free areas inside and outside of campus buildings; it held the 16th UB Toy Drive in collaboration with the Red Cross, and it continued collecting bottle caps for charity in collaboration with the ForçAME Association.

A COMMITMENT TO SPORT

100 medals won in university championships in Catalonia, Spain and Europe

UB Saludable joined forces with the Sport Service this year to begin the procedure to obtain the international Healthy Campus seal under the auspices of the International University Sports Federation (FISU), the only international organization devoted to projects of this nature. The certification is an initiative that aims to improve the well-being of the university community in every aspect: physical, mental and social. The initial objectives are to establish a general health promotion policy at the UB, determine primary areas of focus and strategic lines of action, and implement the actions required to accomplish them. A monitoring system will be established with indicators with which to evaluate the impact of the policy and ensure continuous improvement on an annual basis.

The UB remained the chair of the Catalan Network of Healthy Universities and contributed to the organization of Healthy Week. In Spain, the University of Barcelona continued its membership in the Spanish Network of Health Promoting Universities (REUPS), with which it has collaborated on several projects.

In addition, the Survey of Healthy Habits in Catalan Universities was administered, the University participated in the project of the Agency for the Management of University and Research Grants (AGAUR) focused on mental health, and a new edition of the awards was held for the best bachelor's and master's degree final projects on healthy habits and health promotion in relation to the SDGs.

The UB has 100,000 sq m of facilities dedicated to encouraging the **practice of sport** of different types, promoting healthy habits and values and fostering a sense of belonging to the UB community. These facilities also contribute to achieving the SDGs, in which sport can have substantial impact (healthy sporting activities and sustainable sporting events; projects to improve the education of vulnerable people and groups; programmes for groups with special needs; and the promotion of women's sport and sports training for girls and women, among others). This academic year, 19,333 people used UB Sports facilities and services.

As part of #BeActive, the European Week of Sport sponsored by the European Commission, the UB was honoured with an award from the Spanish National Sports Council for its contribution to the promotion of physical activity and a healthy lifestyle.

UB Sports is also active in **competitive** sports as the manager of the **Lligues Universitàries de Barcelona**, an amateur competition in which 1,805 students participated this academic year. In addition, 4,015 UB students (1,507 women and 2,508 men) took part in various **official university competitions** held in Catalonia, Spain and Europe, taking home a total of 100 medals (38 gold, 30 silver and 32 bronze).

This year, 561 students (236 women and 323 men) took part in the **Catalan University Championships (CCU)**, and the University won a total of 74 medals (26 gold, 24 silver and 24 bronze) in both individual and team sports. The UB won 22 medals (eight

UB SPORTS

19,333 users of UB Sports facilities and services

gold, six silver and eight bronze) in the **Spanish University Championships (CEU)**, putting the University in third place among public universities in Spain and in first place in Catalonia in terms of the number of medals won. The UB was well represented at the Championships, with 121 students (76 women and 25 men) competing across 14 sports.

This year saw the debut of a new university basketball competition, the **University Cup**, in which the UB's men's and women's teams won both the Catalan phase and the national final round, taking home a total of four gold medals. And at the **European University Championships (EUC)**, held in Tirana (Albania), the UB's women's football team took seventh place.

The organization Catalan University Sport (ECU) recognized 16 students from the University of Barcelona as the **best university sportsmen and women** in their sports, while rugby player Anna Puig and athlete Miquel Domènech were named the **best overall athletes** of the 2022-2023 academic year.

This year also saw the ninth edition of the **Unirun**, in which 1,504 runners (792 women and 712 men) participated. The UB won the university race for the eighth time, in addition to taking home wins in the men's and women's categories.

In addition, 154 students (83 women and 71 men) enjoyed the **Tutoresport UB** programme, which aims to help high-level university athletes strike a balance between excellence in sport and academic success.

The programme operates thanks to the essential contribution of over 50 teacher-tutors who help these students more effectively combine their dedication to sport and their academic endeavours.

Over the course of the academic year, 648 students and 477 technical, management, and administrative and service staff and teaching and research staff were involved in specific **health promotion** activities.



University of Barcelona athletes won both the men's and women's categories at the 9th Unirun race.



Maria del Mar Bonet and Joan Manuel Serrat received honorary doctorates.

ties through various programmes, including courses with ECTS credits, conferences (Smoke-free Week, Nordic Walking, World Health Week, European Sports Week), UB training courses and UB Senior courses for lifelong learners over the age of 55.

Institutional, cultural and heritage activities

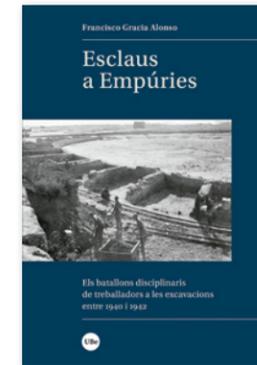
During the academic year 2022-2023, the University of Barcelona celebrated the **150th anniversary** of the inauguration of the University's first academic year in the Historic Building, which took place in 1872. A wide variety of activities, projects and initiatives were planned and implemented to commemorate the event and were enjoyed by the entire university community and society as a whole. In addition, a publicity campaign was launched specially for the anniversary, featuring an image created specifically for the campaign as well as internal and external media.

The celebration set the stage for other **institutional activities** like the opening ceremony for the academic year, which included several dramatized readings with actors and actresses playing the parts of the major characters involved in the historical inaugura-

tion of 1872. Fragments of works by the poet Joan Maragall and the writer Teresa Pàmies were also read, in which the authors relate their experiences in the Historic Building.

Several **honorary degrees** were awarded over the course of the academic year, to the musicians **Joan Manuel Serrat** and **Maria del Mar Bonet**, the philologist **José Antonio Pascual Rodríguez**, the chemist **Roberta Sessoli** and the Nobel Prize winner in Chemistry **Fraser Stoddart** at the proposal of the Rector's Office and the faculties of Philology and Communication, Chemistry, and Pharmacy and Food Sciences.

The **Doctors' Senate**, which currently has 1,488 members, awarded its **26th Doctors' Senate Award** to Dr Pedro Tiago da Silva Gonçalves Martins from the Department of Catalan Philology and General Linguistics of the Faculty of Philology and Communication for his work entitled "Sound production learning across species: beyond the vocal learning dichotomy". In addition, the Doctors' Senate and Board of Trustees awarded the 9th and 10th distinctions for the best scientific and humanistic dissemination activities to Dr Eduard Vieta Pascual, professor of psychiatry of the Department of Medicine, Enrique Bassat Orellana, lecturer in the Department of Medicine, and Judit Vall Castelló, lecturer in the School of Economics.



Francisco Gracia Alonso was awarded for his book *Esclaus a Empúries*.

The panel of judges for the 18th **Board of Trustees Awards** presented the José Manuel Blecua Award to Dr Eric Gómez Aznar, and the Ramon Margalef Award went to Dr Alfonso Ferrández Roldán. In the 14th edition of the awards programme, organized in conjunction with the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation, the Antoni Caparrós Award was presented to Dr Josep María Suñé Negre for his project "Generic veterinary medicine", and Dr Santiago Seguí Mesquida, for his project titled "Detection of intestinal tract pathologies using artificial intelligence", while the Senén Vilaró Award for the best innovative company went to ColorSensing.

During this academic year, over fifty bachelor's degree **graduation ceremonies** were held, and special awards were presented again this year to outstanding bachelor's, master's and doctoral students. In addition, **administrative and service staff who have been working at the UB for 25 years** were recognized for their dedication and a warm farewell was bid to **technical, management, and administrative and service staff, and teaching and research staff who retired** this year.

The following **awards and distinctions** received by the university community's teaching and research staff during the academic year 2022-2023 are particularly noteworthy.

| Award or distinction | Winner |
|---|---|
| Vicens Vives Prize for teaching quality | Consolidated Teaching Innovation Group on Data Analysis in Business and Economics (ANDES) |
| 2023 National Genetics Award | Julio Rozas Liras |
| Gold Medal for Scientific Achievement from the Barcelona City Council | Montserrat Agudé Porres |
| Serra d'Or Critics' Award for Translation | Adelina Millet Albà and Lluís Feliu Mateu |
| New member of the Spanish Royal Academic of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences | Xavier Ros Oton |
| New member of the United States National Academy of Medicine | Pedro Alonso Fernández |
| New judge of the Constitutional Court | Laura Díez Bueso |
| 2023 Joan Lluís Vives Award for best book in social sciences, arts and humanities | Francisco Gracia Alonso |

GUIDED TOURS

249 tours of the Historic Building, 10 of the Pedro i Pons Estate and 12 of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at the Clínic Campus

4,729 attendees

Àngels Pelegrín Solé, lecturer at the Faculty of Economics and Business and the University of Barcelona's coordinator for relations with East Asia, was awarded the **Order of the Rising Sun with Raig d'Or and the Insignia de Coll** by the Japanese government. In addition, the journal *Sàpiens* awarded the Honorary Prize for History to Professor Eulàlia Duran Grau for her distinguished academic career, and the Prize for Best Research to the historian Alejandro Acosta López for his work on the Spanish volunteers in the French Foreign Legion during the First World War.

As an institution as a whole, the UB was distinguished as a **Centenary Entity of Barcelona** by the Barcelona City Council. The distinction recognizes the history and development of organizations that are at least 100 years old and have a proven track record linked to the city of Barcelona.

The **guided tour service** hosted a total of 271 activities during the 2022-2023 academic year for 4,729 participants: 249 tours of the Historic Building, 12 of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at the Clínic Campus, and 10 of the Pedro i Pons Estate.

The UB also made progress in terms of **infrastructure projects** this year with the launch of a plan for the next decade including the signing of the protocol of the MIES project to promote research and talent in the fields of mathematics, computer science, economics and health. Moreover, actions aimed at improving the sustainability, accessibility and energy efficiency of UB campus buildings continued, and an

agreement was signed with the Barcelona Provincial Council for improvements to the Mundet Campus. Work also began on the installation of charging points for electric vehicles in all UB car parks.

One of the **heritage research and dissemination projects** that the University of Barcelona took part in during the academic year was the organization of the conference titled "Barcelona and the University: the city and higher education, 1401-2009", which was held at the Barcelona History Museum. In addition, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Historic Building, the lecture "The Return of the University to Barcelona, 1821-1872" was given by Professor Emeritus of the UB Jordi Casassas Ymbert, who described the circumstances in which this historic process of restitution took place.

Also of note was the project "The Caring City: Architecture, Medicine and Heritage in Barcelona", which aimed to catalogue and publicize the scientific heritage linked to the University of Barcelona. The project was sponsored by Barcelona City Council, the Royal Monastery of Pedralbes, the Library of Catalonia and the Barcelona Cathedral, and 620 people took part in the 32 activities held.

Efforts to **conserve and restore the University's historical heritage** continued with the start of a major project to restore the main doors in the foyer of the Historic Building and to upholster the benches in the auditorium. In addition, an exhaustive report was drawn up on the University's **historic classrooms** – ten class-



The exhibition, "The Historic Building of the University of Barcelona: 150 years in images".

rooms in the Historic Building whose architecture or furnishings clearly point to their historical importance and whose uniqueness and rarity make them worthy of preservation.

During this academic year, the sponsor-a-document campaign titled **Apadrina un document: Mecenas UB** was launched to raise funds to restore two unique editions: *Ars magna lucis et umbrae, in decem libros digesta* by Athanasius Kircher (1646), and *Relations de divers voyages curieux qui n'ont point esté publiées, et qu'on a traduit ou tiré des originaux...* by Melchisédech Thévenot (1696).

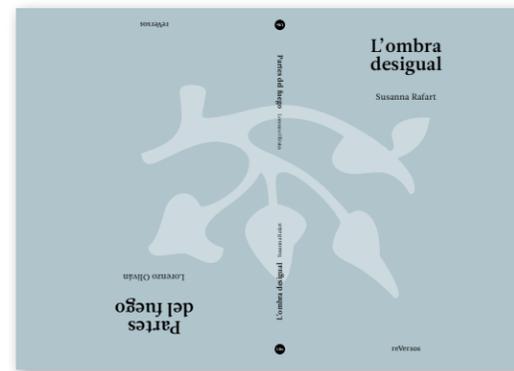
In addition to the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Historic Building, several **exhibitions** were held in the space over the course of the academic year, including "Oxyrhynchus: the legacy of our past", "Pioneering women of the European Union" and "Medieval women: fact or fiction". A new museum space was also inaugurated in the Faculty of Physics to showcase the pieces of the Faculty's collection called Scientific Instruments through individual exhibits like "The History of Electromagnetism".

One of the most notable actions among the **historical memory projects** this year was an event held in homage to the members of the UB who were retaliated against by Franco's regime, which was organized in the context of the anniversary of the occupation of the Historic Building by Franco's troops. The event was part of the celebration of the Historic Building's 150th anniversary, as well as the campaign to recover

the graphic memory of this iconic building. The campaign resulted in the recovery of several photographs, which, along with others from the archives, formed part of the exhibition "The Historic Building of the University of Barcelona: 150 years in images". This photography display was complemented by a virtual exhibition in which visitors immersed themselves in the world of the metaverse in order to experience a new three-dimensional space and whose images are currently available in an open-access repository.

One of the University's goals this academic year was to raise awareness of María Elena Maseras, the first woman to enrol at a Spanish university, who started studying at the UB's Faculty of Medicine in 1872. To this end, the exhibition "Maseras, the first of many" was held at the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences of the Clínic Campus. As a parallel activity, in the framework of 8M, the conference "Health Sciences and Women at the University of Barcelona" was organized in homage to pioneering women professionals and researchers in this field.

In the **musical and performing arts**, 16 concerts were scheduled for the **35th Season of Music**, including 11 musical groups from the UB and other public and private institutions. All the concerts were held in the Auditorium of the Historic Building between October 2022 and May 2023. The concert that opened the season deserves special mention as it marked the starting point of the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Historic Building and coincided with the 100th performance of the Univer-



Aula Poètica and Edicions UB launched the Reversos collection with a chapbook by Susanna Rafart and Lorenzo Oliván.

sity of Barcelona Orchestra. Seven of the UB's own musical ensembles took part and audiences enjoyed a journey through Catalan music, which traced Catalan musical tradition from the historical inauguration to the present day.

Alongside the traditional Season of Music, the UB hosted an extraordinary concert by the University Orchestra of Strasbourg, a symphony orchestra made up of more than 80 musicians and an active participant in international projects, especially with the member universities of LERU.

In addition, also as part of the 150th anniversary of the Historic Building, the University held the **UB Music Night** on 8 June. The six-hour musical marathon was staged in the most iconic areas of the Historic Building, with performances by a dozen musical groups from advanced institutions of artistic and musical education from across Catalonia, as well as the University's own orchestral and choral ensembles.

The programme of the **12th Season of Contemporary Dance**, titled "Contemporary Dance in the Key of Women", presented three sessions in the Aula Magna of the Historic Building to highlight the figures of Isadora Duncan, Mary Wigman and Martha Graham.

The **UB Theatre Group** focused its activity this academic year on the consolidation of its Theatre Workshop, in which students worked on the adaptation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and practised creating characters and using their voices and bodies through

the techniques of Maria Osipovna Knéble and Jerzy Marian Grotowski. The New University Theatre Group (NGTU) also organized an event to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the premiere of the play *Dins un gruix de vellut* by Alexandre Ballester with a reading of the text and the presentation of the book *Del teatre universitari al teatre independent*, which traces the history of the NGTU since its foundation in 1972.

The **Poetry Group** organized two sessions of lectures, talks, presentations and poetry readings at the Faculty of Philology and Communication. The sessions began with readings of *Pensamiento y visión* and *El saüc i la forja* by Lorenzo Oliván and Susanna Rafart, respectively, followed by a lecture on the poet José Hierro del Real, entitled "José Hierro: rhythm and movement as a life philosophy" also given by Oliván. The activities continued with the presentation of Professor Oliván's new collection of poems, *Los daños*, accompanied this time by the journalist and poet Txema Martínez.

The UB's **Graphic Style Guide** is reviewed and updated every year in order to maximize the University's public presence and ensure consistency. This year, a graphic style for the brands of the UB's academic chairs and minor chairs was developed based on the graphic principles of the University of Barcelona's corporate identity manual.

The UB's official merchandising achieved a turnover of 161,826 euros, 52% more than the previous year. The main sales channel was orders from University



Several volumes were published in connection with the 150th anniversary of the Historic Building.

services and departments, which accounted for 47% of total sales, followed by the UB Shop in the Historic Building, with 37% of sales. The online shop saw an increase of 6%, consolidating its position as a sales outlet for merchandising worldwide.

Several **publications** were presented in connection with the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Historic Building: *Discurs inaugural del curs 1872-1873* by Felip Vergés i Permanyer; *Mons secrets. L'Edifici Històric de la Universitat de Barcelona en la literatura*; *La Facultat de Filosofia i Lletres de la Universitat de Barcelona (1902-1973)*. *Un gresol d'intel·lectualitat*; *El hijo de El Mosquito. Una revista estudiantil de l'any 1861*; *Guia botànica del jardí Ferran Soldevila de la Universitat de Barcelona*, and a new collection on the musical heritage of the UB's historical archive "Consonantia". This academic year also saw the publication of *Les pintures de la Universitat de Barcelona (I)*. *El dipòsit del Museu del Prado*, the first volume of the **new pictorial catalogue of the UB**, a project in which specialists from various academic and cultural institutions collaborated and which was completed with nine open access videos.

For the celebration of the Diada de Sant Jordi in 2023, a poster was published called Sant Jordi at the University, created by Sheila González Mardones, a lecturer in the Faculty of Fine Arts.

The UB's in-house publisher, **Edicions de la Universitat de Barcelona**, has released more than two hundred print and electronic publications, including

institutional books, teaching manuals, scientific dissemination, journals and monographs drawing on research carried out by the University's teaching staff. The collections that have received the academic publishing seal of quality – awarded by the Union of Spanish University Publishers (UNE) and endorsed by the National Agency for Quality Assessment and Accreditation of Spain (ANECA) and the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT) – are the following: "Barcino. Monographica Orientalia", "Estudis d'Antopologia Social i Cultural", "Instrumenta", "Pedagogies UB", and "Singularitats" (the latter having also been awarded special recognition for its international significance). In addition to the award mentioned on page 29 of this report, they have been awarded in the fifth edition of the Joan Lluís Vives Awards: *La Terra en perill. L'impacte d'asteroides i cometes*, by Josep M. Trigo Rodríguez – for the best book in science and technology – and *Història de vida de Mari Chordà. Artista multidisciplinària, poeta i activista feminista*, by Núria Gil Duran – for the best internet co-edition (with Publicacions de la Universitat Rovira i Virgili).

To promote its work in the area of publishing, the University has taken part in 16 national and international fairs, including Catalan Book Week, the Madrid Book Fair, the Liber international book fair, the International Book Fair of Guadalajara (Mexico), the International Book Fair of Bogotá (Colombia), and the Frankfurt Book Fair. It has also organized 50 book presentations, held at a variety of bookstores and institutions, and continued its annual involvement in the book fairs held to mark the Diada de Sant Jordi.



The University of Barcelona's ApS group created the Chair of Service Learning.

UB SOLIDARITY FOUNDATION

13 international projects,
6 of them in development
cooperation.

9,384 direct
beneficiaries

• Commitment to society

The **Service-Learning** (ApS) group is a teaching and research initiative that brings together community service and academic development in a single project. It allows students to learn and grow while working to meet real needs and taking action to improve their surroundings. The aim of ApS projects is to respond to collective needs detected by social organizations, educational centres and other institutions as part of students' academic training.

The UB's ApS group has been working since 2013 to consolidate, disseminate and extend service learning throughout the University. This academic year, the UB fostered the teaching and learning of social commitment through the creation of the new **Chair for Service Learning**, the result of an agreement with the Fèlix Llobet Nicolau Foundation. Among the specific activities that have been planned so far is the creation of an annual award for the best bachelor's and master's degree final projects completed within the framework of an ApS project, as well as a prize for the best doctoral theses produced in cooperation with a third-sector organization. In addition to holding working days and workshops, plans for a living laboratory with social organizations were discussed this year, as well as the organization of a fair to raise awareness of ApS.

As of now, nearly every UB faculty offers the possibility of participating in ApS projects; specifically, students in over thirty bachelor's degree programmes have access to these activities. ApS projects include activities in different areas of knowledge, from assisting people with disabilities or homeless people to getting involved in local environmental improvement projects to imparting knowledge to secondary school pupils in new and engaging ways as part of the initiative "Sharing Ideas: The University Goes to High School". In addition, for the academic year 2023-2024, the first **subject** devoted entirely to ApS (Service Learning, Engagement and Social Transformation) will be offered in the faculties of Fine Arts, Biology, Economics and Business, Education, Pharmacy and Food Sciences, and Nursing, in which students will participate in interdisciplinary projects.

One of the ways the University fosters a solid relationship with society and strengthens its link with alumni is through **UB Alumni**, a space for services, knowledge exchange, professional relationships, opportunities, professional growth and advantages. The group has a total of 8,070 members (65% of whom are women), and over the course of the academic year, it hosted 53 activities related to various fields of knowledge that were attended by 1,575 people (1,208 were UB Alumni members), as well as 15 activities linked to professional careers (1,003 new graduates benefitted

from the professional development service). The new Careers Service platform was used by 2,785 companies, which published 3,874 job offers. Through its campaign "Congratulations! You're an Alumnus Now", UB Alumni raised awareness among new graduates. The group also launched the "Be the Leader of Your Future" project, also for recent graduates, which offers services like an employment portal, professional development training activities and career guidance sessions.

This year, a new edition of the **University Extension Courses for Senior Citizens** continued to promote cultural and scientific dissemination through lectures – both face-to-face and online – and face-to-face seminars on subjects including history, art, literature, science and opera. The theatre group remained active and, for the second year running, the results of the poetry workshop were brought to life with the publication of a compilation of the work of the participants. This year, it had 3,183 members (75% women).

The **UB Solidarity Foundation** continued its commitment to education in global citizenship and volunteering, development cooperation, the promotion of human rights, inclusion and refuge, and the defence of democratic memory and peace. That dedication was demonstrated through activities such as the UB Volunteering programme, projects focusing on natural solutions for sustainable development, courses for people in situations of or at risk of exclusion, the admission of students with limited socioeconomic

resources to the University, and socio-educational interventions in neighbourhoods or schools with higher proportions of disadvantaged citizens.

The **UB Volunteering** programme maintained two priority focus areas of work during the academic year 2022-2023. First of all, the programme ensured the publication and dissemination of calls for volunteers from private non-profit organizations and from UB volunteer groups themselves. In relation to the former, 57 appeals were received from 25 organizations, including the UB Solidarity Foundation, in which 56 volunteers participated to benefit 3,915 people. As for the latter, the UB's own volunteer groups, linked to training and research projects in different UB faculties, units and programmes, worked on projects like the Law Clinic run by the Faculty of Law, using the service-learning formula; the FORCES programme of the Institute for Professional Development (IDP-ICE), in which retired UB teaching staff provides expert support for research undertaken by upper secondary school students; and the language partners programme, which supports the social inclusion of new arrivals through Catalan and Spanish practice within the framework of the University of Barcelona's Support Programme for Refugees and People from Conflict Areas.

In the context of **global citizenship education**, this year the 18th Award for Peace Research was presented for upper secondary school research projects, and the 4th Sustainability and Human Rights Poster Awards were held. The UB also continued to work



The 4th Sustainability and Human Rights Poster Award was announced.

with secondary schools in Barcelona to promote the integration of global citizenship education into the curriculum through the provision of support for teachers.

In the area of **international development cooperation**, four projects continued in 2022: the Inow Asia project to create innovative training pathways on wastewater management at six universities in Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam; the project to assess existing practices and develop pathways for effective integration of nature-based water treatment in urban areas in Sri Lanka, the Philippines and Vietnam; the EdiCitNet (Edible Cities Network, Horizon 2020) project to implement and evaluate nature-based solutions for sustainable and socially resilient food production in cities; and the project to enhance the technical capacities of women farmers' cooperatives in the West Bank, in collaboration with the Catalan Association for Peace (ACP), the Palestinian Farmers' Union (PFU) and the Palestinian Technical University Kadoorie Tulkarem (PTUK).

Several initiatives were completed during 2022, including the projects to implement the peace agreements in Colombia, to contribute to the sustainable management of water resources in Saint-Louis, Senegal, and the Wahda programme to strengthen civil society in Tunisia by defending civil rights and pro-

moting regional stability. And new projects were initiated in 2023, including "Momkin: Youth and Creativity for Peace and the Prevention of Violent Conflict in the Maghreb (Tunisia and Saharan refugee camps)" and "Good Governance and Citizen Participation for a Sustainable City in Richard Toll (Senegal)".

As part of the UB's **Support Programme for Refugees and People from Conflict Areas**, since it first began in 2016, the Transition to University Studies Course has already welcomed 75 students recognized as refugees. The maturity of the project is reflected in the recognition of the Spanish Committee of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as the only national initiative that provides complementary and safe routes to refuge through study visas. This year the UNHCR covered students' travel expenses from their place of origin, and liaised with the consular authorities when necessary. The University welcomed 15 students from Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia and Eritrea in 2022-2023.

As part of the same programme, the Foundation continues to participate in the STEAMigPOWER, Smile, Include Me and Uni(di)versity projects, in which it is a partner, and Community, which is led by the UB, as well as the CHARM-EU alliance and the aforementioned Wahda development cooperation programme.

UB CHAIRS AND MINOR CHAIRS

51 chairs and 3 minor chairs

€1.6m of associated revenue

The **war in Ukraine** has continued to be an issue of great importance among the Solidarity Foundation's activities, and work progressed on the reception of some 15 Ukrainian students and 15 Ukrainian lecturers who arrived at the University of Barcelona as a result of the on-going conflict.

Finally, in the sphere of **democratic memory**, the European Observatory on Memories (Eurom), which is based at the Solidarity Foundation, was involved in approximately 30 activities, including the educational project for upper secondary school students "Urban Art, Education and Memory", the third edition of "Route in Exile" and, in collaboration with the European Network Remembrance and Solidarity (ENRS), the organization of a pan-European congress on remembrance.

The CRAI cooperated with several different **social organizations**, such as the Tallers Foundation, in the project "Singulars 2021: Design your Future", which aims to find employment for people with intellectual disabilities or mental health problems; the association Llibre Solidari, an NGO dedicated to collecting books and other materials to sell and help people in need; Llibre Viu, an organization that facilitates the free exchange of books; and the NGO Sentit Solidari, to whom books were donated to be sold and help people in need. The CRAI was also involved in #1Lib1Ref, a campaign in which librarians from all over the world add bibliographic references to Wikipedia articles, and a project to collect bottle caps for charity, in this case, to acquire resources for research

into SMA (spinal muscular atrophy). It also collaborated with Doctors without Borders and the Ministry of Justice of the Government of Catalonia, taking on four people from the community work integration programme.

At the same time, the CRAI also assisted **institutions and projects for the dissemination of history, science and culture**, such as the Fight against Infections Foundation, the Model: Barcelona Architectures Festival, the Route of Exile and the 8th edit-a-thon.

In addition, the UB maintained its strategy of establishing **chairs and minor chairs** in order to foster relations with society in general, and the business sector in particular, and to raise external funding through projects, contracts and agreements with public and private bodies. Chairs and minor chairs regulate collaboration between the University and companies and institutions in order to achieve objectives of common interest in fields like training, cultural creation, and research and knowledge transfer. At present, the UB has 51 active chairs (including a UNESCO chair and two Jean Monnet chairs) and three minor chairs divided across 12 faculties. In 2022, the total revenue associated with these chairs and minor chairs was 1,568,585 euros.

In terms of its **sponsorships**, the University announced crowdfunding campaigns to finance specific projects through its platform UB Sponsors. These allowed for the consolidation of campaigns like Sponsor a Book, which in its third edition received the



Entrepreneurship and innovation

This year **StartUB!** was firmly established as the **University of Barcelona's Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship**, recognized as part of the University of Barcelona's internal structures for knowledge and research transfer, innovation and entrepreneurship. The objectives of StartUB! are to promote innovation and entrepreneurship among all UB groups (students, teaching and research staff and technical, management, and administrative and service staff); to coordinate the promotion, promulgation and dissemination of innovation and entrepreneurship that emerges among the University community – both technological and social – in any field of knowledge; to coordinate the activities of the UB's innovation and entrepreneurship centres, and to organize activities of interest across schools and faculties.

It is within this framework of action that StartUB! has won the European project **TRUE (Transforming Universities towards Entrepreneurship)** as part of the HEInnovate programme of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT). The main objective of TRUE is to remove barriers to innovation and entrepreneurship and to encourage new generations to strike out on their own path. To this end, it has worked in four main areas: fostering institutional involvement, strengthening partnerships, contributing to the development of innovations and businesses, and improving the quality of innovation and entrepreneurship education.

funds needed to restore two exceptional works from the UB's collection. Progress was also made in the management model for crowdfunding campaigns and in the financial information on sponsorship at the UB, which in the short term will enable efficient management of resources and a better understanding of the economic activity of sponsorship at the University. The management and information model is being developed within the framework of the project Som UB, which aims to foster a sense of belonging, a connection to the University and the generation of funds.



The first area encompasses the consolidation and recognition of StartUB! as a UB structure. Moreover, this year, the training model of StartUB! was redefined in three stages: Start Exploring, Start Creating and Start Growing. The first is dedicated to developing personal competences in innovation and entrepreneurship, according to the European Entrepreneurship Competence Framework (EntreComp); the second focuses on the idea and the working team, with the aim of validating and launching innovative and entrepreneurial projects; and the third stage is intended for established start-ups to help them consolidate their operations, while improving their social and environmental impact.

Within the second area, collaborations between companies and the University were strengthened, as were relationships with the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Catalonia. With this objective in mind, various activities were held, notably including what are called Innovation Meetings, made up of an academic presentation on the most recent advances in innovation models and a round table with innovation directors from different companies.

In terms of contributing to the development of innovation and new businesses, TRUE has also developed the international ESAP programme for providing guidance to new companies, which combines product design with the support of international mentors and the implementation of a shadowing period, which consists of other start-ups participating as observers



Let's UB! serves as a meeting point for university entrepreneurs, business people and investors.

in projects. Four start-ups have benefited from this three-month international programme, one for each member of the TRUE consortium: the University of Montpellier, the University of Extremadura, the Polytechnic Institute of Lisbon and the University of Barcelona. In the case of the UB, the investee company is Ludens Project, a creator of educational video games and training. At the same time, the **StartUB! Sprint** programme, developed with the UB's Board of Trustees, aims to help students accelerate their entrepreneurial projects, whether they are at the idea materialization stage or have recently set up a business.

The third area mentioned above included the **Let's UB!** day, made up of two seminars, workshops, round tables, an investment forum and an awards ceremony. The investment forum was particularly interesting and was held in coordination with the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation; ten start-ups and spin-offs from the UB and two guest start-ups from the Barcelona ecosystem took part in the discussion. StartUB! awarded prizes to the most scalable start-up, HumanITcare; the start-up with the greatest impact, Bleta; and the most innovative, ViReInstruments.

The **From Science to Market** transfer programme, coordinated by StartUB!, promotes scientific entrepreneurship to create companies derived from research, and provides doctoral students and graduates



ENTREPRENEURSHIP ACTIVITIES

58

projects incubated at StartUB!

380

hours of entrepreneurship mentoring

8

start-ups created

PEOPLE TRAINED IN INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

743

students

489

members of PDI and PTGAS

with the tools they need to transform their ideas into businesses. One hundred hours of training are offered, as well as individual tutoring and access to the services available in the participating universities' technology transfer units. This initiative is subsidized by the Catalan Ministry of Enterprise and Employment and co-financed by the European Social Fund Plus.

Meanwhile, **Innovation Day** aims to promote innovation and entrepreneurship among students, especially in the field of health. Two editions are offered throughout the year: one in April, which focuses on sustainability issues, and another in November, which focuses on health.

Lastly, one of the accomplishments in the fourth area, which addresses the improvement of the quality of innovation and entrepreneurship education, was the creation of the first inter-faculty subject: Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship. It is open to students from four bachelor's degree programmes offered in three faculties: Business Administration and Management, Materials Engineering, Chemical Engineering, and Biomedical Engineering. The initiative encourages the creation of multidisciplinary work teams, which will allow for the development of more interdisciplinary, sustainable and inclusive innovation. Plans are underway to offer the subject in other faculties in order to provide training in creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship to students across the University. Within this same section, in coordination with the academic management and subject teachers, several interventions have been



Innovation Day promotes innovation and entrepreneurship among students.

undertaken to expose students to situations in which they can experience techniques for developing creativity and innovation.

Several **awards** were received this academic year by companies incubated at StartUB!: ViReInstruments won the award for best Spanish university start-up at the Santander X Awards | Spain 2022 (in the Accelerate category); the CERO Community initiative by Additive Spaces / Roots-Housing won the award for best start-up at the TEDxBARCELONA (in the End Poverty category); and HumanITcare was the winning start-up in the international competition organized at the start-up event 4YFN Barcelona.

Companies founded at StartUB!

- Abilities Jobs
- Additive Spaces
- CloseB
- Ludens Project
- Meeting Barcelona
- Migos Media
- Mudally
- You Cards

Start-ups incubated at StartUB! Lab

- Africa e-Health
- CloseB
- Dekines
- Enea
- Filmo
- Glex
- Hemp & Love
- HumanITcare
- InSkin
- LoopDx
- Ludens Project
- Marvut Technologies
- Meeting Barcelona
- Migos Media
- Mudally
- NeuBoots
- Omashu
- The Blue Box
- ViReInstruments
- Visual Slavery



2

A university at the forefront of education

Course offering ●

Other academic opportunities ●

Student support ●

Teaching innovation, assessment and improvement ●



44,933 STUDENTS
in 73 bachelor's degree courses
(including affiliated centres)

• Course offering

In the academic year 2022-2023, the UB offered 73 **bachelor's degree courses** and received 18,802 first-preference applications for 10,960 places, putting the demand ratio for places at 1.7. The highest numbers of first-preference applications were received for Medicine at the Medicine Campus-Hospital Clínic (1,915), Psychology (1,345), Business Administration and Management (1,079), Nursing at the Bellvitge Campus (891), and Dentistry (814). In total, 41,095 bachelor's degree students enrolled at UB schools and faculties (the figure also includes students enrolling in the UB-specific degree in Private Investigation). Of these, 10,174 were new enrolments and 3,838 were at affiliated centres.

A total of 72 **university master's degree courses** were offered to 5,523 students at UB faculties and an additional 508 at UB-affiliated centres. Of these, the courses that attracted the highest enrolment were the master's degrees in Teacher Training in Obligatory Secondary and Upper Secondary School Education, Vocational Training and Languages (541); Advocacy (284); and Women, Gender and Citizenship (193). Of the total number of students enrolled (including those at affiliated centres), 2,060 (34.2%) are international students, mainly from Latin America, China and (within Europe) Italy. Teaching in foreign languages was also strengthened, particularly at master's degree level, where 23% of instruction was in English.

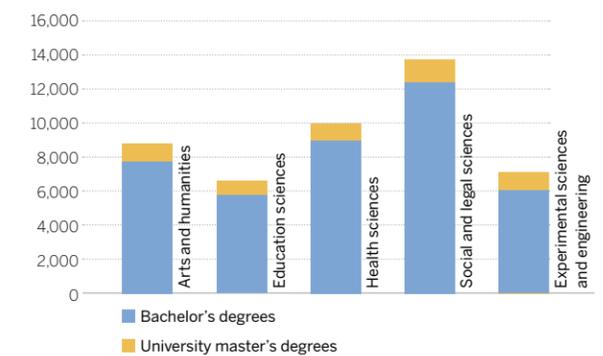
A total of 7,076 bachelor's degree students and 13 UB-specific degree students **graduated** from UB faculties, while 3,039 university master's degrees were awarded. In addition, special **academic achievement awards** went to 179 bachelor's degree students and 111 master's degree students (for courses completed in the academic year 2021-2022).

The new **Faculty of Nursing** was inaugurated on 24 April 2023.

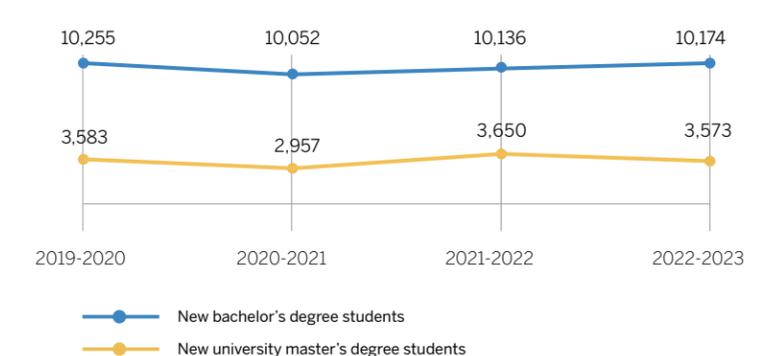
The **accreditation of UB degree courses**, a process begun in 2014-2015, led to the evaluation of eight bachelor's degrees in 2022, all of which were accredited (four with a nearly Excellent accreditation score) in addition to four UB-specific master's degrees (one with a score of Excellent). In total, 61 bachelor's degrees have been accredited, 12 with scores of Excellent, and 101 master's degrees have been awarded accreditation, 21 of which were rated Excellent.

During 2023, external accreditation visits were completed or scheduled at five schools or faculties, in which five bachelor's degree and four master's degree programmes are being assessed. Also during the academic year 2022-2023, the Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency (AQU) awarded the faculties of Biology, Mathematics and Computer Science, and Education certification of the implementation of their internal quality assurance systems (IQAS) in the preliminary stage. In the second stage, the Spanish Council of Universities made a favourable decision on

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



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



Postgraduate students

| Branch of knowledge/centre | Master's degrees | Specialization courses | Advanced university courses | Expert courses | University extension courses | Total |
|---|------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| Arts and humanities | 38 | 94 | 5 | 0 | 206 | 343 |
| Social and legal sciences | 986 | 340 | 134 | 215 | 30 | 1,705 |
| Experimental sciences and engineering | 76 | 20 | 87 | 87 | 83 | 353 |
| Health sciences | 2,697 | 450 | 266 | 227 | 173 | 3,813 |
| Education sciences | 148 | 216 | 126 | 149 | 0 | 639 |
| Institute of Professional Development (IDP-ICE) | 64 | 79 | 3 | 9 | 0 | 155 |
| Institute of Lifelong Learning (IL3-UB) | 2,386 | 968 | 130 | 13 | 69 | 3,566 |
| Affiliated schools and faculties | 136 | 74 | 23 | 0 | 187 | 420 |
| Total | 6,531 | 2,241 | 774 | 700 | 748 | 10,994 |
| % women | 70.6 | 76 | 62.7 | 64.3 | 59.2 | 70 |

Provisional data in November 2023

A COMMITMENT TO INTERNATIONALIZATION

34% of university master's students are international

institutional accreditation, which means that these faculties have renewed the accreditation of all university bachelor's and master's degrees for a further period of six years. The Faculty of Earth Sciences also began the IQAS certification process.

In lifelong learning, 372 **master's degree programmes**, 178 **specialization diplomas**, 139 **advanced university courses or diplomas** and 136 **expert courses** were offered, with 6,531; 2,241; 774 and 700 students taking part, respectively (provisional data). The high number of international students (37% of the total) underscores the strong degree of internationalization

International scope of the student body*

| Studies | % International students | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Bachelor's degrees | 6.3 | (2,825) |
| University master's degrees | 34.2 | (2,060) |
| Doctoral studies | 34.2 | (1,708) |
| Master's degree courses | 38.2 | (2,494) |
| Specialization courses | 34.6 | (775) |
| Expert courses | 14.3 | (100) |
| Advanced university courses | 50.6 | (392) |
| University extension courses | 39.7 | (297) |
| Total | 13.6 | (10,651) |

In parentheses, the total number of foreign students. Provisional data. Information about postgraduate courses and total (provisional).

* Including students at the IDP-ICE, IL3 and affiliated centres.

that continues to characterize postgraduate studies. The UB's **university extension programme** offered 131 courses, with 748 students enrolled. In addition, two master's degrees and an advanced university course were approved for implementation abroad.

Over the course of the academic year, several **marketing campaigns** were run to promote the UB's course offering and increase the visibility and presence of its brand. These campaigns ran in various general and specialized training media to attract students to the master's and degree courses offered by the School of Modern Languages, Hispanic Studies, and the University of Experience.

In addition, the UB's **institutional welcome messages** were reinforced at the beginning of the academic year with an email message to secondary school students admitted to the UB and a welcome action consisting of a 360° video montage, in which 785 students took part.

The **SocUB mobile app** was used by 32,575 users and two new user profiles were added to reach the entire UB community (alumni and other UB Group staff).



COMMITMENT TO LANGUAGE LEARNING AND CERTIFICATION

2,885 students enrolled at the EIM

Other academic opportunities

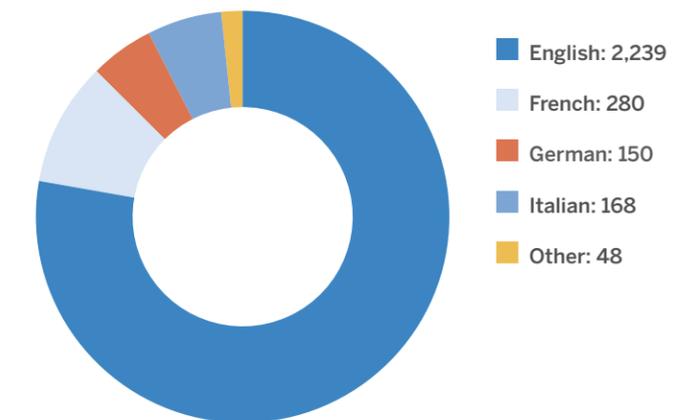
The **School of Modern Languages** (EIM) provided courses in face-to-face, blended, video-conference and online formats to 2,885 students during the academic year. The EIM has a broad network of accredited centres of language instruction in 17 cities that provide quality language instruction.

A total of 1,113 candidates sat the 25 EIM and Cambridge Assessment language accreditation exams. There was a 95% pass rate, and 41 new English teachers were certified with CELTA and DELTA certificates from the University of Cambridge.

Through the EIM, the University of Barcelona administered a **second-language level test** for all first-year bachelor's degree students, as established in the Plan to Improve Third Language Skills in the Catalan University System of the Catalan Ministry of Research and Universities. English was the top language chosen for the test (84%) and the average level was between B1 and B2 (36%).

In addition, the EIM's Department of Language Teacher Training organized the 7th Multilingual Teachers Day as well as the training workshop "Ten methods, ten activities".

Students enrolled in courses at the EIM



A COMMITMENT TO SOCIETY

1,768 students enrolled in 14 programmes at the University of Experience

The **Hispanic Studies** unit has been active for over 70 years and is the institution in charge of training foreign students in Spanish language and culture. It also offers Spanish revision and translation services for specialized texts, as well as training for foreign teaching and administrative staff. Over the course of the academic year, a teaching team made up of 22 professionals taught diploma and accreditation courses and intensive Spanish language courses for Erasmus students enrolled at the UB.

In conjunction with the Cervantes Institute, the Institute of Hispanic Studies oversaw nine sittings of the official examination on Spanish constitutional and sociocultural knowledge (CCSE), which is required to obtain Spanish nationality, and seven sittings of the official examination to obtain the Diploma in Spanish as a Foreign Language (DELE), for which it offers preparation courses at all levels. This year, a total of 2,064 students enrolled on Spanish language and culture courses, 1,459 students sat DELE examinations and 1,294 people took the CCSE examination.

Catalan language training provided by the UB's **Language Services** consists of annual, half-yearly and intensive summer courses in different modalities (including the Government of Catalonia's online programme Parla.cat) and at all levels. The courses are officially recognized and carry ECTS credits. A total of 98 courses were offered to 1,460 students. In addition, in the academic year 2022-2023, the number of intensive introductory Catalan courses at the begin-

ning of each semester for all incoming mobility students increased to a total of 38, serving 683 students as part of the implementation of the University of Barcelona's Plan for Catalan Language and Culture.

Within the framework of the Catalan Interuniversity Commission for Language Training and Certification (CIFALC), open exams were offered for teaching and research staff and other members of the university community for the fourth consecutive year.

Language training support for UB staff was also provided through six specific and six focused language courses offered to technical, management, and administrative and service staff, and seven specific courses were given for accreditation of level C1 for teaching and research staff (with 134 participants), four information sessions were held, and two extraordinary official exams were held, in addition to the two ordinary ones. Two-hundred fourteen people registered for these exams.

At the initiative of the Faculty of Education, the offering of courses aimed at improving the oral and written Catalan language skills of students enrolled in the bachelor's degree course in Teacher in Early Childhood Education and the bachelor's degree course in Teacher in Primary Education was maintained, with personalized counselling and five language workshops.

In order to promote multilingualism in the university community, the online self-learning programme



“Multi-lingualize with Rosetta Stone” continued to be offered, with 1,293 people enrolled (827 ordinary enrolments and 466 within the PDI training plan). In addition, the self-access language learning centres promoted informal peer-to-peer activities in different languages; specifically, a total of 132 conversation groups were organized with 916 participants.

In terms of informal Catalan language learning activities, a language exchange programme was made available to international students that attracted 400 enrollees, while the CATclub brought in 294 new participants. Thirty-one language orientation sessions were also held for international students upon their arrival in the UB's various faculties. The UB's collaboration with the Institut Ramon Llull's Catalan lectureships at the universities of Birmingham, Bristol, Liverpool, Los Angeles and Sheffield was extended, making it possible to create 28 Catalan-English exchange pairs.

The 12th edition of the **University of Experience** for people over the age of fifty-five from educational backgrounds of all kinds consisted of fourteen study programmes over the academic year, offering a total of forty-one courses. Some 445 teachers took part and 1,768 students enrolled, 910 of them for the first time. On the Badalona site, the third History and Society course was given and, in Barcelona, the third courses in Humanities, History of Art, History, Society and Territory, and Psychology were offered. In addition, nine complementary activities were carried out, some of them already well established, like Qi-

Students enrolled in other course types

| | Students |
|---|----------|
| Els Juliors: summer courses | 693 |
| School of Modern Languages | 2,885 |
| Hispanic Studies | 2,064 |
| Gaudir UB courses | 3,869 |
| Language Services: Catalan language courses | 1,460 |
| University of Experience | 1,768 |
| Language certification exams | Exams |
| CCSE (Hispanic Studies) | 1,294 |
| DELE (Hispanic Studies) | 1,459 |
| Catalan language (Language Services) | 1,048 |
| Foreign languages (EIM) | 1,113 |

gong and Theatre, and other activities were newly created, including Narrating Memory, Healthy Movement and the Reading Club. The number of advanced seminars increased substantially, with eight in the sciences, twenty in the humanities and eight in the social sciences. The year also saw the opening of the first Sant Jordi short story contest, which received 51 submissions.

The number of **Gaudir UB** courses increased to 193 with the accompanying rise in enrolments, with a total of 3,869 students participating during the year. The **Els Juliors** summer courses consisted of 70 cours-



The University of Barcelona at the Saló de l'Ensenyament education fair, with a new stand.

es taken by 693 students.

The **Institute for Lifelong Learning (IL3)** also expanded its training opportunities to offer a total of 802 courses, significantly increasing the number of open courses to 740, as well as its face-to-face and blended-learning formats, which now consist of a total of 436 courses. New programmes in the fields of data processing, circular economy, health and animal health were added to the IL3 catalogue. The total number of students also grew to 16,586, of whom 14,382 participated in open training courses and 2,204 in corporate solutions.

Students enrolled in lifelong learning courses (IL3)

| Courses | Open courses | | Corporate solutions | |
|------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|
| | Courses | Students | Courses | Students |
| Online | 347 | 7,557 | 19 | 1,081 |
| Face-to-face | 317 | 5,605 | 30 | 908 |
| Blended learning | 76 | 1,220 | 13 | 215 |
| Total | 740 | 14,382 | 62 | 2,204 |



Student support

Information and orientation activities

The Student Support Service (SAE) conducted several activities to inform and guide **future students** and facilitate their transition to the university world, as well as to provide new students with the tools they need to successfully adapt to university education.

To announce the **range of courses** it offers, the University of Barcelona participated in the Saló de l'Ensenyament, the Saló Aula in Madrid, and other university information and orientation fairs in Catalonia, Andorra and the Balearic Islands. At the Saló de l'Ensenyament, the University inaugurated a new 180 sq m stand that provided information to visitors and featured innovative technological and audiovisual media to present its courses. The stand was staffed by 75 UB student mentors who answered queries from some 18,000 attendees.

In addition, as part of the **Ubica't** information and academic counselling programme, the activities of **UB s'apropa** were put into practice with information provided to 12,412 students from 196 secondary schools, upper secondary schools and advanced vocational training centres. Of these, 5,567 took part in the UB's **open days**, during which the faculties and schools presented their bachelor's degree programmes as well as their facilities and services. This year, seven pilot centres broadcast the event live online, along

FEINA UB PROGRAMME

15,641 external academic placements

with a tour of the facilities provided by the UB's Tik-Tokers.

In the fourth edition of the **UB-Santander Awards for the Best Upper Secondary School Research Projects**, 1,007 projects were submitted and 80 prizes were awarded across 16 categories (one for each faculty). Staff were also involved in disseminating and managing several **competitions and awards** promoted by the faculties in relation to upper secondary school research work, such as the Concòrdia-FedeFarma Prize from the Faculty of Pharmacy and Food Sciences and the Xavier Domingo Prize awarded by the Faculty of Chemistry.

This year, a new edition of the **Secondary and Upper-Secondary Debating League**, coordinated by the Vives University Network, was held face-to-face. Twenty-four teams from different upper secondary schools attended the local phase of the Debating League, held in the Historic Building, and each team participated in three debates. The winning team, Col·legi Claret, represented the UB in the final phase at the University of Valencia.

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

As for **information actions for the university's community**, the UB responded to 41,584 queries concerning the academic and service offer and issues accessing the student intranet and associated services, while the Món UB student information portal received 45,209,980 visits.

Careers advice and employment

Within the scope of the different programmes for **professional orientation and careers advice**, 8,681 students were counselled on the topics of decision-making, career design and skills development.

As part of the **Orienta't** programme, students were provided career counselling with the aim of improving the development of valuable skills and enhancing their employability. In total, 3,415 students were involved in 19 online courses on skills training, 16 workshops on CV writing and interviewing, and 15 focused guidance sessions.

Moreover, 136 **counselling interviews** were held on professional development, choosing lifelong learning and the changes in teaching, and there were 156 **advising actions in UB faculties** over the course of the various bachelor's degree programmes and at company fairs, in which 5,266 students participated.

For the eighth year in a row, the UB also played an active role in the working group on Guidelines and Tools for



University Orientation, which is part of Spanish University Information and Orientation Services (SIOU). The University also participated in organizing the 22nd Spanish University Information and Orientation Services event “Young people and mental health: a new paradigm for the university”, which took place at the University of Extremadura.

External academic placements were completed this year by 12,308 students, who took place in a total of 15,641 placements in companies and institutions, 11,603 of which were curricular and 4,538 non-curricular. Through GIPE, the UB’s external professional placement application, 4,422 companies offered 14,041 placements, for a total of 19,153 places. In addition, 1,609 queries were answered through the UB’s Feina UB mailbox and 2,612 through the GIPE mailbox.

The UB also made substantial contributions to **fostering employment** through the 7th call for applications for placement grants from the ONCE Foundation and the CRUE. Three grants were awarded to students with a degree of disability equal to or greater than 33%, while the Government of Catalonia’s Odisseu programme awarded 16 UB student grants for placements in rural companies. For the first time this year, the UB took part in the “Rural Campus” programme. Fifteen students received grants to complete their placements in rural companies. In addition, 115 students from other educational institutions completed their professional placements in UB-associated organizations.



With regard to inter-university **working groups**, the University of Barcelona continued to participate in the working and employability groups of the Coimbra Group, the Inter-University Council of Catalonia, and the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities (CRUE).

Support for diversity

The **Integration Programmes** unit provides care for students with special educational needs (SEN) and facilitates initiatives to make the UB an inclusive university. To this end, it provided support to the 827 students with certified disabilities enrolled at the UB as well as to 547 students who, although they may not be certified as disabled, have SEN.

Over the academic year, the University undertook 4,509 advisory actions and/or interventions (3,259 with students, 998 with teaching and research staff or technical, management, and administrative and service staff, and 252 externally) and designed 282 personalized study plans.

In terms of **material resources**, 79 students were provided with support products and 22 software licences were loaned to libraries to facilitate reading and writing. In the area of personal support, 16 support students were coordinated, 735 hours of sign language interpreting were offered to five students with hearing impairments, and the financial support programme for students with reduced mobility was renewed.



In addition, the fourth edition of the **Meetup workshops** took place at the UB, a regular activity for students with autism spectrum disorder organized in collaboration with the Asperger’s Association of Catalonia. Twenty-five students from 18 different courses took part.

Additional steps taken to enhance the **employability** of students with disabilities included collaborating with the placement services of various entities and processing work placement grants provided by the ONCE-CRUE Foundation as well as taking part in activities managed by the UB, like the conference “Tools for social inclusion: Leveraging higher education for labour market integration”. The UB also organized **conferences and seminars** like “Let’s talk about ASD”, “University tutoring” and “How to identify psychological problems in the classroom”, as well as a one-day session called “Well-being: mental and physical health”, among others.

The Unit also led several **projects and working groups** related to inclusive education, to address issues such as the Coexistence Act, the Accessibility Plan, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Universal Design for Learning (UDL). In addition, it took part in other inter-university initiatives, such as the 12th Meetings and the 8th Working Days of the SAPDU Network (Services for People with Disabilities in Universities) and the steering group for the Inclusion and Diversity Plan. It also cooperated with awareness campaigns of third sector organizations,

and studies and groups from other universities, apart from establishing relations and alliances with foundations such as the Randstad Foundation and the Seeligery Conde Foundation, and publicizing the campaigns of the Federation of Catalan Associations of Parents and People with Deafness (ACAPPS) and Manpower.

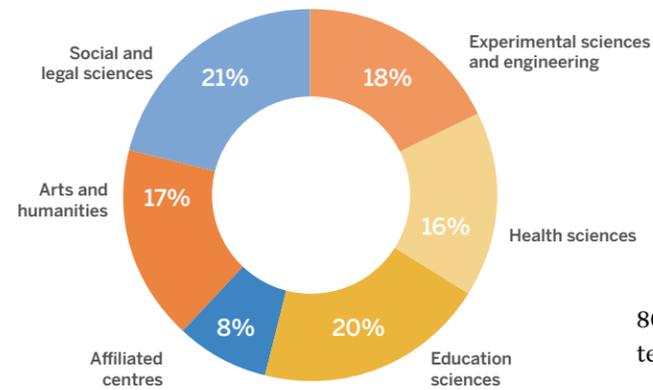
During the academic year, the **CRAI libraries** continued to make tools available to users with special needs: BB Ally, which allows teachers to improve the accessibility of the documents they deposit on the Virtual Campus, and ClaroRead, which simplifies access to CRAI resources for people with dyslexia. The University of Barcelona’s Digitization Centre (CEDI) is currently helping to digitize the recommended bibliography for students with special needs. And, lastly, new information and loan desks have been installed in two libraries to facilitate access for wheelchair users.

Grants and financial aid

Over the past academic year, 23,259 applications were received for **general grants for bachelor’s degree and university master’s degree courses**. A total of 9,805 grants were awarded for a combined amount of 28,257,988.47 euros.

Additionally, 8,592 applications for means-tested **Equity grants** were received, 2,229 of which were successful. These grants subsidize between 70% and

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



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

Total value of general grants for bachelor's degree and master's degree courses

| Grant type | Total value (euros) |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Grant rewarding academic excellence | 242,916 |
| Tuition fee exemption | 8,198,645 |
| Fixed amount (income-based) | 6,811,900 |
| Fixed amount (residence-based) | 1,648,000 |
| Subsidy for air travel | 202,700 |
| Variable amount | 11,098,088 |
| Minimum variable amount | 55,740 |
| Total | 28,257,989 |

bkUB programme: grants awarded by type

| Type of grant | Number |
|--|------------|
| Grants for repeat subject enrolment | 140 |
| Study grants for extraordinary circumstances | 43 |
| Foreign-language study grants | 151 |
| Total | 334 |

The **Santander Progreso grant programme** offers funding to bachelor's and master's degree students. This year, 2,420 applications were received and 23 grants of 1,000 euros were awarded.

Work has continued to implement the **Connecta UB programme**, launched during the COVID-19 pandemic. A total of 198 requests were processed, 174 of which were approved, in three grant categories: temporary laptop loans, provision of Internet connections, and laptop + Internet.

To prevent economic hardship standing in the way of learning opportunities, the University also runs the **bkUB programme**, under which more than 13,000 bachelor's degree students have been given free access to paid facilities. With the application period now closed, 334 grants have been awarded.

The Spanish Ministry of Education and Professional Training awarded 114 departmental collaboration grants, with a total value of 228,000 euros, 306 collaboration grants for UB services and units, with a total value of 1,093,711 euros, and 100 **UB faculty collaboration grants**, with a total value of 429,169 euros. In the area of collaboration grants with UB services and units, a new **Master+ UB programme** has been introduced to attract talent and foster the vocational pursuit of scientific enquiry in the UB's research groups. The programme is now in its second edition.



Grants and financial aid awarded

The UB awarded 384 grants for **mobility programmes**, with a total value of 109,600 euros: 343 were for placements in European institutions within the Erasmus+ programme (200 euros per grant) and 41 for placements at universities in Europe and the rest of the world as part of the Global UB Mobility and Global Faculty UB programmes (100 euros per grant).

In the framework of **Santander Bank** international mobility grants, 56 supplementary grants were awarded to students who had completed an Erasmus+ exchange and two to students with special educational needs.

In addition, 138 people received a subsidy from Erasmus+ funds to take a language course at the School of Modern Languages.

In order to promote academic mobility between the universities that make up the Vives University Network, 26 **DRAC grants** were awarded, with a total value of 7,003 euros.

In the **SICUE national mobility programme** (for exchanges between Spanish universities), 217 UB students travelled to participating institutions and 326 students were hosted at the UB.

| Grants awarded | Number | Total value (€) |
|---|--------|-----------------|
| General grants | 9,805 | 28,257,989 |
| Collaboration with UB departments | 114 | 228,000 |
| Collaboration with UB services | 306 | 1,093,711 |
| Collaboration with UB faculties/schools | 100 | 429,169 |
| Grants and financial aid awarded | Number | Total value (€) |
| UB grants for mobility programmes | 384 | 109,600 |
| Equity grants | 2,229 | — |
| bkUB programme | 334 | — |
| Connecta UB programme | 174 | — |
| DRAC programme | 26 | 7,003 |
| Santander grants for SEN | 2 | 2,000 |
| Santander Progreso grants | 23 | 23,000 |
| Santander grants for Erasmus+ | 56 | 26,500 |
| Erasmus+ subsidy for EIM courses | 138 | 51,890 |

AVERAGE STUDENT SATISFACTION SCORE FOR TEACHING STAFF

7.69 in bachelor's degrees

AVERAGE STUDENT SATISFACTION SCORE FOR TEACHING STAFF

8.15 in university master's degrees

Teaching innovation, assessment and improvement

This year, the **Teaching and Learning Research, Innovation and Improvement (RIMDA)** programme had a total budget of 137,000 euros. Also 48 new **teaching innovation proposals (PID)** were presented; 29 were recognized as teaching innovation projects, while 19 received direct funding; all of the proposals were supported by grants for the dissemination of results and assistance with the creation of learning materials. In addition, 43 new **teaching improvement proposals** were presented, 28 of which were recognized as teaching improvement projects and 12 received direct funding. All proposals received grant funding for the dissemination of results, and support was provided for the creation of learning materials.

There were 118 **active teaching innovation projects**, with the participation of 856 members of the UB community (PDI, PTGAS and collaborating staff).

The 128 **teaching innovation groups** recognized under the RIMDA programme were assessed; 97 were accredited as consolidated teaching innovation groups and 31 as teaching innovation groups. Specific financial assistance and support staff were again allocated to the consolidated groups with the highest scores, while funds also continued to be made available for the dissemination of innovation actions by all

groups. A total of 2,140 members of the university community (PDI, PTGAS and support staff) were engaged in the various activities of the recognized teaching innovation groups.

Six projects, with durations of 2–4 years, were carried out in the framework of the **strategic faculty teaching project (PEDC)**, giving faculties the resources and support to carry out strategic improvements to their teaching. In addition to the INNDOC project at the Faculty of Economics and Business and the mentor programme at the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, projects have been set up at the faculties of Earth Sciences and Education and a joint project was launched between the faculties of Biology, Geography and History, and Medicine and Health Sciences.

In addition, a grant call was announced to support **digitization projects (RIMDA-Digitalització)** aimed at creating learning resources, environments, tools and materials using digital technologies and applying them in teaching practice. A total of 11 proposals have been presented for the grant and for recognition in this call.

Fourteen **massive open online courses (MOOCs)** were offered through an agreement with the Coursera platform. More than 15,000 thousand people enrolled, some 500 of whom received certification for the completion of their course.

During the course of the year, the twentieth formal **evaluation of teaching activity** was carried out. In

total, of the 864 eligible teaching staff (in the standard call and prior calls), 480 requested to participate (55.6%) and 436 were finally evaluated, with 420 (96.3%) receiving a positive evaluation. Of the eligible teaching staff, 484 were in the ordinary call for participation; in this case, 376 (77.7%) opted to take part, 353 of whom were evaluated (97.2% favourably). Participating teachers managed the process via a specific teacher assessment app (ADP) accessible through their Carpeta Docent (“Teacher’s Folder”). As in previous editions, participants were asked to complete a satisfaction survey on the process; the responses gave an average satisfaction score of 8.03.

In the area of **satisfaction surveys**, the UB has continued to seek feedback from students over the course of their studies and after graduation, whether at bachelor’s degree, master’s degree or doctoral level. The surveys for new bachelor’s degree and master’s degree students were completed by 25.7% and 35.2% of students, respectively: of the respondents, 87.5% and 80.4% indicated that the UB is their preferred choice of university for their studies. In particular, a series of actions were undertaken to encourage greater participation in the **survey on bachelor’s degree and university master’s degree subjects and teaching staff**. Over the two semesters, the participation rates were 22.3% for bachelor’s degrees and 36% for university master’s degrees: 175,492 online responses were received and 16,430 reports were created. The average score for the statement “In general, I am satisfied with the teaching activity carried out by the lecturer in this subject” was 7.69 among bach-

TEACHING IMPROVEMENT AND INNOVATION

€137,000
funds allocated to the RIMDA programme

97
consolidated teaching innovation groups

31
teaching innovation groups

2,140
members of the UB community involved in teaching innovation groups

856
Members of the UB community involved in teaching innovation projects

118
active teaching innovation projects



elor's degree students and 8.15 among university master's degree students.

The results of the **survey on services, activities and facilities** were broadly positive, students giving an average overall satisfaction rating of 7.30 out of 10, scores of 7.94 for the BkUB grants programme and

StartUB! services, and a score of 8.05 for the CRAI libraries. Participation this year reached 21.1%

Our **graduates** have also expressed their satisfaction with their completed courses. In the 2022 edition, 78.9% of master's degree graduates and 78.4% of bachelor's degree graduates indicated that they would choose the UB again for their degrees. The **doctoral student satisfaction survey** was completed by 40.9% of the doctoral students who read their thesis in the academic year 2021-2022. This year, the Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency (AQU Catalunya) published its eighth edition of the survey on the employment outcomes of Catalan university graduates.

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

Elsewhere, the **Institute of Professional Development (IDP-ICE)** has continued to analyse the training requirements of teaching staff and design proposals, as well as working to promote educational innovation and research support, alongside the publication of good practices and the creation of training materials in a range of formats. In total, 434 educators partici-

pated in training activities and 15,188 students enrolled (69.1% of them women).

The **Learning and Research Resources Centre (CRAI)** comprises 16 libraries, the Centre for Research on Plant Biodiversity, the Digitization Centre, the Restoration Workshop, the Cervera Warehouse and seven cross-university units that collaborate in learning and knowledge creation and facilitate access to and knowledge of a variety of information resources. The CRAI, boasting the EFQM 500+ European Seal of Excellence, made 287,091 document loans and 74,068 equipment loans in 2022.

The **Virtual Campus** has been renewed and its suite of resources comprehensively updated. Improvements include a simplified design and range of options across the different sections, providing more scope for personalization and offering students a quick view of the status of their different tasks.

In the area of digital transformation, the **UniDigital** Work Group on Digital Skills was set up to design, plan and certify training in digital skills for PDI and PTGAS. Also in the framework of UniDigital, the DIGAPREN working group made preparations for the acquisition of equipment and software for classrooms in UB faculties and their adaptation to a hy-

brid methodology, following the model of CHARM-EU teaching rooms. Specifically, new hybrid active learning classrooms (HALC) have been created in the faculties of Biology, Law, Education, Pharmacy and Food Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science, Medicine and Health Sciences (Bellvitge Campus), Psychology and Chemistry. Work will also be carried out with the company Immersium Studio, which prepares simulated learning environments applicable in courses offered at the faculties of Medicine and Health Sciences, Nursing, and Education.

Enrolments for training activities at the Institute of Professional Development (IDP-ICE)

| Training activities | Enrolments |
|---|---------------|
| In-service training courses for teachers in early childhood, primary and secondary education, vocational training and for other professionals in the social and community field | 3,608 |
| Courses in the Research section | 86 |
| Courses in the Community and Sustainability section | 608 |
| Courses for university teaching staff | 10,736 |
| Postgraduate courses and master's degrees | 150 |
| Total | 15,188 |

Satisfaction and opinion surveys

- New bachelor's degree students
- New university master's degree students
- Student satisfaction with bachelor's and master's degree teaching staff and subjects
- Student satisfaction with services and facilities
- Bachelor's degree graduates
- Master's degree graduates
- Doctoral graduates
- Students at the School of Modern Languages
- Students enrolled in Gaudir UB courses
- Students at the University of Experience
- Postgraduate students
- Teaching staff satisfaction with the teaching assessment process



3

A university at the vanguard of research

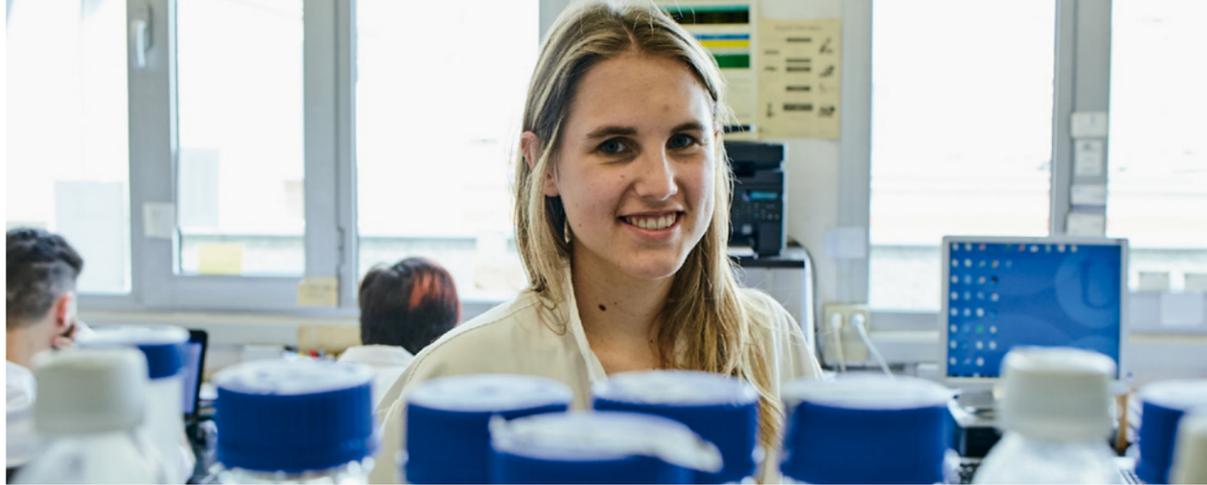
Promoting research: internationalization and attracting talent and resources

Research and scientific output

Technology, knowledge and innovation transfer

Doctoral studies

Dissemination of scientific culture



Promoting research: internationalization and attraction of talent and resources

As a means to **attract talent**, the University of Barcelona implemented programmes to promote and retain teaching and research staff and participated in numerous competitive human resources selection processes. A range of strategic actions were implemented to recruit staff as part of the EU-funded Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan (Next-GenerationEU). Over **150 postdoctoral researchers** joined the University via Margarita Salas and María Zambrano grants for the attraction of international talent as part of the grant programme for the requalification of the Spanish university system. The programme was allocated approximately 20 million euros and made it possible to recruit new, highly qualified researchers, while at the same time giving young UB researchers and lecturers the opportunity to take part in international mobility exchanges with other institutions.

In the same vein, the UB took part in several calls for proposals for the **I Investigate Programme**, funded by the Recovery and Resilience Facility (which covered all expenditure except 35% of the contract formalization cost, which was co-funded by the UB). The aim of the programme is to provide funding to hire young people (under the age of 30) in technical

positions for research, development and innovation. As part of the I Investigate-AGAUR 1 programme, 43 positions were awarded at the UB, which were filled in 2022, and 31 positions were awarded as part of the I Investigate-SEPE programme filled in 2023.

The University of Barcelona also acquired **new research infrastructure** through the **UB Science and Technology Centres (CCiTUB)**: the first 1 GHz nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) system in Spain and only the second instrument of this type in Europe. With a value of 8.9 million euros, the system was purchased with NextGenerationEU funds and was added to the equipment of the unique science and technology infrastructures network (ICTS) of the Biomolecule NMR Laboratory Network (R-LRB). The ICTS also updated and enhanced its instrumentation through the CCiTUB with 792,360 euros from the NextGenerationEU programme, which was used to update the 600 and 800 MHz NMR instruments. The CCiTUB's NMR laboratory is one of the participants in the European Remote-NMR (R-NMR) project, which was launched during this period with funding of 1.5 million euros from the Horizon Europe framework programme (2021).

The UB was also very active in the area of **research funding** during this period, committing to a total of 54 projects with the European Commission (EC) under the **Horizon Europe programme (2021-2027)** and an additional two projects under the former Horizon 2020 programme. In total, the 56 projects entered into with the EC have a combined value of more

than 32 million euros. These funds are added to those awarded for the six projects under way in association with other directorates-general totalling nearly 1.4 million euros. So, in 2022, the University of Barcelona obtained 62 projects, totalling almost 34 million euros for **European research projects**.

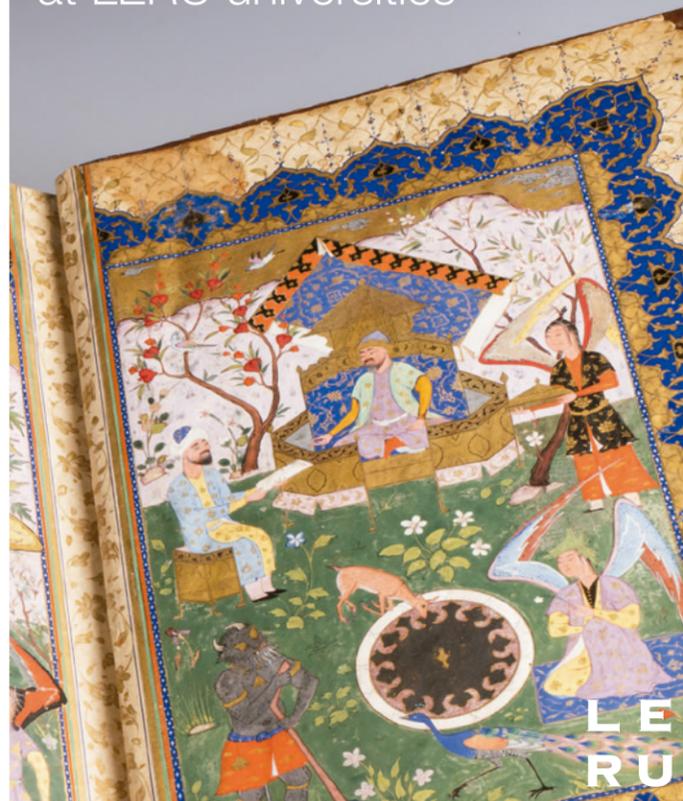
Research funding was also secured for 15 projects involving UB staff as part of TV3 and Catalunya Ràdio's 2021 **Marató** charity drive to fund mental health projects. At the same time, the 2022 **ICREA Acadèmia** programme recognized the scientific careers of 14 researchers at the UB, who received grants totalling 2.8 million euros to conduct research over a five-year period.

The **internationalization of research** at the University of Barcelona is based on its commitment to the **League of European Research Universities (LERU)**. In 2022, the LERU celebrated its 20th anniversary with two conferences: "The distinctive role



of academic institutions to foster resilient and sustainable societies" and "Science as a global public good". The UB took part in both. In addition, the book *Academic heritage at LERU universities* was published as a commemorative publication. Throughout the year, UB representatives took part in 47 meetings of the 26 working groups to which they belong, and the Vice-Rector for Research was appointed to the RESE policy group steering committee.

| Horizon Europe/Horizon 2020 and other EC directorates-general | Projects | Amount (in euros) |
|---|-----------|-------------------|
| Individual projects | 19 | 17,488,998 |
| Starting grants | 8 | 9,354,791 |
| Consolidator grants | 4 | 6,677,764 |
| Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions | 7 | 1,456,443 |
| Collaborative projects | 37 | 15,239,903 |
| Programmes of other EC directorates-general | 6 | 1,394,020 |
| Total projects | 62 | 34,122,921 |



RESEARCH-INTEGRATED TEACHING STAFF

2,440 teaching staff in competitive tendering and non-competitive tendering research groups

Staff engaged in research, by type of grant

| | Women | Men | Total | | Women | Men | Total |
|---|-------|-----|-------|--|------------|------------|--------------|
| Senior researchers | 50 | 73 | 123 | Predocctoral researchers | 318 | 309 | 627 |
| CIBER | 11 | 5 | 16 | Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MSCA-ITN-ETN) | 4 | 8 | 12 |
| ICREA (research lecturers) | 10 | 32 | 42 | Predocs-UB | 48 | 54 | 102 |
| Beatriz Galindo | | 1 | 1 | FI (Government of Catalonia) | 60 | 40 | 100 |
| Ramón y Cajal | 27 | 30 | 57 | FI-SIDUR (Government of Catalonia) | 39 | 47 | 86 |
| Project-specific, other calls or no grant | 2 | 5 | 7 | Research staff training grants (MINECO) | 99 | 94 | 193 |
| Junior researchers | 54 | 80 | 134 | University teaching staff training grants (MICIN) | 44 | 50 | 94 |
| Beatriz Galindo | 1 | 1 | 2 | Government of the Basque Country | 1 | | 1 |
| Beatriu de Pinós | 7 | 15 | 22 | La Caixa | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| María Zambrano | 20 | 38 | 58 | Tatiana Pérez Guzmán | 1 | | 1 |
| Requalification (lecturer) | 2 | 5 | 7 | Project-specific, other calls or no grant | 19 | 10 | 29 |
| Juan de la Cierva (incorporation) | 5 | 4 | 9 | Research technicians | 130 | 100 | 230 |
| SECTI postdocs (UB) | 19 | 17 | 36 | CIBER technician or grant recipient | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| Postdoctoral researchers | 118 | 104 | 222 | Research technicians | 126 | 98 | 224 |
| Young researchers (MINECO) | 1 | 2 | 3 | Research assistants | 107 | 78 | 185 |
| Margarita Salas | 75 | 69 | 144 | Total UB personnel | 777 | 744 | 1,521 |
| Juan de la Cierva (training) | 12 | 8 | 20 | Bosch i Gimpera Foundation researchers | 174 | 136 | 310 |
| Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MSCA-IF) | 9 | 4 | 13 | Bosch i Gimpera Foundation research technicians and assistants | 70 | 41 | 111 |
| Junior Leader postdoctoral fellows (La Caixa) | - | 3 | 3 | | | | |
| Project-specific, other calls or no grant | 21 | 18 | 39 | | | | |

SECTI: Spanish Science, Technology and Innovation System
MINECO: Ministry of Economic Affairs and Digital Transformation
MICIN: Ministry of Science and Innovation

Together with the LERU and the European Global Health Research Institutes Network (EGHRIN), a multidisciplinary meeting was organized to address social and medical challenges in global health, with some 70 participants from 13 different countries. The UB also contributed to a number of LERU publications on the analysis and positioning of research funding infrastructures and the impact of the New European Innovation Agenda on knowledge and innovation transfer activities and other initiatives.

In 2022, the UB also joined the European Commission's initiative, coordinated by the European University Association (EUA) and Science Europe, to help create an approved roadmap for changes and improvements to assessment procedures for research and research staff. This initiative was included in the **agreement on research assessment reform**, signed by the UB. The University also became a member of the Coalition for Advancing Research Assess-

ment (CoARA), established in December 2022 as a platform for experimenting with and developing new criteria and tools to assess and exchange good practices.

In the **Eurolife** network, the nine member universities implemented various activities within the framework of the DATAETHICS project ("Changing Landscapes in the Health and Life Sciences: Ethical Challenges of Big Data") within the Erasmus+ strategic partnership programme. The UB organized the summer school "Big data, big implications: data protection in biomedicine", which was held in Barcelona and in which 26 students from Eurolife universities of 20 different nationalities participated. The participants discussed the importance of working together on the ethical and scientific considerations of curating and managing massive biomedical data, and the need to be aware of the latest trends in data science and bioinformatics.

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

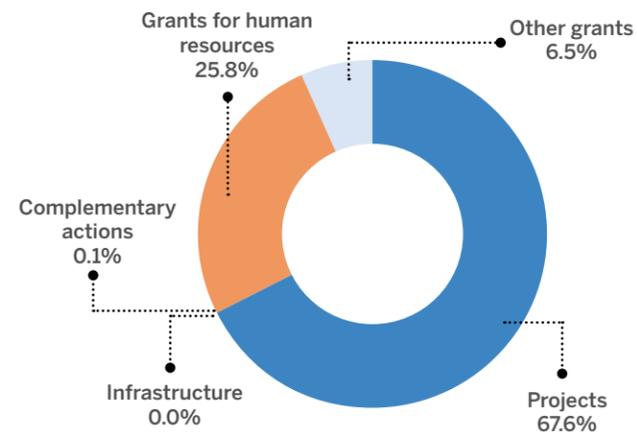
€253,442,817

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

Research and scientific output

Research funds secured through competitive calls by the UB's 16 faculties and 18 research institutes and university institutes totalled more than 134 million euros for 939 research activities. Of these funds, 56.9% came from the central government, 27.6% from the European Commission, 11.2% from the regional government, and the remainder from private non-profit organizations or other institutions. The four grants for the **María de Maeztu Units of Excellence**, totalling 8 million euros, are especially noteworthy. In addition, 20.8 million euros were awarded in the call for knowledge generation projects as part of the State Plan for Scientific and Technical Research and Inno-

Research funding secured through competitive calls



vation 2021-2023, in addition to 14 ICREA Acadèmia grants for a total of 2.8 million euros.

As mentioned earlier, EC funding was secured for 54 European projects linked to the **Horizon Europe programme (2021-2027)** and 2 projects from Horizon 2020, the predecessor of the current programme, for a total amount of 32 million euros. Nine projects were funded by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), for a total of more than 400,000 euros. Funding from other European projects this year totalled over 3.8 million euros.

Research at the UB is promoted and coordinated through **research structures**, in 2022 consisting of 16 UB research institutes, two university institutes, five research centres, an inter-university research centre, 11 observatories and three documentation centres. In addition, the UB participated with other institutions in 10 joint research institutes, two joint observatories and five inter-university institutes. Among these structures, three UB research institutes and one inter-university institute were recognized with the **María de Maeztu accreditation of excellence**, which provides total funding of 8 million euros for these four institutes.

In terms of **research groups**, as part of Spain's Pact for Science and Innovation and the Catalan Research and Innovation Plan, 232 consolidated research groups and 11 emerging groups took part in the 2021 call for grant proposals. Moreover, 15 inter-institutional groups managed by the UB were also recognized, in addition to 8 in which the UB participates.

SCIENTIFIC OUTPUT

7,599

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

Funding secured for research and technology and knowledge transfer

| Item | Amount (in euros) |
|--|--------------------|
| Projects | 90,857,133 |
| Complementary actions | 69,948 |
| Grants for human resources | 34,679,832 |
| Other grants | 8,682,774 |
| Research contracts | 11,923,029 |
| Research agreements | 2,995,089 |
| Infrastructure projects | 44,171 |
| External CCiTUB services | 2,843,342 |
| Funding secured by UB researchers at institutions with UB participation* | 101,347,499 |
| Total | 253,442,817 |

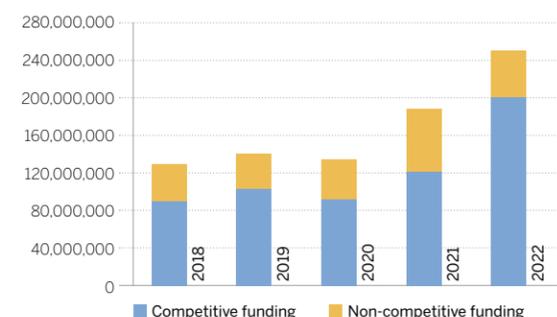
* Includes funds awarded for research conducted by UB research staff in competitive and non-competitive research activities at CRAG, CREAF, IBEAC, IBEI, IBIBAPS, IDIBAPS, IDIBELL, IEB, IECC, IJC, IRB, IREC, IRSJD and ISGlobal.

For yet another year, the research conducted at the University of Barcelona involved the **Bioethics Commission (CBUB)** which aims to assess methodological, ethical and legal aspects of research projects and doctoral theses.

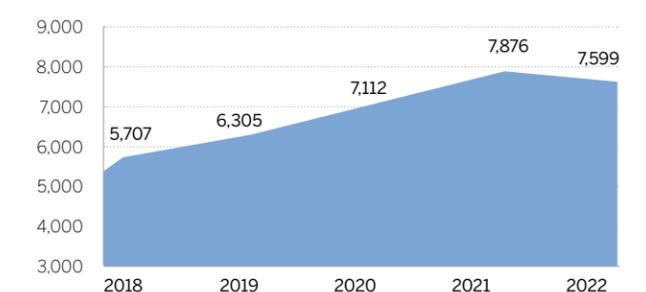
According to data collected by Web of Science (WoS), run by Clarivate Analytics, the **scientific output of UB research personnel** stood at 7,599 scientific publications: 6,137 in the Science Citation Index-Expanded; 539 in Social Sciences Citation Index; 797 in Emerging Sources Citation Index, and 126 in the Arts & Humanities Citation Index.

UB research staff can publish in **open-access** format in the journals of the publishing houses with which the UB has reached **transformative agreements**, which also allows them to opt for open-access publication in hybrid journals and open-access journals.

Research funding secured (in euros)



Scientific publications



Research institutes and centres

UB research institutes

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

University research institutes

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

Research centres

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

* With the María de Maeztu accreditation of excellence.

- Polis Research Centre for Art, City, Society and Sustainability
- Interdisciplinary Studies Research Centre (ISREC)

Interuniversity research centres

- Barcelona Institute of Analytic Philosophy (BIAP)*

Research institutes with UB participation

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

Interuniversity institutes

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



This year, agreements were signed with The Company of Biologists, Karger and Rockefeller University Press.

In 2022, 4,275 documents were published in the research collection of the UB **Digital Repository** (DDUB) and 477 doctoral theses were published in the Digital Repository and in the TDR (Doctoral Theses on the Net). This brings the total of doctoral theses available to 10,100.

As of 2022, research data are no longer published in the DDUB, and are currently published in the CORA RDR. This new federated, multidisciplinary data repository allows Catalan universities, CERCA research centres and other entities to publish data using the FAIR system (findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable) and in accordance with the guidelines of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC).

In the 2022 call for grant proposals for publication in the UB's **scientific journals**, all of the 5,959 applications submitted received funding. In addition, all of the journals published by the UB successfully renewed their quality certification from the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT) in this year's



OPEN ACCESS

37,540

articles in the UB Digital Repository

798

grants for open-access publishing

66,619

open-access documents published

10,100

doctoral theses in the UB Digital Repository



A university at the vanguard of research

RESEARCH AND TRANSFER

€15,577,919

in contracts

613

contract R&D&I projects

renewal process. The journals *BRAC (Barcelona, Research, Art, Creation)* and *SORT (Statistics and Operations Research Transactions)* received recognition for good editorial practices in gender equality. In addition, 26 scientific journals published or co-published by the UB were indexed by Scopus and included in SCImago.

The **Barcelona Science Park (PCB)** promotes innovation and knowledge transfer by strengthening relationships between the University, public research organizations and businesses. The total constructed **surface area** of the PCB is 101,486 sq m, with a usable surface area of 59,687 sq m for clients and services, and a leased surface area of 31,018 sq m, of which 21,564 sq m are laboratories and 9,455 sq m are offices.

In 2022, there were 126 **user** organizations, 100 of which were companies; seven were research centres, 12 were non-profit organizations; and seven were UB groups, units and services. Together, these organizations accounted for a total of 3,447 professionals. A total of 1,185 users accessed the PCB's Common Scientific Services through technological platforms over the course of the year to take advantage of its high added-value **scientific and technological services**.

Regarding the **dynamization activities of the PCB community**, 17 networking activities were organized, in addition to training events and social activities. In total, 1,276 participants attended. In addition, **scientific dissemination** and the promotion of scientific careers continues to be actively encouraged

UB SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTRES

€4,055,524

income from services

1,328

users and clients

through the Research in Society programme, which drew the participation of over 6,500 children and young people.

The University of Barcelona's **Science and Technology Centres (CCiTUB)** are a national and international benchmark for promoting research. Together, they work with scientific equipment valued at some 42 million euros, cover a total surface area of 12,000 sq m and employ 164 people. Their infrastructures and technical expertise have contributed to making the UB one of only three universities in Spain with two nodes on the Ministry for Science and Innovation's map of unique scientific and technical infrastructures (ICTS), and the only one in Catalonia.

Services provided by the CCiTUB to 1,328 users, account holders and principal investigators (36% from

the UB, 41% from other public entities, and 23% from private companies) have generated a turnover of 4,055,524 euros and won an overall rating of 8.11 out of 10 in annual satisfaction surveys.

The CCiTUB have been **ISO 9001-certified** since 2005, are registered in the Government of Catalonia's Registry as an agrifood laboratory, and are recognized by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as a contract laboratory for drug trials.

New equipment was acquired with the aim of **updating and expanding the instrument park**, some of it in collaboration with other institutions. These included a fluorescence microscope (Leica Thunder) in the Faculty of Biology, a new 400 MHz NMR spectrometer (Bruker Avance Neo) in the Faculty of Pharmacy, an isotope ratio mass spectrometer (MAT253 Plus) in the CCiTUB building on the Diagonal Campus; a susceptometer (Kappabridge MFK2-FA Spinner), a new high-resolution mass spectrometer with ion mobility (UHPLC/Q-TOF(IM)-MS), as well as new cytometry equipment (Cytex Aurora® spectral analyser) also on the Diagonal Campus. Two new mass spectrometers (Orbitrap Eclipse™ Tribrid™) were also acquired and are now available to users.

With the aim of **improving services**, the (bio)molecular analysis services were consolidated together on the Diagonal Campus along with the PCB Proteomics platform, new equipment and specialized technical staff. Collaboration with other entities was also promoted through the signing of four new **qual-**

ity agreements for the provision of services, in addition to the 20 existing ones.

In 2022, 19 **training activities** were held, including the 4th electron microscopy workshop, ICTS ELECMI, which more than 100 researchers and experts in electron microscopy took part in, and four workshops demonstrating the operation of new equipment. The UB also took part in the 1st Conference on the Scientific and Technical Services of Catalan Universities.

In the area of **social return**, the CCiTUB joined the Magnet programme from the Directorate General for Innovation, Digitalization, Curriculum and Languages of the Government of Catalonia and participated in the Escolab programme. Existing programmes for the **dissemination of knowledge** were continued during the year, including NanoEduca, 10alamos9 and Nanoinventum. Also, as a node of ELECMI, the Ginna project by Gimcana Nanotecnològica was launched, an educational initiative for primary and secondary school students.

SUPPORT FOR THE TRANSFER OF RESEARCH RESULTS

15 business creation ideas received and assessed

CREATION OF SPIN-OFFS

23 active spin-offs → **€10,962,837** in public and private funding gathered

Technology, knowledge and innovation transfer

The mission of the **Bosch i Gimpera Foundation (FBG)** is to transfer knowledge, technology and innovation from the University of Barcelona to society. In 2022, the FBG's portfolio of services was made available to the University's teaching and research staff, and the UB's regulations on industrial and intellectual property were updated to provide greater legal security in the procedure for communicating and protecting results.

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

| | Projects | Amount (in euros) |
|--|------------|-------------------|
| Contract research | 613 | 11,253,104 |
| Contracts and agreements | 440 | 9,919,971 |
| Services delivered | 173 | 1,333,133 |
| Projects and grants | 51 | 2,354,361 |
| European projects | 2 | 718,849 |
| National and international research projects | 49 | 1,635,512 |
| Licences | 42 | 219,672 |
| Management of programmes and services | 31 | 1,750,782 |
| Total | 737 | 15,577,919 |

In 2022, the FBG contracted 737 **research, transfer and other service** projects for the UB, for a total amount of 15.58 million euros, and contracted 746 people to carry out tasks linked to research projects. Of these projects, totalling 11.25 million euros, 613 are part of the **contract research programme** that enables companies to develop and implement innovative projects to improve the products or services they offer. A total of 51 **grants** were obtained, with a total value of 2.35 million euros.

The FBG also made advances in the protection of research results and technologies developed by UB researchers, with seventeen **licensing contracts** for UB technologies signed this year. Over the course of the year, these licences and other previous ones have yielded revenues of 289,953 euros. Of the 87 **patent applications** submitted, 14 were priority patents, 17 were international extensions, and 56 entered national phases abroad. By field, the biotechnology and health sciences sectors are of note, accounting for 71% of the patents applied for, followed by chemistry and pharmacy with 12% and electronics and sensors with 8%. Moreover, researchers submitted 50 **inventions** to the FBG for evaluation, three software products were registered and 10 material transfer contracts were formalized.

In addition, the FBG is responsible for promoting the **creation of innovative companies** by UB researchers. In 2022, two new spin-offs were created, Nimble Diagnostics and Virmedex Virtual Experiences, 15 new company ideas were received and assessed, and the UB

had 23 active spin-offs. These companies obtained 10.9 million euros in public and private funding, generated 11.3 million euros in aggregated turnover, and were responsible for creating 222 new jobs. Through the company **Innovative and Scientific Culture (CIC-UB)**, the FBG is responsible for monitoring the spin-off companies in which the University of Barcelona invests and is actively involved in the StartUB! tool.

With the aim of **fostering relationships with companies and organizations**, nine activities were or-

ganized which reached 243 people. The eighth Science + Partners was held this year, as well as the seventh iteration of the Fund to Promote Innovation (F2I) initiative, which consists of a series of UB grants totalling, over the years, an investment of 603,000 euros in 34 projects resulting in seven newly created spin-offs, ten licensed technologies, over 5 million euros in public and private funding and the creation of over 35 jobs. A total of 11 innovation vouchers were also awarded, aimed at promoting joint R&D&I projects among companies, institutions and research groups.

Active spin-offs

- Accure Therapeutics
- AlGecko Technologies
- BeCytes Biotechnologies
- Biocontrol Technologies
- Bluephage
- Braingaze
- ColorSensing
- Dapcom Data Services
- DBGen Ocular Genomics
- Enantia
- Gate2Brain
- Impetux Optics
- Kumux
- Mind and Identity
- NeurekaLAB
- Nimble Diagnostics
- Nostrum Biodiscovery
- Oniria Therapeutics
- Qilimanjaro Quantum Tech
- Reveal Genomics
- Smalle Technologies
- Virmedex Virtual Experiences
- Virtual Bodyworks

TECHNOLOGIES, MATERIALS AND LICENCES

17 license agreements

87 patent applications

50 invention disclosures



A highlight from the **UB Living Lab**, the UB's social innovation laboratory, was the fifth edition of the Living Lab on Good Governance and Regulation, as well as the Social Innovation Lab. In addition, the FBG participated in several **clusters and communities** for the purpose of bolstering collaboration with companies.

University of Barcelona TECNIO groups

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

2022 saw the fifth iteration of the **Open Innovation Forum** as well as the first University of Barcelona spin-off gathering, **Cockroaches vs. Unicorns**. The **2nd UB Innovation II Entrepreneurship Day, Let's UB!**, also took place during the year, attracting over 250 people, while the fourth **From Science to Market** event showcased technological and social business innovations and ideas related to areas including healthcare, the environment and education.

In addition, five **sessions** were organized to promote and encourage knowledge transfer for research staff from the faculties of Biology, Mathematics and Computer Science, Information and Audiovisual Media, and Psychology, as well as from the Institute of Neurosciences.

The UB also took part in the first **deep tech conference**, where the UB spin-off company Qilimanjaro was honoured with the award for the best deep tech start-up. Also in the world of technology, the first **Tecnio** conference was held during the year, focusing on the best knowledge transfer model for Catalonia, which was attended by UB groups with Tecnio accreditation from the Government of Catalonia. The UB has seven Tecnio groups, which bring together more than 200 researchers, which in 2022 earned 8 million euros, 57% of which came from R&D&I contracts with companies and public grants. During this period, seven patent applications were also filed and 10 researchers were transferred to collaborate with companies.

20 INDUSTRIAL DOCTORATE PROGRAMMES

• Doctoral studies

This academic year, the UB offered 47 **doctoral programmes**, 13 of which were inter-university programmes, and all of which could be completed in English. In the area of quality in official university education, the forty doctoral programmes coordinated by the UB were **accredited**, and more than 30% of the accredited programmes were awarded the seal of excellence.

In total, 4,990 **trainee researchers** were enrolled, 34% of whom were international students, and 742 **doctoral theses** were defended, 115 of which received **international doctorate certification**. In addition, the Governing Council awarded 70 **extraordinary doctoral prizes** and signed 10 **joint supervision agreements** for doctoral theses. For the second time, the **Antoni M. Badia i Margarit Award** was granted for the best doctoral thesis written in Catalan in all four categories.

In addition, the first **doctoral thesis supervisor and tutor survey** was launched, which found that the satisfaction with the plan and the annual supervision and monitoring activities of the doctoral students is valued with a score above 8 out of 10. In the new edition of the doctoral student satisfaction survey, overall satisfaction with students' programmes was rated 6.30 out of 10 and thesis supervision was given a satisfaction rating of 8.31; 92% of respondents said they would repeat their doctoral programme and 89% would enrol in it again at the UB.

Grants for predoctoral trainee researchers during the year included 627 active contracts for predoctoral trainee researchers, 102 of which were funded by the University (Predocs-UB). In addition, 22 **grants were awarded for training stays** in Spain and abroad, funded by the Montcelimar Foundation and the University of Barcelona. As a result of the **agreement signed between the UB and the Carolina Foundation**, two lecturers from Latin American universities were selected for inclusion in doctoral programmes at the UB.

Doctoral School

For the 2022-2023 academic year, **improvements were made to the applications** for acceptance of student research plans and for annual assessment, and work was done to implement online applications for academic doctoral certificates and doctoral degrees during the next academic year.

As part of the Doctoral School's cross-disciplinary training programme, **welcome sessions** were scheduled for newly enrolled doctoral students, and a set of training activities was developed for the **Early Research Programme**, a new initiative for students in the early stages of their research.

Within the framework of the **Industrial Doctorate plan**, the UB established several projects with companies in the 2022 edition. These partnerships have culminated in 20 collaboration agreements, 16 of



Dissemination of scientific culture

which are coordinated by the UB, while four were signed in collaboration with research centres. To promote this project, the UB held a **seminar on industrial doctorates** for coordinators of doctoral programmes and heads of doctoral programmes in the UB's faculties.

In addition, the 13th edition of the **LERU Doctoral Summer School**, entitled "Concepts of intervention science applied to global challenge", organized by the University of Heilderberg, was attended by two doctoral students from the UB.

The **1st UB Doctoral Research and Dissemination Conference** was also organized by the Doctoral Students' Representative Council for the purpose of promoting research, innovation and knowledge development among doctoral students.

In addition, the UB's Doctoral School organized the **10th Conference of Doctoral School Directors (CDED)**, which focused on the changes brought about by Royal Decree 99/2011 in the design of doctoral studies, as well as the accreditation of doctoral schools as centres of quality. Other topics discussed included the internationalization of doctoral studies, the ethics and emotional well-being of doctoral students, and the challenge of open science in doctoral programmes.

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

The portal made strides in **publicizing the UB's outreach activities**, with 112 activities posted and more than 47,000 visits. The UB's **social media** accounts (Twitter, Instagram and YouTube) were used to post content related to events and news and information about researchers and successful research projects.

One of the UB's own projects, **Camins infinits**, aims to bring primary and secondary schoolchildren into contact with UB researcher trainees. The initiative involved over 1,800 students from all over Catalonia during this period. Another UB project, **Toc-toc: informative talks by UB researchers**, facilitates communication between the UB and different social stakeholders throughout the region and attracted 1,300 participants during the year.

Once again this year, **science cafés** were organized on the occasion of **European Research Night**, in which some 20 UB experts offered a multidisciplinary perspective on current issues. The activity re-



sulted in the production of new video capsules for the **Pòsits UB** collection.

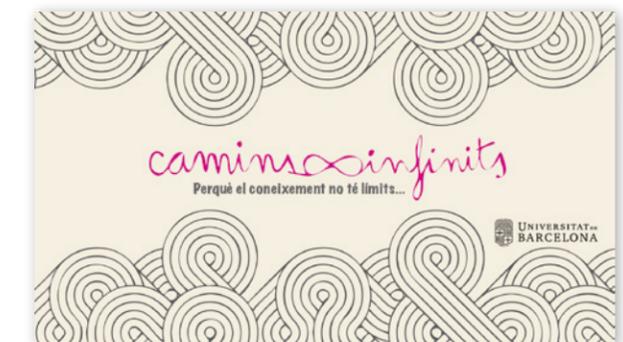
To commemorate the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, a new edition of the project **From Girls to Scientists** was held for primary school children, in which 13 class groups participated. A new edition of the **Elles pots, tu també!** contest was also launched on the UB Divulga Instagram account to share the day-to-day lives of female researchers.

The **UB Science Festival** was held for the ninth time this year and lasted two days. More than 400 people from the University were involved in organizing 65 different workshops, in which over 2,000 people participated. This academic year also saw the organization of **botanical tours** of the Ferran Soldevila garden as well as the newly created **Didalets de botànica** video collection. A new edition of **ArqueUB**, the programme of archaeological outreach activities held at the Raval Campus archaeological site, was also held.

The first edition of the **Mones de ciència** project was launched, the result of collaboration between the UB and the Barcelona Confectionery Guild. This year, the project focused on the world of geology. Through Mia, the chocolate figure (the *mona* in Catalan) that stars in the project, the UB was present in 28 patisseries throughout Catalonia. Another new development during the academic year were **Focus** posters, a collection of posters to highlight the scientific evidence, research and knowledge behind aspects and

concepts of everyday life. Among the new dissemination projects, the UB's **Cartipassos** project is especially noteworthy. It consists of a collection of thematic paper-printed newsletters distributed in pharmacies that aim to bring science and knowledge closer to the public.

In actions aimed especially at researcher trainees, the UB once again took part in the **Thesis in 3 Minutes** competition, organized by the Coimbra Group, the **Thesis in 4 Minutes** competition, managed by the Catalan Foundation for Research and Innovation, and **Your doctoral thesis in a Twitter thread: #Hilo-Tesis**, sponsored by the Scientific Dissemination and Culture Network (Divulga Network) of the Sectorial Commission for R&D&I of the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities (CRUE).





4

An international university

Internationalization strategy ●

Internationalization actions ●

International mobility ●

A COMMITMENT TO INTERNATIONALIZATION

12,606 international students 145 nationalities



• Internationalization strategy

In November 2022, the creation of the **Internationalization Committee** was approved. The committee is a delegation of the Governing Council of the University of Barcelona. As the body responsible for coordinating actions in internationalization, the committee defines the internationalization strategy and monitors its implementation. To this end, a draft document was presented to guide the discussion on the strategy the UB should adopt. The committee's work calendar also adheres to the provisions of Title VII of Organic Law 2/2023 of 22 March on the university system (LOSU), which establishes the obligation for universities' internationalization strategies to have general and specific objectives, as well as indicators to monitor and assess outcomes aligned with those established at different levels of government.

The **Erasmus+** programme remains the framework for the University's international activity. This academic year, the UB achieved increases in several areas, such as student and staff mobility (key action 131), which obtained 3,389,339 euros (23% more than last year), and student and staff mobility between countries that are not members of the EU or associated countries (key action 171), which received 470,070 euros.

Implementation of the **Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE)** continued satisfactorily fol-

lowing completion of the initial diagnostic phase conducted by its different working groups.

New mobility options for students, technical, management, and administrative and service staff, and teaching and research staff were also offered in the 2021-2027 period, such as **blended intensive programmes (BIPs)** and virtual exchanges. The UB participated actively in 26 BIPs and presented in Brussels at the Training and Cooperation Activity (TCA) of the Spanish Service for the Internationalization of Education (SEPIE) called "Blended mobility for Higher Education: challenges, opportunities and concrete implementation".

The UB promoted the **European Student Identity Card (ESCI)** initiative through the implementation of Erasmus+ and Erasmus without Paper (EWP) as a digital solution to connect the Erasmus+ mobility management systems of higher education institutions and to replace current student identity cards with the European version. The goals achieved by the UB in implementing Erasmus without Paper were presented at the Erasmus+ Higher Education Mobility Conference, organized by the Spanish Service for the Internationalization of Education (SEPIE). The UB was recognized for its efforts as an EWP Champion by the European Commission, a distinction for institutions that have played a prominent role in advancing the project. In this same vein, the University of Barcelona also took part in the European Digital Student Services Infrastructure Level 2 (EDSSI, L2) project.

In order to foster mobility and academic collaboration nationally and internationally, and to coordinate efforts with the other members of the Catalan and Spanish university system, the University of Barcelona participated in activities and conferences organized by different **institutional agents** and official bodies, such as the Sectoral Commission for Internationalization and Cooperation of the CRUE Spanish Universities, the EduEspaña association, the Inter-University Council of Catalonia (CIC), the Catalan Association of Public Universities (ACUP) and the Spanish Service for the Internationalization of Education (SEPIE). A UB delegation also took part in visits to Angola, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal organized by SEPIE, and a meeting was held with the government delegate for southern Africa, underscoring the University's interest in the region in terms of both academia and research.

The objective of strengthening relations with Central and South America was furthered through the University's participation in networks such as the Ibero-American Union of Universities (UIU). The UB's academic ties with universities in Colombia, Mexico and Peru were also strengthened through the establishment of new academic cooperation agreements. Various measures were also taken to expand the UB's relationships with Asian universities through regular cooperation with Casa Àsia and the Confucius Institute Foundation in Barcelona, and through actions specifically aimed at expanding student international mobility to countries in the region during their university studies as well as after graduation. To this

same end, an informative session was held in March 2023 together with the Catalan Association of Public Universities (ACUP) and a delegate from the government of Hong Kong to inform graduates about employment opportunities in the country.

In the academic year 2021-2022, a total of 12,606 foreign students enrolled in the University of Barcelona.

International alliances and networks

Through its participation in international networks and alliances, the UB forges solid relationships with prestigious institutions, promotes student and staff exchanges and supports joint research and collaborative projects.

This academic year, a new agreement was signed to re-establish the UIU alliance, and the UB was also re-elected as the vice-chair of the Union of Mediterranean Universities (UNIMED). In 2022, the UB worked with the UNIMED to put on the First Mediterranean Student Summit, in which the Erasmus Student Network (ESN) was also involved. In another new development, the UB joined the New University in Exile Consortium, a network of universities established for the purpose of supporting academics in exile. This joint project is part of the University Refugee Plan and is in line with the programme for the temporary reception of teaching staff displaced by the war in Ukraine. And, for the first time, the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation (ACCD)



TRAINEE RESEARCHERS

10 joint supervision agreements signed

International networks and associations

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

recognized the role of universities as key actors in this area, which has led the UB to participate in its calls for programmes and projects. Similarly, as a university committed to academic freedom and university autonomy, in May 2023 the UB renewed its commitment to the Magna Charta Universitatum, which it initially signed in 1988.

The European university: CHARM-EU

The University of Barcelona coordinates the **CHARM-EU European university alliance**, whose main objective is to promote cooperation and innovation in higher education.

The Erasmus+ call for proposals was decided within the framework of the alliance, which allowed CHARM-EU activities to be continued and expanded with coordination by the University of Barcelona starting in January 2023. To this end, the CHARM-EU annual conference was held in Barcelona in December 2022, which served to mark the conclusion of the first three years of the alliance and the starting point for the new phase, which began in January 2023. At the event, the goals for the next four years were presented and the university community was informed about how it can participate in the alliance's activities.

Three new members joined the original five members of the alliance: Julius Maximilian University of Würzburg, University of Applied Sciences Ruhr West

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS



and Åbo Akademi University. The University of Bergen also joined the alliance without becoming part of the CHARM-Eight project by signing a memorandum of understanding, and, eventually, a consortium agreement, which is currently being drafted. In February 2023, the UB held a kick-off meeting for the CHARM-Eight project, which continues the activities of the CHARM-EU alliance.

Over the course of the academic year, CHARM-EU joined the ED-AFFICHE project, which aims to define the conditions for accrediting European joint degrees, as well as the ESEU project, which examines the legal form that alliances should adopt in order to more efficiently carry out their activities. In addition, the University continued its role in the coordination of the Spanish Universities in European Alliances Group and various internal actions were implemented to align the objectives of the alliance with the strategic interests of each faculty and school, and to make the activities of CHARM-EU known to teaching and research staff as well as technical, management, and administrative and service staff. One of the highlights was “La universitat europea CHARM-EU: un banc de proves per a la docència, la recerca-innovació i la gestió” (CHARM-EU the European university, a test bed for teaching, research innovation and management), co-organized with the IDP-ICE.

Internationalization actions

The **call for proposals for the internationalization of faculties and schools** was implemented in order to further foster the internationalization process. It offers direct support to faculties that will allow them to undertake their own international initiatives within a common institutional framework. The aim is to promote the active participation of faculties in networks and enhance their global presence. This year 25 internationalization projects were supported involving eight University of Barcelona faculties and schools through the programme.

Eighty-four new **international agreements** were signed during the academic year, mainly with institutions in the United States, Mexico, Italy, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Chile, Colombia, Brazil, Switzerland and Ukraine. By type, there were 21 framework agreements and 19 research agreements, as well as 11 exchange agreements and 10 joint supervision agreements. These bring the total number of institutional agreements in force to 371, not including more than 3,400 Erasmus mobility agreements. In addition, as a means to improve the management of international agreements, a new online application was launched to more efficiently process them.

In collaboration with the Interuniversity Council of Catalonia (CIC), the University of Barcelona took



part in the three most prestigious **international education fairs**: the European Association for International Education (EAIE) fair, held in Barcelona; the Asia-Pacific Association for International Education in Bangkok, Thailand; and the Association of International Educators (NAFSA) in Washington DC, USA. Institutional receptions were also held in the Historic Building with representatives of all the European alliances as well as a meeting with a delegate from Ukraine in order to strengthen ties between the countries' institutions of higher education.

Actions to promote mobility within the UB community over the course of the academic year included the “Ves més allà” (Go Further) campaign, information events on international mobility programmes held in different UB faculties and schools, and the fourth International Mobility Fair, an event for bachelor’s and master’s degree students which was once again held in person at the gardens of the Faculty of Fine Arts.

International academic cooperation projects

Twelve new internationalization, international cooperation, strategic alliance and knowledge transfer projects involving the University of Barcelona were finalized during the academic year 2022-2023. Together with ongoing initiatives, the total number of international academic cooperation projects involving the UB now stands at 78. There are also 63 educa-

tional cooperation projects directly funded by the European Union with 55.8 million euros, of which the University of Barcelona receives 7.4 million euros. Highlights of these academic cooperation projects include the coordination of the CHARM-EU project, participation in seven **capacity-building** projects (aimed to enhance the modernization, accessibility and internationalization of higher education among member countries) and in 55 transnational **strategic partnership** projects (to apply and transfer innovative practices and promote cooperation, learning between equals and the exchange of experiences in Europe in the areas of education, training and youth). In addition, 15 **Erasmus Mundus** projects are devoted to the joint implementation of recognized study programmes between higher education institutions with total funding of 58.4 million euros, of which the University of Barcelona receives a part in accordance with the academic activities in each edition.

In terms of geographical location, most of these projects involve European partners from various countries, including Italy, France, Belgium and Germany. The most intensive international cooperation projects outside the European Union were in North Africa (Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria and Libya), Asia (Vietnam) and, to a lesser extent, Latin America (Bolivia, Peru). In all, the UB has established collaboration partnerships with institutions in 48 countries.

International mobility

The **Erasmus without Paper** (EWP) initiative continues to progress, with the ultimate goal of digitization and full interoperability of mobility management within the 2021-2027 period. The UB is one of the institutions that has made the greatest progress in implementation in this area, in the number of procedures implemented as well as in the digitization of management processes.

The University of Barcelona manages several **international student mobility programmes** through bilateral agreements with other institutions. Erasmus+ is highlighted, it includes exchanges within and outside of the European Union; Global Mobility UB, with mobility agreements between the UB and other institutions of higher education; Global Faculty UB, with agreements signed between faculties or schools; individual applications, and Study Abroad, which is only for international students.

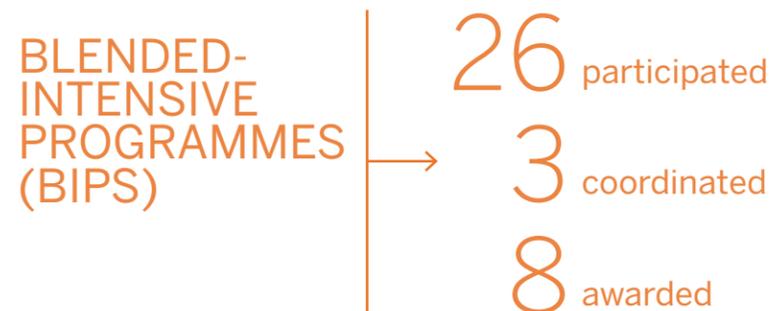
The **Erasmus+** programme covers study, professional placements and doctoral exchanges. This year, for the first time, the Erasmus+ programme also included BIPs. This is the most important framework for international mobility at the UB, in terms of the number of people taking part in exchanges as well as the associated funding. Over the course of the academic year, UB students undertook a total of 1,256 exchanges, while 1,380 students were received at the University. In general, mobility recovered to near

pre-pandemic levels, with an increase in outgoing Erasmus+ students. Conversely, mobility outside the European Union dropped notably due to the fact that in the first year of the 2021-2027 programme, the European Union did not provide funding for exchanges of this type and only pending exchanges from previous projects were processed.

The exit of the **United Kingdom** from the European Union and the Erasmus programme remains an obstacle due to the formalization of exchange agreements and the issues British students face managing

Student mobility by programme

| Programme | International students | UB students |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Erasmus+ BIP | 55 | 33 |
| Erasmus+ Studies (in the EU) | 1,226 | 1,095 |
| Erasmus+ Studies (outside the EU) | 3 | 2 |
| Erasmus+ Placements (in the EU) | 93 | 124 |
| Erasmus+ Doctorate | 3 | 2 |
| Global Faculty UB | 122 | 96 |
| Global Mobility UB | 73 | 65 |
| Coimbra Group | 14 | – |
| MAEC-AECID | 9 | – |
| Study Abroad | 258 | – |
| Individual applications | 53 | 2 |
| Total | 1,909 | 1,419 |



their new status as international students. This has led to a drop in the number of students taking part in exchanges to the UK.

Under the aegis of **Global Mobility** (which comprises the Global UB Mobility and Global Faculty UB programmes), 195 students were received at the UB and 161 UB students completed exchanges at other institutions. These figures show a considerable increase in mobility, although the number of exchanges has not yet returned to the pre-pandemic level.

UB students who participate in mobility programmes are eligible for various forms of **complementary financial aid**. This academic year, a total of 433 travel grants were awarded to Erasmus+ students and more than 23 grants for study periods in the rest of the world.

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

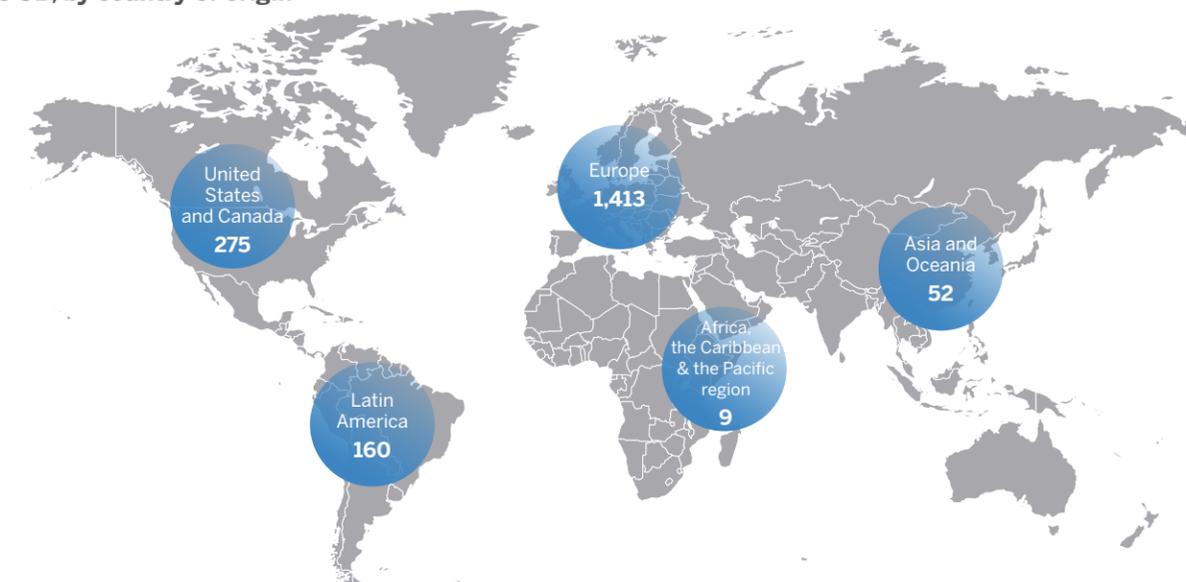
The University of Barcelona has two student mobility programmes that do not involve reciprocal exchanges, but do involve welcoming incoming foreign students who are temporarily enrolled at the UB and sending UB students abroad. One non-reciprocal scheme is **individual applications**. Under this arrangement, 53 students from around the world were

hosted and two UB students undertook periods of study abroad. The second is the **Study Abroad** programme, which covers agreements with consortia of universities. This programme was severely affected by the pandemic in previous years, but has now returned to normal levels, with a total of 258 students welcomed to the University of Barcelona during the academic year.

One of the new developments of the seven-year 2021–2027 period is the emergence of BIPs and virtual exchanges as new forms of internationalization. During the academic year 2022–2023, the UB coordinated three BIPs and participated in another five as a partner institution. Similarly, in the Erasmus+ project presented during the academic year, the eight BIPs to be implemented over the next 26 months were finalized. In these first three years of the European initiative, the UB has already taken part in a total of 26 BIPs, making it one of the leading universities in the programme.

In the area of **international mobility of teaching and research staff and technical, management, and administrative and service staff**, during the academic year, 52 members of the UB's **teaching and research staff** spent time abroad as part of the Erasmus+ programme, 10 of whom participated in exchanges outside the European Union. In addition, 216 foreign lecturers and researchers were welcomed at the University of Barcelona, and three researchers were accepted through the Coimbra Group programme for young researchers, with an endowment

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



of 9,000 euros for the next call for applications. A programme of grants with a budget of 39,180 euros was also announced to promote the mobility of teaching and research staff and another to promote internationalization of the UB's faculties and schools and academic programmes with a budget of 47,200 euros.

The UB's **technical, management, and administrative and service staff** also took part in mobility programmes, with 18 members completing periods abroad in Europe and five outside Europe through the Erasmus+ programme. In addition, 13 colleagues from other European universities and three from other countries were welcomed at the UB.

The Office of Mobility and International Programmes (OMPI) organized the **International Staff Training Week**, which focused on sharing best practices and participants' experiences in managing mobility and hosting foreign visitors. The event was held in June and was attended by 17 managers and specialists from other European universities and the rest of the world.

In the academic year 2022–2023, the UB completed procedures to **secure mobility authorizations** for a

total of 130 researchers and technicians from outside the European Union and 63 accompanying family members; all from non-European countries. The procedures for 10 intra-European student exchanges were also managed.

Incoming and outgoing mobility of PDI and PTGAS by programme

| | Teaching and research staff (PDI) | | Technical, management, and administrative and service staff (PTGAS) | |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|-----------|
| | Incoming | Outgoing | Incoming | Outgoing |
| Erasmus+ in the EU | – | 33 | 13 | 18 |
| Erasmus+ outside the EU (teaching mobility) | 2 | 10 | – | – |
| Erasmus+ outside the EU (training mobility) | 8 | 9 | 3 | 4 |
| Coimbra Group | 3 | – | – | – |
| International mobility grants from the Office of the Vice-Rector for Internationalization Policy | 9 | 29 | – | – |
| Other programmes* | 216 | – | – | – |
| Total | 238 | 81 | 16 | 22 |

* For PDI: previously, reception programmes for international teaching and research staff (PDI).



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