

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona



ANNUAL REPORT 2012.2013

UAB

Universitat Autònoma
de Barcelona

UAB **e** **CEI**
CAMPUS OF INTERNATIONAL
EXCELLENCE

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

ANNUAL REPORT 2012.2013

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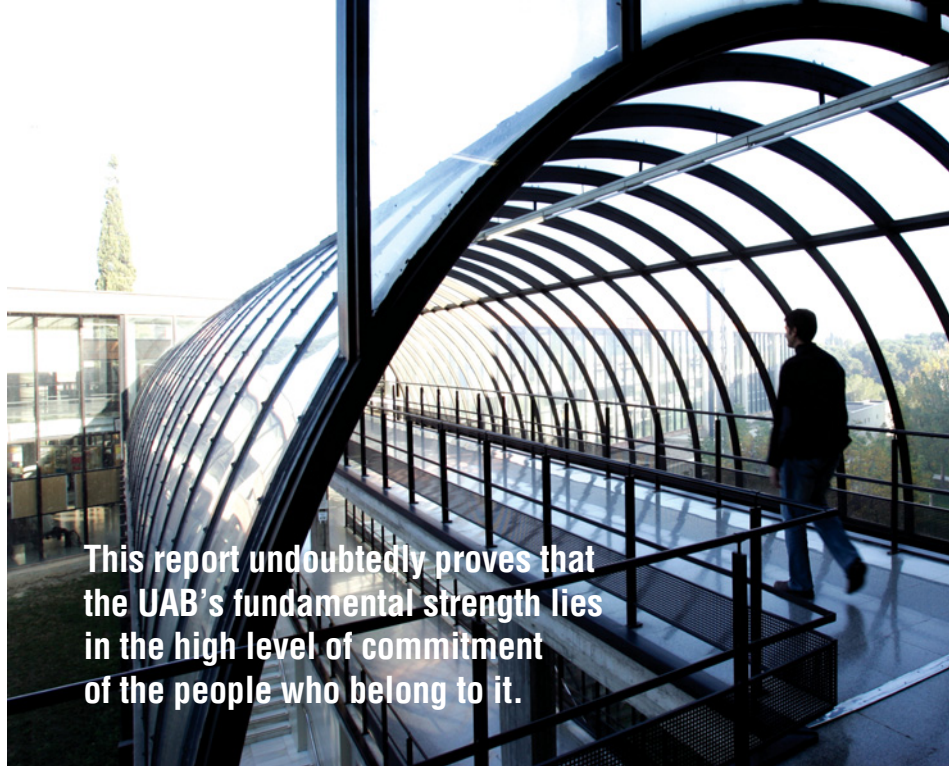
PRESENTATION



I am pleased to present the annual report of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona for the academic year 2012-2013, which has been the first year of the mandate of the Governing Team that I head as rector.

This report allows us to review our main activities and achievements in teaching, research and knowledge transfer. Going beyond this, however, this systematic reading of the events that occurred, the initiatives that were taken, the projects that were implemented and all the resulting facts and figures gives us an opportunity for calm reflection on the year that is now behind us. And this report undoubtedly proves that the UAB's fundamental strength lies in the high level of commitment of those that belong to it.

Though it is clear that the context of economic crisis and budget reductions has considerably undermined the UAB's chances of achieving the best possible results in its missions, the university community's sense of involvement and hard work has proved vital in overcoming obstacles and uncertainties, and fulfilling the University's duties.



This report undoubtedly proves that the UAB's fundamental strength lies in the high level of commitment of the people who belong to it.

Thanks to their efforts, the UAB has continued firmly, almost stubbornly, to strengthen and defend its status as a public university and its own special characteristics within that model. Thus, this past year saw the consolidation of a high-quality, innovative course offer that is of prime importance in attracting the best talent; there was a notable increase in European research funding, which partly compensated for the dramatic fall in the offer from the Spanish National Plan; collaborative, multidisciplinary initiatives were launched to promote innovation, employability and entrepreneurship; and work began on redefining organisational structures so as to gain in efficiency and adapt to new needs.

The results of these collective efforts have been reflected in the principal international university rankings, in which the UAB has established itself among the top 200 universities in the world, and heads the universities in Spain. It should be noted that the UAB has achieved this in spite of having considerably fewer resources than those of the higher-ranking universities.

The public university, as we understand it at the UAB, must have a clear vocation of service to the community and a firm commitment to the progress of society, and must safeguard equity and equality of opportunities. Thus, the UAB this year gave a boost to its programmes of support for students, especially the *Finestreta* Programme, to help students continue with their studies in spite of the rise in university fees.

Finally, I would like to stress that the UAB has also shown a high degree of responsibility in the management of its resources, resulting in a balanced budget closure for 2012. This required a huge effort on the part of the whole university community, but was absolutely necessary to safeguard the financial viability of our university.

To sum up, the following pages have the virtue of reminding us that, despite all the difficulties and obstacles in its path, our university continues to advance thanks to the strength and perseverance of the people who belong to it.

Ferran Sancho Pifarré
Rector

Key figures for 2012-2013

Courses

85	Undergraduate degrees
116	Master's degrees
79	PhD programmes
511	Lifelong learning programmes (2011-2012)
13	University faculties and schools
13	Attached university schools

Teaching

28,505	Undergraduate students
7,434	New undergraduate students
4,482	Undergraduate degrees (2011-2012)
2,078	Master's degree students
1,684	Master's graduates (2011-2012)
3,657	PhD students
8,620	Lifelong learning students (2011-2012)
6,126	Undergraduate students in affiliated centres
1,536	New undergraduate students in affiliated centres
556	Undergraduate degrees in affiliated centres (2011-2012)

International projection

1,361	Foreign undergraduate students
629	Foreign Master's students
1,334	Foreign PhD students
1,242	UAB students on exchange programmes

1,341	Exchange programme students at the UAB
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1,958	Foreign students on the Study Abroad programme
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Human resources (2012)

3,514	Teaching and research staff
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597	Trainee researchers
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2,489	Administration and services staff
--------------	-----------------------------------

Research (2012)

220	Research groups recognised by the Generalitat de Catalunya
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57	Departaments
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20	Centres for study and research
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7	UAB research institutes
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36	Research institutes attached to the UAB
-----------	---

556	PhD theses presented (2011-2012)
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3,496	Articles published in indexed journals (WOK-ISI)
--------------	--

53	Spin off companies
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57.07	Resources for research (in millions of Euros)
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Budget (2012)

313.74	Liquidated expenditure budget (in millions of Euros)
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Notes:

- Data for 2012-2013 is from 31 May 2013.
- The number of equivalent full-time undergraduate students is 25,259.
- The number of students does not include students on interuniversity programmes who are not registered directly at the UAB.
- Teaching and research staff includes postdoctoral researchers (Ramon y Cajal, etc.), of whom there are 160.
- The number of teaching and research staff equivalent to full time is 2,631.

IN THE NEWS



Inaugural act for the academic year 2012-2013

On 26 September the Conference Room in the Rectorat hosted the inaugural act for the 2012-2013 academic year at the UAB. During the ceremony the UAB Medal was presented to Professor Ramon Pascual de Sans and Professor of Theoretical Physics, Antoni Méndez, gave an outline of his academic career.



Professor Pascual, also of the department of Theoretical Physics at the UAB, member of the Institute of High Energy Physics (IFAE), former Rector of the UAB and President of the Executive Committee of the Synchrotron Consortium, gave the inaugural lecture entitled "My time at the UAB". The former rector outlined his career before coming to the UAB in 1972, the years of expansion of the campus, the years that he was involved in management and finally his experience during the creation of the Alba Synchrotron. Rector Ferran Sancho, who chaired the act for the first time, thanked Professor Pascual for his lecture and congratulated him on his academic and managerial career.

HIGHLIGHTS

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

The UAB is launching new financial aid programmes for students in order to guarantee equality of opportunities.

In the face of the persistent economic crisis and the significant increase in university fees as from July 2012, the UAB has launched the **Finestreta Programme** of financial support, to help its students continue their studies.

This is a groundbreaking programme that includes different kinds of support to help students overcome sudden, unexpected financial difficulties. The support is aimed at UAB students on official Bachelor's or Master's degrees, who are receiving no other financial help and who, during the current year, are undergoing an upheaval in their family or social circumstances that could impact on their academic progress. The programme receives 300,000 Euros in funding.

The Finestreta Programme includes different kinds of support to help students overcome sudden, unexpected financial difficulties.

It is designed to be flexible enough to tackle as well as possible a wide range of different circumstances and needs on the part of students: through individual attention, a variety of different aid packages, and ongoing calls for applications throughout the year so as to reach all students who meet the criteria.

The other student grant initiatives —UAB collaboration grants, placements at the UAB and other grants— have been adapted to the new regulations applicable to grant holders and have been given greater visibility by joining them together in a single call for applications, as part of the **UAB Student Grants Programme**.

It should be pointed out that UAB student grant programmes, the *Finestreta* Programme in particular, do not offer financial support only, but also aim to provide career guidance to the students on them. These students have a career plan supervised by the Treball Campus service and are helped by the Psycho-pedagogical Guidance Programme (POAP). (See below).

In addition, registration fees can now be paid in instalments of different kinds, and a web-based fees calculator has been made available.

Altogether, the budget for student grants this year is over one million Euros.

163

students have been given funds through the *Finestreta* Programme

Psycho-pedagogical Guidance Programme (POAP)

In parallel to the package of measures to mitigate the effects of the serious economic situation, the UAB has this year given a boost to student support with the launch of the new **Psycho-pedagogical Guidance Programme (POAP)**. One of the reasons for this is precisely the need to help students take full advantage of available grants.

The POAP aims to cover the different stages of education. Thus, the **Psycho-pedagogical Guidance Unit (UAP)** of the UAB has joined the POAP along with the various student support activities that were already being conducted by the university's Institute of Education: the Children's University, Campus Ítaca, the Argó Programme and the Ítaca-Santander grants. The UAP is a service that provides UAB students with assistance and prevention measures in support of lifelong learning.

This year, the UAP, within the framework of the POAP, has collaborated in the monitoring of students awarded an Ítaca-Santander grant, giving psycho-pedagogical support when called on. It has also provided assistance to students applying for *Finestreta* Programme grants.

HIGHLIGHTS

10 YEAR OF THE ITHACA CAMPUS



This year was the tenth anniversary of the **Ithaca Campus** project, an innovative and pioneering initiative in the Catalan and Spanish university system that has become a reference for the social commitment of the UAB.

The programme has the aim of ensuring that students do not drop out of school at the end of the compulsory period of education and is an adaptation of a programme at the University of Strathclyde in Scotland.

The programme began in 2004 with a pilot project involving the participation of 40 lower secondary school students. From then, and in the ten years the programme has been running, it has grown thanks to the commitment and involvement of the organisers, teachers, tutors and the participating institutions. In 2013 432 students took part from 56 secondary schools. Over the ten years more than 3,500 lower secondary school children from all over Catalonia have benefited from the Ithaca Campus experience.

The Ithaca Campus is managed by the Institute for Education and has the support of the Santander Group and the UAB Board of Trustees.

Parallel to the Ithaca Campus activities, in 2009 twenty annual **Ithaca Santander salary grants** were established to stimulate and facilitate access to university courses for students from centres participating in the programme.

A successful project

Ithaca Campus is a socio-educational programme aimed at lower secondary school students who are academically able, but for home or social reasons not always attracted to the option of continuing their education after school.

During the days of the Ithaca Campus, students work on social and personal skills and carry out activities related to different areas of knowledge to find out about the academic opportunities that are open to them at the university and acquire the tools that will help them to define their future. At the same time, the Ithaca Campus aims to offer a space for sharing among students from very different social backgrounds and to promote the use of Catalan as the main language of communication.

Monitoring of the programme has shown very positive results, both in terms of the immediate effects on the students, families, educational centres and participating localities of the participants, and also the UAB, which has considered the programme to be a stimulating and orientating element, and the level of studies observed in the students later on.

IN THE NEWS



20 new Ithaca-Santander salary grants awarded

In a ceremony on 25 June at the Convalescència, for the fourth consecutive year the UAB and Banco Santander awarded twenty salary grants to higher secondary level students with outstanding performance from backgrounds with social and economic problems. The salary grants cover the students' fees and offer a monthly salary of €500 during the ten months of the school year. This is renewed annually on passing all of the subjects.

The ceremony also included recognition of the first year of students to benefit from the grants who have just graduated having taken their entire degree course with the help of a salary grant.

The grants were awarded by Ferran Sancho, Rector of the UAB, and Pablo Cigüela, Associate Deputy Director General of Banco Santander and regional director for the group in Catalonia, and Josep Escaich, President of the Economic Committee of the UAB Board of Trustees.



HIGHLIGHTS

UAB CAMPUS OF INTERNATIONAL EXCELLENCE

The UAB Campus of International Excellence aims to create a true ecosystem of knowledge and consolidate the UAB^{CEI} as a promoter of economic and cultural progress in the region.



The activities carried out as part of the UAB^{CEI} project “A pledge for knowledge and innovation” are closely linked to the strategic framework of the university and aim to contribute to facing three decisive challenges for the UAB:

- Improving teaching and research.
- Promoting international projection.
- Intensifying interaction with the surrounding area.

The consolidation of the UAB^{CEI} Aggregation has been a fundamental factor in reinforcing the interaction of the university with the surrounding area and making it a veritable economic and cultural force. Intense cooperation among member of the Aggregation has been a key factor in driving collaborative projects for the socioeconomic regeneration of the area. For example, through agreements with the Ascamm technology centre and the PIMEC, innovation and entrepreneurship programmes have been set up and, through the Consortium for Employment and Economic Promotion of the Vallès Occidental (Copeyo) local development projects have been set up. Within this institutional context the UAB has been heavily involved in developing initiatives to strengthen collaboration between the university and the local councils, research centres, institutions and companies located in the surrounding area. To that end that UAB took part in the constitution of the B30 Àmbit Association and has continued its cooperation with the Catalonia Innovation Triangle (CIT) consortium.

A drive towards international projection

During the first years of the UAB^{CEI} development programme action centred largely on adaptation and improvement of infrastructures and equipment for teaching and research. That first phase, which coincided in time with the process of adaptation to the EHEA, has led to the application of a set of measures aimed at promoting international projection and the attraction of talent, in 2012 and 2013.

In 2012, the Spanish Ministry of Education produced a highly favourable monitoring report on the UAB^{CEI} project

During this academic year the UAB has consolidated its participation in international strategic projects such as the International Medical Research Association (IMRA), has set up a funding programme for organising missions and research exchanges with emerging countries (BRIC) and has encouraged active participation in the international university networks. As a result of this last line of action, in Autumn 2013 the UAB will host a plenary meeting of the European Consortium of Innovative Universities (ECIU).

Parallel to the creation of the School for Doctoral Studies at the UAB a process has also been initiated to offer support to international Master's degrees and PhDs in collaboration with other universities.

Innovation and territory

The consolidation of the UAB^{CEI} Sphere has been a fundamental factor in reinforcing the interaction of the university with the surrounding area and making it a veritable economic and cultural force. Intense cooperation among member of the Sphere has been a key factor in driving collaborative projects for the socioeconomic regeneration of the area. For example, through agreements with the Ascamm technology centre and the PIMEC, innovation and entrepreneurship programmes have been set up and, through the Consortium for Employment and Economic Promotion of the Vallès Occidental (Copeyo) local development projects have been set up. Within this institutional context the UAB has been heavily involved in developing initiatives to strengthen collaboration between the university and the local councils, research centres, institutions and companies located in the surrounding area. To that end that UAB took part in the constitution of the B30 Àmbit Association and has continued its cooperation with the Catalonia Innovation Triangle (CIT) consortium.

On 21 May 2013 the B30 Ambit Association was constituted at the Light Laboratory of the Alba Synchrotron. This association, made up of universities, research centres, local councils, companies and union organisations, has been set up to provide collective action for the promotion of the B30 corridor and to position it as one of the most innovative industrial and technological regions in southern Europe. The UAB forms part of the executive committee of the Association in representation of the universities bloc.

The UAB^{CEI} and Horizon 2020

The UAB^{CEI} programme has provided a stimulus and an impulse for carrying out numerous activities during a time in which the campus is under transformation. Beyond those actions it has contributed to the generation of policies for change, the promotion of multi-institutional projects framed within a strategic network with new cluster models and alliances, and to a profound reflection on the development of ecosystems for knowledge and innovation.

The Sphere has been defined as an asymmetric partnership in which the university takes the leadership, and it has stimulated research into synergies, resource optimisation and, finally, exploration of new frameworks for collaboration.

The changes that are occurring on a global scale, basically in socioeconomic models, are influencing new scenarios that the university has to adapt to and in which it has to be able to play a fundamental role, along the lines of proposals by the European Commission and the Horizon 2020 strategy. The UAB^{CEI} therefore represents a great opportunity for setting out along this path, since many of its own objectives coincide or point in the same direction.



The UAB hosts the Open Science & Innovation Forum UAB^{CEI}

With the aim of promoting knowledge transfer from the university to society and showing the production sector the capacity for knowledge and technology at the UAB^{CEI}, on 4 December the UAB hosted the **Open Science & Innovation Forum UAB^{CEI}**. This event was organised jointly with the UAB Research Park, the Board of Trustees and the Association of Friends of the UAB, and included the first UAB-NEM (Networking, Exhibition & Meetings), a space for contact and exchange between researchers and companies. During the day awards were made for **Excellence in Knowledge Transfer** to researchers José Manuel Soria (IIB Sant Pau), for Best Transfer Action and Joan Francesc Julián (Hospital Universitari Germans Trias i Pujol), for Best Innovation Project in the Sphere UAB.



IN THE NEWS

New nanoscience and nanotechnology laboratory

As part of the activities to promote the UAB Nanocluster, in 2103 the nanoscience and nanotechnology laboratory was opened in the Department of Physics. This new facility has an innovative and functional design that enables easy combination of teaching and research uses and adaptation for presentations and demonstrations. The laboratory has become a model for other research infrastructures since it combines the characteristics of a high performance workspace with the most demanding ergonomic, sustainability and safety requirements.

Aeronautical Cluster

The Technical Innovation Cluster in Aeronautical Management at the UAB hosted a weeklong working party from 24 – 28 June on Standards for Air Traffic Data Communication Services. This event brought together on the Sabadell campus the RTCA SC-214 and EUROCAE WG-78 working groups, made up of the main companies and government bodies in the aeronautical sector in Europe, the USA and Australia. The groups work for the development of standards and the requirements for safety, performance and interoperability of air transport services (ATS) based on digital data communication.

During the week delegates were able to find out details about the degree and Master's degree programmes in Aeronautical Management at the UAB and the new laboratory for navigation and communication in the aeronautical sector, situated on the Sabadell campus, as well as R+D and innovation activities carried out by the UAB in the field of aeronautical management.

HIGHLIGHTS

THE UAB AMONG THE BEST UNIVERSITIES IN THE WORLD

The UAB has achieved its highest scores ever in the principal international university rankings.

Over the last few years there has been recognition of the UAB's efforts to boost the quality of its teaching, attract international talent and increase the impact of its research, as seen in its steady climb up the most prestigious and influential international rankings. The UAB is the leading Spanish university, well-placed in the principal university rankings: The **QS World University Rankings** (QS WUR), the **Times Higher Education World University Rankings** (THE WUR) and the **Academic Ranking of World Universities** (ARWU).

The UAB is the 176th university in the world and the 76th in Europe according to the QS WUR 2012

The UAB has firmly established itself among the top 200 universities in the world and the top 100 in Europe on the **QS World University Rankings**. Specifically, in the 2012 edition, the UAB is in 176th position worldwide and 76th position in Europe, and continues to be the top Spanish university. It is noteworthy that on one of the criteria used in this ranking, that of academic reputation, based on a survey of academics from all over the world, the UAB reaches 105th position worldwide.

By subject areas, the QS WUR ranks the UAB among the top 100 universities worldwide in social sciences (95) and arts and humanities (92), and among the top 200 in the remaining areas.

The UAB is the leading Spanish university in the principal international rankings

The UAB has also improved its positions in the **Times Higher Education World University Rankings**: it has entered the 201 to 225 group and is now one of the top three Spanish universities in this ranking.

In the 2013 edition of the Shanghai (**Academic Ranking of World Universities, ARWU**), one of the best-known worldwide, the UAB is placed in the 201 to 300 group and is among the top-scoring Spanish universities.

On the ARWU ranking, the UAB is among the 200 best universities in the world in medicine and social sciences.

176th

university in the world, according to the 2012 QS World University Rankings

The UAB among the best young universities in the world

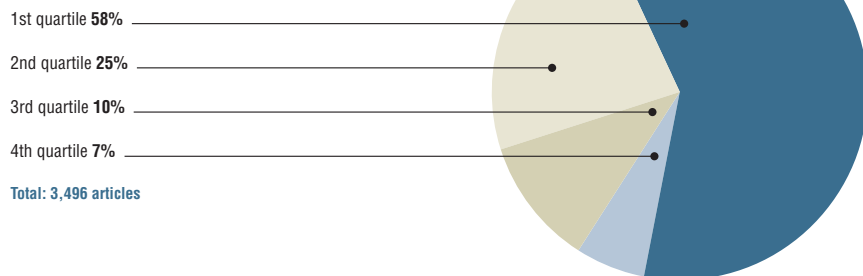
Since 2011, QS and *Times Higher Education* have published two new rankings for universities that are less than 50 years old. The UAB is the leading Spanish university in both rankings, and is highly-placed at worldwide level.

In fact, the UAB climbs higher in the 2012 editions of both rankings: it goes from 14th to 11th place worldwide in the **QS TOP 50 under 50**, ranking, and from 22nd to 20th in the **Times Higher Education 100 under 50**.

11th

university in the world under 50 years of age according to QS, and 20th according to *Times Higher Education*

ARTICLES PUBLISHED BY RESEARCHERS AT THE UAB BY JOURNAL IMPACT (THOMSON REUTERS). 2012



Impact of research papers

In 2012, according to the benchmark bibliographic database Thomson Reuters Web of Science, the number of articles published by UAB researchers was 3,496, practically all of which were in journals indexed by *Journal Citation Report*. Regarding the scientific impact of the articles, 58% were published in the highest-impact journals (first quartile).

In the 2013 edition of the research institution ranking **SIR Global Report**, published by the SCIMAGO group using data from SCOPUS, the UAB climbs to 202nd position worldwide in number of publications (or 171st if only universities are considered), and improves its scores on all indicators with respect to the previous edition. The UAB is now the second university in Spain for the number of articles published in the period 2007-2011, on this ranking.

It is noteworthy that SIR World Report also highlights the growing visibility of scientific production at the UAB. In the latest edition of this ranking, the UAB considerably increases the number of articles published in collaboration with universities abroad, going from 41.4% to 43.2%, and raises the normalised impact index from 1.4 to 1.43, which means that, globally, the articles published by UAB researchers are cited at a rate 43% above the world average.

Leader in digital repositories

In the January 2013 edition of the **Web Ranking of World Repositories** published by the Cybermetrics laboratory of the CSIC, the UAB's Digital Documents Repository (DDD) continues among the top 20 in the world, in 16th place. Only three Spanish repositories are among the top 50 in the world: after the UAB there is the UPCommons portal, in 17th place, and the Digital CSIC, in 45th place. In the top Europe, the DDD is in 6th place, only preceded by UK PubMed Central, CERN (Switzerland), HAL Informàtica (France), Igitur University of Utrecht (Netherlands), HAL Human and Social Sciences (France), and the Repec Archive in Munich (Germany).

This ranking measures the visibility and impact of scientific repositories at 1,240 institutions from all over the world in different categories: world ranking, top Europe and top institutional.

The DDD is also the highest-ranked Spanish institutional repository, in 11th place worldwide.

IN THE NEWS



The UAB takes part in new university classification projects

Since 2010 the UAB has helped to develop two instruments for classifying universities that are sponsored and funded by the European Commission: U-Map, which aims to classify universities according to their profile, and U-multirank, which aims to develop a new multidimensional university ranking.

The UAB has actively collaborated with the institutions that coordinate both projects, by providing data and by evaluating the viability of the proposed criteria and indicators

After the validation phase had been completed, in December 2012, the European Commission began the implementation of a new university classification based on U-multirank. 500 universities are expected to participate in this first pilot edition of the ranking, including the UAB.

The multidimensional approach taken by this new classification is an improvement on the criteria used by the traditional rankings, which respond mainly to performance criteria and give too much weight to excellence of research. In contrast, universities will now be assessed on a broad range of factors, arranged into five areas: research prestige, teaching and learning quality, international scope, knowledge transfer, and contribution to regional growth.

Moreover, this ranking will be an interactive tool that enables its users to personalise their search criteria, according to their own preferences, and to obtain information on centres and disciplines.

HIGHLIGHTS

UAB CAMPUS SiS

The UAB Healthy and Sustainable Campus programme expresses its commitment to the university, people and the region.

The UAB has a firm commitment to becoming an example of an efficient, sustainable and healthy campus. To satisfy that objective, this year the **UAB SiS Campus** was set up (UAB Healthy and Sustainable Campus) – a large project that brings together all the activities in the fields of health and the environment to improve the effectiveness of measures implemented and to promote cross-disciplinary activities.

The project consists of two plans: the **Healthy Campus** and the **Sustainable Campus**, whose respective missions are to improve the health of the university community through the promotion of healthy environments and habits and to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases by managing resources and the region more efficiently.

In terms of health, the plan consists of three main strategic lines:

- Promote healthy habits.
- Ensuring a safe and healthy environment.
- Promotion and encouragement for the UAB as a setting in favour of healthy living.



The 4th Health Week took place from 15 to 19 April to encourage the university community to acquire healthy and sustainable habits in different respects (personal health, mobility, environment, etc.). Throughout the week, different activities were organised by the Physical Activities Service: a healthy walk, walking or bike tours of the Bellaterra campus and a number of talks for raising awareness. The UAB restaurants also joined the Health Week in offering a sample of dishes from different Mediterranean countries.



The area of sustainability is made up of four main strategic lines:

- Planning and organisation of the campus according to criteria of sustainability and conservation of biodiversity.
- Guarantee of the efficient use of resources and promotion of minimisation and recycling of waste.
- Encouragement of internal environmental awareness in the acquisition of goods and services

A university committed to people and the region

In 1994, with the creation of the Vice Rector for Campus and Environmental Quality, the UAB set up the first Plan for Environmental Management of the Campus. At the end of the 1990s activities had been carried out that were coordinated between the areas of Logistics, Architecture and Environmental Quality.

From the management mechanisms that emerged from agreements at the Rio Summit (1992) and, specifically Agenda 21, the UAB set up a mechanism for planning, evaluation and participation which became a pioneer in action plans for sustainability. Later on, it drew up action plans in the areas of risk prevention, health and physical activity. From that moment on, to optimise

and in the organisation of events.

- Promotion of environmental sustainability and awareness-raising in the university community. The planning and monitoring of the project will be supervised by the **Social Responsibility Committee of the UAB**, which is responsible for evaluation the degree of fulfilment of the activities proposed for each academic year.

the efforts and generate synergies to improve efficiency, it was necessary to try to create a joint programme for all of those areas that would also integrate related areas. With that aim in mind the SiS Campus emerged, based on previous documents such as the *Principles and Values of the UAB*, the WHO recommendations and the Catalan Network for Healthy Universities (USCAT), as well as the aforementioned Agenda 21.

The SiS Campus aims to cover a broad remit, not only within the university community but also extended to the rest of society, and to go beyond simply fulfilling the current legislation to become a way of life.

HIGHLIGHTS

UAB ENTERPRISE

Promoting employability and entrepreneurship is included in the objective of facilitating the incorporation of graduates into the labour market and improving the capacity of students for developing innovative ideas.

The activities carried out by the UAB in the fields of employability and entrepreneurship aim to complement students' education with the necessary knowledge, competences and skills to enable them to return their acquired knowledge to society and make them capable of developing new innovation projects.

The result of this idea is the design of integrated action for regulated training on undergraduate and Master's degree courses to offer students the knowledge they need for access to the labour market and enable them to improve their capacity for the identification of opportunities and efficient resource management.

From this year on, the **UABEmprèn** (UAB enterprise) programme brings together all the UAB activities aimed at promoting entrepreneurship among students and researchers, as well as all the assessment services required in the process of developing a good business idea. This programme is managed by the Campus careers service (Treball Campus) under the direction of the Vice Rector for Quality, Teaching and Employability, offers specialist training in entrepreneurship and company management and organises events to incentivise entrepreneurial

spirit. Among the activities this year was the 2nd course in entrepreneurship, **Aprendre a emprendre**, and the organisation of the **UAB Entrepreneurship Day**.

the UABEmprèn programme brings together all the UAB activities aimed at promoting entrepreneurship among students and researchers

These initiatives aim to introduce students to the practical process of entrepreneurship and to provide the tools and knowledge needed for developing their own business projects. The activities therefore are of an eminently practical nature and always strive to offer experience to the young entrepreneurs.

The UABEmprèn has been received very favourably by the university community. The success of the call for applications for the Aprendre a Emprendre course has meant that the number of places doubled compared with the first year of the programme.



IN THE NEWS

UAB Entrepreneurship Day

Over 300 students took part in the UAB Entrepreneurship Day on 22 November – the first of such days to be organised by the university to promote entrepreneurship among its students.

The day included several talks and training workshops by experts in company creation and also the testimonies of former students of the UAB who have created companies in different sectors. The contributions by the experts gave students an overall view of the abilities that are required to become entrepreneurs and the elements involved in the process of transforming an idea into a practical and viable business project.



“Aprendre a emprendre” award ceremony

The second year of the “Aprendre a emprendre” ended on 21 February with an award ceremony for the three best entrepreneurial projects carried out by students during the course.

The Dalphy project (Democratic Art for People Like You), an interactive platform for the commercialisation of artworks won first prize and €1,000 as well as the opportunity to occupy a space in the business incubator of the Eureka building and to receive assessment from the UAB Research Park. Easy Park, a portal for the optimisation of parking places in cities and Custome Cervesers, a company producing personalised beers, obtained second and third place and €500 and €300 respectively.

GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITY



During its presidency by the UAB, ACUP took part in the Catalonia Future Seminar which took place on 1 and 2 March at the Monastery of Poblet. The heads of the Catalan universities and a group of prestigious companies from Catalonia approved the Poblet Declaration which contains a set of proposals for promoting entrepreneurship and cooperation between the universities and business in order to promote innovation, social progress and competition in the country.

Government agreements

During the year the activities of the university's governing bodies continued. The **Senate** met twice. In its session on 24 October 2012 it approved the rector's annual report on general policy lines for the university, elected member of the delegate commissions of the Governing Committee and Monitoring Committee of the EHEA and also approved four proposals presented by committee members from the UAB that were to be dealt with by the competent bodies.

Elections of members to the Senate took place by a system of electronic voting on 11, 12 and 13 December 2012. On 21 March 2013 a session of the Senate took place which continued in a meeting on 22 March. In that session members of the Senate Board were chosen and representatives of the Senate Governing Council, members of the Governing and Monitoring Committees of the EHEA were re-elected and the teaching dedication model was presented. Also in that session twenty proposals presented by members of the Senate were approved and forwarded to the competent bodies for action.

The **Governing Council** met seven times. 108 agreements were adopted and points of information and debate were addressed. The following are highlights:

- Approval and sending to the Board of Trustees of the UAB Budget for 2013 and the economic report, the balance sheets and the liquidation of the budget for the year ending 31 December 2012.
- Approval of the following basic structures: creation of a School for Doctoral Studies, Research Institute, Catalan Institute of Oncology and Catalan Institute of Palaeontology. The change of name of the Department of Economics and Business to the Department of Economics was also approved.
- Approval of the nomenclature of UAB street names.
- Approval of rules, norms and plans in the general ambit of the UAB in the following areas: good research practice and the School for Doctoral Studies, official recognition of foreign Master's degrees at the UABA, industrial and intellectual property, internal functioning of the Students Council at the UAB, Sustainable and Healthy Campus and a Third Plan of Action for equality between women and men at the UAB.
- Restructuring of the committees delegated by the Governing Council in the academic ambit.
- Nomination of Mr. Jordi Porta i Ribalta and Dr. Janice Jones Monk as *honoris causa*.

Board of Trustees

The activity of the Board of Trustees during 2012-2013 was marked by the economic crisis, which in the case of the UAB received a greatly reduced annual subsidy from the Generalitat de Catalunya since 2011. The Board of Trustees participated in the preparation and approval of the budget cut measures as well as the approval of the general lines for the UAB budget stabilisation plan in December 2012, in line with the local government legislation applicable and negotiation with the Secretary for Universities and Research.

This course has also been marked by the continuation of activities included in the University-Society Programme that promote strategic actions to contribute to strengthening links between the university and society (see chapter 07). In parallel, the Board of Trustees developed competences attributed by the LUC in the areas of university community, economic planning and management, budget and heritage.

The Board of Trustees has been working with meetings of the Economic Committee, the Academic Committee and the Society-University Committee and in plenary sessions. A total of 22 meetings were held with the committees and eight plenary sessions, and a total of 264 decisions were taken.



From 11 to 13 December the Senate elections took place. For the first time the elections were organised entirely by electronic voting through e-Vot. This is a system common to all the Catalan universities, promoted by ACUP and managed by CESCA. The Senate elections at the UAB were the most complicated and involved more users than any of the others using this system so far.



Photographer Isabel Steva Colita awarded an honorary degree by the UAB

Isabel Steva Colita was awarded the degree *honoris causa* by the UAB on the recommendation of the Faculty of Communication in a ceremony that took place on 6 November at the Casa Convalescència at which, in addition to academic representatives, numerous professional photography colleagues were present. Francesc Vilanova, from the Department of Modern and Contemporary History of the UAB presented the degree and described Colita's career. Her speech focused on her research into women photographers.



Jordi Porta awarded an honorary degree by the UAB

Jordi Porta was awarded an honorary doctorate by the UAB on 20 February on the recommendation of the Faculty of Political Science and Sociology. The rector of the UAB praised the intense commitment of Porta to society and thanked him for his personal dedication to the UAB as a member of the Board of Trustees and the Ombuds Office. Professor Josep Maria Vallès from Political Science made the award and highlighted Porta's role as a promoter of scientific knowledge, his life as a socially committed citizen and his collaboration with the university.

The Rector of the UAB is President of ACUP

Ferran Sancho, Rector of the UAB, took over the presidency of the **Association of Catalan Public Universities (ACUP)** on 8 January 2013. ACUP was created in 2002 with the principal aim of providing a voice for the public universities in Catalonia and joining forces to promote joint initiatives, programmes and projects to improve the university system and also to make it a driving force for social, cultural and economic development. Among the activities carried out by the ACUP since the UAB took over the presidency are the Catalan Future Seminar and the appearance of Ferran Sancho in the Catalan parliament in representation of the association.

The **Catalonia Future Seminar** was organised by the **CTI Platform** and took place on 1 and 2 March at the Monastery of Poblet. The leaders of the universities and a prestigious group of Catalan companies attended the event which aimed to analyse and engage more deeply in university-company collaboration for promoting innovation, social progress and competition in the country. As a result of the debate and the contribution of the experts in the closing session, presided over by the President of the Generalitat de Catalunya, Artur Mas, the **Poblet Declaration** was made public, offering a set of proposals for promoting entrepreneurship and university-company cooperation and shows the importance of carrying

out a diagnosis and making an RIS map (research and innovation strategies) for Catalonia. The CTI Platform is promoted by ACUP, PIMEC (patron of small and medium enterprises of Catalonia), the Department of Employment and the La Caixa Foundation in collaboration with the Generalitat de Catalunya and a group of companies established in Catalonia.

Ferran Sancho appeared on 121 July at the **Education and Universities Committee of the Catalan Parliament**, as president of ACUP. Under the title "Catalan Public Universities: where do we stand and where are we heading?" Sancho analysed the economic, governance, staff and research and development lines of the current university situation. The rector asked for stable and sufficient financing and highlighted that the universities are from a key piece for economic recovery of the country and an essential element for the promotion of social cohesion and quality of life.

ACUP ASSOCIACIÓ CATALANA D'UNIVERSITATS PÚBLIQUES

TEACHING

Quality and innovation are key factors in the success of the UAB's course offer



Degree courses

The 2012-2013 academic year witnessed the consolidation of the range of UAB courses that are adapted to the European Higher Education Area. More than 40% of degree courses had higher cut-off grades than the previous year, especially in the areas of science, biosciences and health sciences, strategic fields in which the UAB offers a broad and innovative range of options, and also in the fields of economics and business studies.

The Physics + Mathematics degree warrants special mention, as it obtained the highest cut-off grade in Catalonia in the 2012 entrance examinations (12.54), a result already achieved in 2009 and 2010 and that once again occurred in July 2013. The other double degrees, Business Administration and Management (ADE) + Law and Physics + Chemistry also enjoyed very high acceptance, which inspired the UAB to extend its offer of double degrees in future years, given that they take such good advantage of the fact that it is a campus university in order to attract motivated and talented students without this supposing an extra burden on resources. In 2013-2014, the new additions to the existing options will be Law + Political Science and Public Management, Environmental Sciences + Geology and Information Technology + Telecommunications Electronic Engineering or Telecommunications Systems Engineering.

Meanwhile, the good acceptance of degree courses in English has reasserted the UAB's desire to promote studies in the English language and the actions it has

engaged upon in conjunction with the **Programa de Foment de la Docència en Anglès** ('Promotion of Teaching in English Programme') to improve the ability among lecturers to express themselves and work in this language. The Business Administration and Management (ADE) degree in English received 50% more applications than the previous year and the Primary Education degree in English, which was offered for the first time, received applications from almost 400 students.

As for degrees offered in conjunction with other universities, through the Alliance of 4 Universities (A-4U) association, a joint degree has been set up next year in Philosophy, Politics and Economics. This is a transversal degree, inspired by the one being offered by almost fifty major universities, and which aims to provide an overview of social sciences from different perspectives in order to offer students different tools for the analysis of an increasingly more global, complex and connected world.

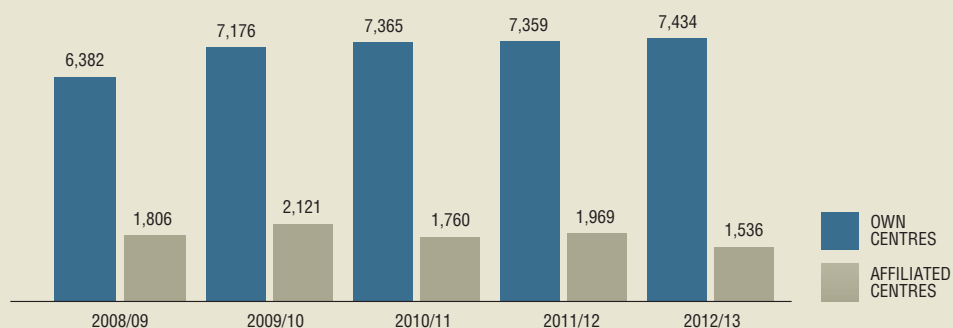
Finally, in order to improve the employability of students, the UAB has set up a series of actions to broaden the possibilities of doing in-company placements and improve the visibility of the existing opportunities. In this regard, a new programme has been established to enable degree students in the faculties of Law, Economics and Business Studies and the School of Engineering to do curricular work placements at companies in Shanghai, one of the strategic enclaves of East Asia.



Professional work placements in Shanghai

On 14 January, the Vice-Rector for Quality, Teaching and Employability, Glòria González, presented the new programme by which degree students in the faculties of Law, Economics and Business Studies and the School of Engineering can go on curricular work placements at companies in Shanghai. The students will stay for six months, during which time they will gain useful knowledge for their careers, get to know a Shanghai-based company and familiarise themselves with the local language and culture. The Chinese organisation Global Taixue will be monitoring and assisting the placement students in Shanghai.

EVOLUTION OF NEW DEGREE STUDENTS



DEGREE STUDENTS 2012-2013. OWN CENTRES

	TOTAL	WOMEN
School of Engineering	2,395	16.7%
Faculty of Economics and Business Studies	3,390	47.0%
Faculty of Biosciences	2,123	66.0%
Faculty of Science	2,382	39.0%
Faculty of Education	2,499	87.0%
Faculty of Communication Studies	2,105	66.3%
Faculty of Political Science and Sociology	1,034	47.3%
Faculty of Law	2,082	61.4%
Faculty of Philosophy and Arts	3,903	61.2%
Faculty of Medicine	2,517	70.3%
Faculty of Psychology	1,870	80.9%
Faculty of Translation and Interpreting	1,267	74.2%
Faculty of Veterinary Sciences	938	75.4%
TOTAL	28,505	59.6%

DEGREE STUDENTS 2012-2013. AFFILIATED CENTRES

	TOTAL	WOMEN
Eina School of Art and Design	515	64.9%
Massana School of Art	324	69.8%
School of Risk Prevention and Occupational Safety	247	25.9%
School of Trade and Distribution	97	39.2%
School of Health Sciences	1,049	66.5%
School of Social Sciences	403	79.9%
Gimbernat School of Nursing and Physiotherapy	1,333	66.8%
Hospital de Sant Pau University School of Nursing	321	84.4%
Terrassa School of Nursing and Occupational Therapy	688	82.1%
Tomàs Cerdà School of Computer Science	30	13.3%
Salesian School of Sarrià	527	9.3%
School of Tourism and Hotel Management	592	65.0%
TOTAL	6,126	62.8%

IN THE NEWS



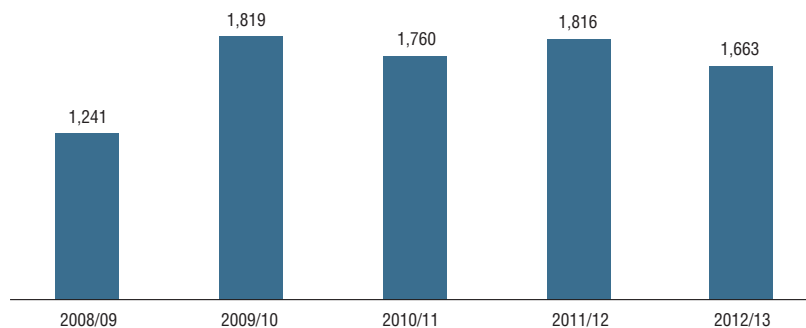
20 years of Environmental Sciences at the UAB

October the 18th was the main day of the events commemorating the 20th anniversary of Environmental Science studies at the UAB, the first ever in Spain. The day began with a well-attended event in the auditorium of the faculties of Science and Biosciences, organised by the UAB, the *Col·legi d'Ambientòlegs de Catalunya* («Association of Environmentalists of Catalonia») and the *Associació Catalana de Ciències Ambientals* («Catalan Environmental Science Association» – ACCA). During the closing supper, the new «20 anys, 20 ambientòlegs» blog was unveiled and the first *Premis Ciències Ambientals* («Environmental Science Awards») were presented.

Joaquín Gairín and his team win Vicens Vives Award

The team of lecturers led by Joaquín Gairín, professor in the UAB's Department of Applied Pedagogy, received the Jaume Vicens Vives Award 2012 in the group category. The award was given to the group of lecturers in the Department of Applied Pedagogy's subarea of Organisation of Education Institutes in recognition of the consolidation of its work over more than 30 years. The award was presented at a ceremony on 17 September 2012 at the UPF as part of the opening of the Catalan university system's 2012-2013 academic year.

EVOLUTION OF NEW UNIVERSITY MASTERS STUDENTS



27

doctorates with Pathway
to Excellence Award

POSTGRAD PROGRAMMES AND STUDENTS

	PROGRAMMES	STUDENTS	
		TOTAL	WOMEN
Official postgraduate (2012-2013)			
University masters*	109	2,078	58.2%
Doctorates	79	3,657	55.1%
TOTAL	188	5,735	56.2%
Own postgraduate (2011-2012)			
Own masters	206	4,196	62.6%
Postgraduate diplomas	113	2,015	79.6%
Specialisation courses	192	2,409	67.0%
TOTAL	511	8,620	67.8%

* The data on university masters only includes masters programmes and students offered and coordinated by the UAB. The UAB participates in a total number of 116 masters courses.

Postgraduate courses

University masters and doctorates

In April, the Governing Council's Commission on Academic Affairs (*Comissió d'Afers Acadèmics*) passed the criteria for the university masters programme at the UAB. The approved criteria go beyond those adopted by the Interuniversity Council of Catalonia (*Consell Interuniversitari de Catalunya*), which are exclusively based on numeric indicators, and incorporate elements of academic excellence and scientific opportunity. So, as well as guaranteeing efficient programming in accordance with the indicator used by the UAB (the student – lecturer ratio), the UAB's programme policy encourages, on the one hand, each of the University's own areas of knowledge to programme at least one quality masters degree and, on the other, considers whether the masters degrees offer access to a doctorate with a Pathway to Excellence Award. Finally, in the case of basic or highly specialised research masters involving internationally renowned teaching staff, the development of masters degrees that are unique to the system is encouraged, in order for them to be joined by prestigious research groups from other universities, to optimise the use of teaching staff from other universities in the Catalan system and to increase the volume of admissions.

The latter is one of the main objectives behind the creation of the **Barcelona Graduate School of Mathematics (BGSMath)**: to unify Mathematics masters and doctorates in Catalonia in order to create synergies between the different research groups in the area and to be able to generate a model

for talent recruitment and international projection. Another matter of note is the creation of the Master on Teacher Training in Secondary Education (specialising in Mathematics), the only one in the Catalan university system, involving participation by the UB, the UPC and the UPF and coordinated by the UAB.

There have also been some extremely successful and highly innovative masters programmes, such as the new masters in Bioinformatics and the masters in Aids Pathogenesis. Both are cases of programmes of excellence involving the collaboration of top level university and research institutions and dynamic, innovative companies.

As for doctorates, the work has focused on progress in the adaptation of courses to Royal Decree 99/2011. On the one hand, the creation of the School of Doctoral Studies (*Escola de Doctorat*) was approved, which is currently being included in the Register of Universities, Centres and Degrees (*Registro de Universidades, Centros y Títulos* (RUCT, MEC)). And there has also been intensive work on the adaptation of the programmes to the extent that next year, 30 of the UAB's 79 doctorate courses will already be adapted and verified to meet with the new standards.

Work also began this year on potentiating the internationalisation of all aspects of the doctorate courses and using all of the different instruments available: international PhD and European doctorate mentions, co-tutoring of doctoral theses, Erasmus Mundus and international industrial doctorates.

36%

foreign students on doctorate programmes
and 31% on university masters



IN THE NEWS

Presentation of the Barcelona Graduate School of Mathematics (BGSMath)

The Institute for Catalan Studies (*Institut d'Estudis Catalans*) was the venue on June 17 for the presentation of the **Barcelona Graduate School of Mathematics (BGSMath)** as part of the 16th meeting of the Catalan Society of Mathematics (*Societat Catalana de Matemàtics*). BGSMath will cover the scientific activities addressed at postgraduate students offered by the four promoter institutions (UAB, UB, UPC and Centre de Recerca Matemàtica), research-supporting entities and most mathematical research groups in Catalonia.



ESAGED celebrates tenth anniversary

On October 24, the Hotel Campus de la Vila Universitària was the venue for the celebrations of the tenth anniversary of the *Escola Superior d'Arxivística i Gestió de Documents* («School of Archival and Records Management» – ESAGED), which is associated to the UAB. The event was attended by Ferran Mascarell, the Government of Catalonia's Councillor for Culture, and doubled as the opportunity to present the new year's academic activities and to honour the previous year's graduates. The ESAGED was created ten years ago by initiative of the *Associació d'Arxivers de Catalunya* («Archivists Association of Catalonia») and the *Fundació Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona*.

International education projects

The UAB supports its teaching staff's initiatives to lead and participate in international education and cooperation projects, mainly in response to official European public calls.

In terms of participation in calls for the **Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP)**, six projects have been set up this year that were approved in the 2012 call. These are two multilateral Comenius projects, two multilateral Erasmus projects, one multilateral Leonardo da Vinci project and one transversal Erasmus K2 project.

As for the **Erasmus Mundus – Action 1** programme, this year witnessed the selection and admission process for students that will participate in the 2013-2015 edition of the two Erasmus Mundus masters at the UAB, which were renewed in the 2012 call: Mathematical Modelling in Engineering: Theory, Numerics, Applications (MATHMODS) and Models and Methods of Quantitative Economics (QEM).

It should also be noted that the UAB has presented a total of 39 applications for the 2013 calls for the following programmes: Lifelong Learning Programme (multilateral Comenius, Erasmus and Leonardo da Vinci projects; intensive Erasmus programmes; transversal Erasmus K2, K3 and K4 programmes; and Jean Monnet programmes), TEMPUS and Erasmus Mundus - Action 2.

Continuing training

This year saw the start of the process of reorganising all of the unsubsidised training activity offered at the UAB or its associated schools as part of the UAB Foundation (FUAB). This reorganisation is pursuing the following objectives:

- Creation of an umbrella organisational structure for the articulation and harmonisation of the management of all of the training being offered that is not included in the public university finance model.
- Improve the coherence of the offer of continuing training with the UAB's objectives and academic policy, in order for all UAB certificates to offer the same guarantees of quality and academic demands, regardless of whether they are official or UAB specific certificates.
- Implement a model for economic activity that enables the university to gain returns that are in keeping with its main contribution: the UAB brand, the value and prestige of which is based on academic rigour, quality control and adaptation to social requirements.

Its presence on Coursera will increase the international visibility of the UAB and lead to the exploration of new forms of teaching

Teaching quality and innovation

Throughout this academic year, the UAB has been adapting and redefining the processes of its Internal Quality System (IQS) in terms of the development of the lifecycle of the degree and university masters certificates. The third edition of the monitoring of the certificates in order to evaluate improvements was conducted one year before the first visits to the centres by external evaluators and the first certificate accreditation process. As for doctoral studies, this year the offer of programmes adapted to the new standards was defined, and six proposals have been verified.

The evaluation of teaching staff is a key process in the University's internal quality system, and the new evaluation guide that was applied for the first time this year is one of the elements that, along with the revision of the whole system for analysing satisfaction among agents that will be implemented next year, can only help to continue the improvement of teaching quality at the UAB.

Meanwhile, support for teacher training and innovation has been reorganised by integrating the old Higher Education Innovation Unit (*Unitat d'Innovació Docent d'Educació Superior*) with the Educational Quality Office (*Oficina de Qualitat Docent*) in order to improve their structure and organisation and adapt them to new needs.

The foundations have been established for a call in 2013 for a bespoke teacher training plan, the aim of which is to provide a response to the specific training needs of each individual group. As for the Higher Education Teacher Training Programme (*Programa de Formació Docent en Educació Superior* – FDES), addressed at new University lecturers, the training activities corresponding to a new edition have been conducted.

Other outstanding activities this academic year have been two thematic workshops on «Is it possible to learn with social networks?» and «Adaptations of the end of degree project at the UAB», and on May 29, the holding of the CIDUI Symposium on «Today's students and graduates: the universities' response».



MOOCs at the UAB

The UAB has become the first university in Spain, and one of the first in Europe, to offer Massive Online Open Courses (MOOC) from **Coursera**, the leading international platform.

Coursera has expanded the number of education institutions participating in the project from 33 to 62, chosen from among the best in each country. The platform was created in April 2012 by initiative of two lecturers from the University of Stanford and currently has 2.8 million users, 1.45 million enrolments a month and a range of 322 courses in all areas of knowledge.

The UAB's initial offer on Coursera includes courses in Mathematical Calculus, Egyptology and Basic Histology. In 2014, the UAB is offering its entire teaching staff the chance to produce new courses with the University's support, and the response has been excellent: 35 proposals have been presented of which, due to budgetary limitations, 4 will be selected.

The aim of the UAB's participation in Coursera is to increase its visibility in areas where it is outstanding or unique; to explore new forms of teaching by employing MOOC content in regulated training; to facilitate access by future students to certain degree and postgraduate courses; and to offer society products on transversal themes.



Information and orientation activities

The *L'Autònoma s'ha de viure* («You must experience the Autònoma») campaign has been the backdrop for the UAB's promotion and orientation actions in 2012-2013. The actions on campus have included **Open Days**, in which more than 334 secondary schools participated; campus visits for future students, of which there have been more than 5,000; two **Family Days**; and the **UAB Postgraduate Fair**, which presented the full range of both official masters and postgraduate courses on offer at the university.

The UAB once again attended the **Saló de l'Ensenyament** («Education Fair») and the Saló Futura, two fairs that provide information about university education and postgraduate courses, respectively. The UAB had two stands at this year's *Saló de l'Ensenyament*, one informing about its courses and services, and the other promoting what is being offered by the FUAB. The UAB also attended other education fairs, such as the *Espai de l'Estudiant* (Valls), *Orienta't* (Badalona), *Aula* (Madrid), *Feria Formación* (Pamplona) and *Unitour* (Palma de Mallorca and Andorra), specific postgraduate fairs in the Americas (Brazil, Colombia and Mexico) and an international university studies fair in Turkey. In total, more than 44,000 students from 590 secondary schools have taken part in one of the UAB's many university orientation activities.

Additionally, the **Information Point** has catered for about 60,000 enquiries through the different channels provided to its users.

Pla de Llengües de la UAB

Aposta estratègica pel multilingüisme

Virtual campus

Over the last decade, use of the **Virtual Campus** has become totally widespread among staff and students, to the extent that the number of users has now stabilised. However, the rate of activity on the platform is still increasing: use of the main instruments has increased more than 30% with respect to the previous year. Use of the Campus Virtual is evidently more intense and diverse than ever.

Additionally, use of the **Moodle Virtual Campus**, which has now been operational for five years, has doubled for the second year running, which confirms that the use of ICTs is now fully integrated in the courses taught at the UAB: of the 3,835 subjects on the Virtual Campus, 985 have made use of the Moodle Virtual Campus and its tools.

As for the communication and electronic management tools that the UAB has been providing to the university community in recent years, there has been a 40% increase this year in the number of websites created using the UAB's *Pàgines* ('Pages') service, and improvements have been made to the applications for monitoring certificates and teaching guides.

Language Service

The **Servei de Llengües – UAB Idiomes** (UAB Language Service) collaborates with the UAB's internationalisation policy by offering courses in nine different languages, level tests and international examinations aimed both at international students and the local community. In 2012-2013, there were 6,025 students on the different courses and the language levels of 2,884 students were assessed.

New for this year have been the first two sittings of the interuniversity English examinations to obtain the Certificate of Languages from Catalan Universities (*Certificat de Llengües de les universitats de Catalunya – CLUC*). This year the university community also set up the **Language Exchange** website. This is an online social space used for contact between people with an interest in establishing a language exchange and practicing languages autonomously and flexibly. It also offers resources and advice for getting as much as possible out of the exchange.

Specific courses have also been held offering support in the use of English as a working language aimed at academic, administrative and service staff.

The actions passed for 2013 on the **UAB Plan for Languages** have included the first ever offer of subsidies for language learners, aimed at students doing work placements abroad.

RESEARCH AND TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY

The UAB is the top university in Spain in terms of the number of projects it leads in the 7th Framework Programme of the European Union.

During this academic year the UAB has continued to develop lines of action aimed at promoting and making visible the activity of research groups and to encourage the transformation of knowledge into a social asset. In parallel, priority actions have been drawn up for the coming years. It should be pointed out, however, that action in the area of research and the transfer of knowledge and technology have been strongly affected by the economic situation, the reduction in public funding and the freezing of staff positions.

This has had negative consequences for the research groups. The reduction in funding and the delay in calls for applications in the National Plan has made it difficult to carry out projects and also the limitations imposed on the contracting of staff has had serious consequences in policies for the attraction of talent and the stabilisation of the research groups. Despite this situation, the UAB has been able to conclude the tenth call for trainee researchers and set up the eleventh. It has also given active support to research groups to facilitate access to European funding competitions for R+D+I, since the European framework programme has become the only source of financing that has not experienced a reduction in the amounts it offers.

In terms of strategic planning in the area of research and transfer, priority actions have been defined from the guidelines that have emerged for the next framework programme of the European Union – **Horizon 2020**. This new framework, to be operative from 2014-2020, will affect access to funding since the calls come at the same time as companies and regional organisations and the presentation of projects for scientific and social purposes, which just intensifies the importance of transfer and innovation. The result of this plan by the UAB has guided the actions in this field towards the creation of transversal structures focused on strategic challenges that allow researchers in different fields to come together with common goals. There has also been an alignment process or transfer activities in the UAB Research Park for the same goals through the promotion of valorisation and transfer activities in the framework of the UAB^{CEI}.

In line with this planning the UAB has continued to develop its collaboration strategy with the research centres and institutes that are attached to it in order to broaden and improve the potential for research and transfer. This year the UAB has begun a process of appointment to three research centres that have strong links to it: The Research Institute of the Vall d'Hebron hospital, the Catalan Institute of Oncology (ICO) and the Miquel Crusafone Catalan Institute of Palaeontology (ICP).



A drive to obtain European funding

2013 is characterised by a reduction in public funding for research and a clear step backwards in R+D+I in companies and institutions. This adverse circumstance has led to a fall in the resources obtained from state competitions and a significant reduction in the number and amounts of agreements signed and the services offered.

On the other hand, the quality and competitiveness of the lines of research carried out by UAB researchers has led the UAB to be leaders in a period of considerable growth compared with 2011, with the use of international resources, in particular the 7th Framework Programme of the European Union (7PM).

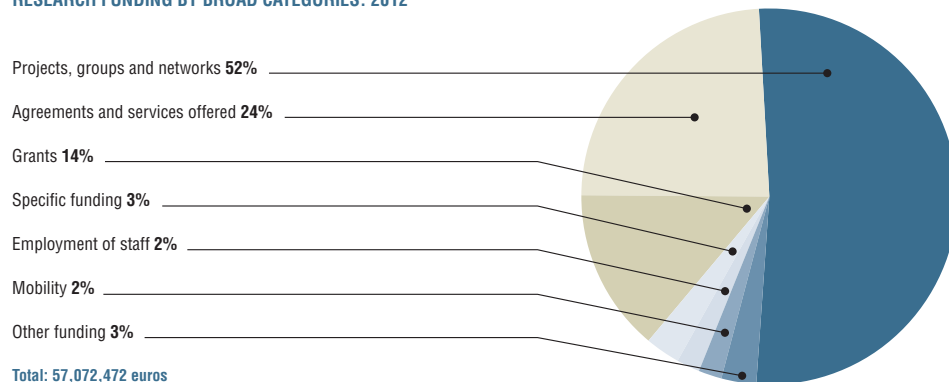
According to information from MINECO (June 2013) in the 7PM the UAB is the number one Spanish university in terms of the number of projects it is leading (48) and third in the number of projects in which it is participating (131). In terms of income the UAB has achieved fifth position with €37M obtained to date, representing 50% more than those generated in the 6th Framework Programme (2002-2006).

The level of international projection for research groups at the university has been fundamental in ensuring that the UAB becomes one of the best-positioned universities in Spain in obtaining resources from European competitions. With the aim of promoting the participation of the UAB in European programmes, this year three thematic sessions took place to give information about the funding opportunities within the Horizon 2020 programme (2014-2020).

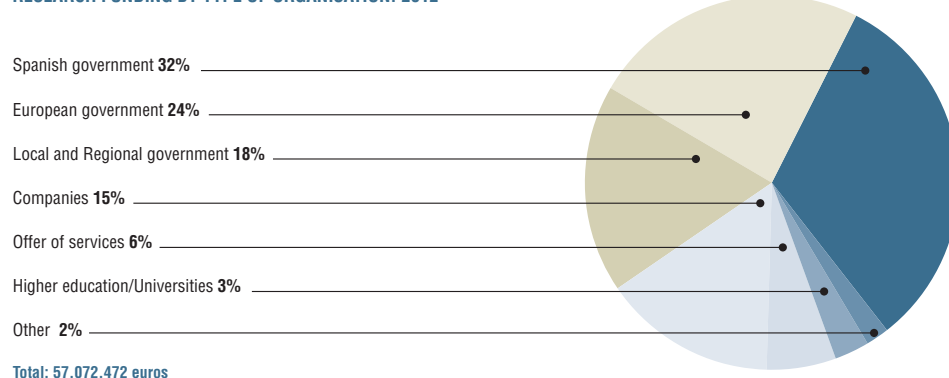
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research agreements for a value of 9.7 million Euros (2012)

RESEARCH FUNDING BY BROAD CATEGORIES. 2012



RESEARCH FUNDING BY TYPE OF ORGANISATION. 2012



Researchers who received awards from the European Research Council

Xavier Tolsa, a researcher in ICREA in the Faculty of Science and lecturer in the Department of Mathematics at the UAB, and Albert Marcet, lecturer in the Department of Economic History and a researcher in IBREA and MOVE (Markets, Organizations and Votes in Economics), were both awarded an Advanced Grant from the European Research Council. The Advanced Grants competition funds the best research project by researchers who have already achieved a reputation in Europe and they are awarded only on criteria of scientific excellence. The total grant per project is up to €2.5M.

RecerCaixa selects three UAB projects

In its third call for applications, the RecerCaixa, backed by the Obra Social "La Caixa" and ACUP, has selected three projects led by researchers at the UAB for their scientific quality. The result of this competition is that they receive funding from the programme for projects presented by Marta Poblet, ICREA researcher from the Institute of Law and Technology at the UAB, Ismael Blanco, Ramon y Cajal researcher at the Institute of Government and Public Policies and Màrius Martínez, lecturer in the Department of Applied Teaching.

Researchers who received ICREA Acadèmia awards

Three researchers from the UAB received awards from the Catalan Institution for Research and Advanced Studies (ICREA) in the fifth ICREA Acadèmia awards. There were Neus Barrantes, lecturer in the Faculty of Psychology and director of the People-Environment Interaction in Psychopathology research group, Fàtima Bosch, professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and director of the Animal Biotechnology and Gene Therapy Centre, and Guillaume Haeringer, lecturer in the Department of Economics and Economic History.

On 14 February Bioinformatics Barcelona (BiB) was launched. This is a platform made up of universities, research centres and other public bodies and its objective is to promote training, research and technology transfer in biocomputing as well as establishing Barcelona as a world reference point in this field. Ana Ripoll, former rector of the UAB, is the executive president of the project. The presentation was made in the presence of the three universities promoting the project: the UAB, UPF and UPC, together with representatives from Biocat and ten of the research institutions participating in the platform.



IFAE obtains the Severo Ochoa Award for Excellence

The Institute of High Energy Physics (IFAE), a CERCA centre attached to the UAB was recognised with the Severo Ochoa Award for Excellence from the Ministry of Economics and Competition in the second year of this programme, corresponding to 2012.

This award aims to recognise and promote Spanish research centres that have shown a major impact and international scientific leadership. The candidates were assessed by a selection committees made up of scientists of high international prestige, and they were required to pass highly demanding standards of quality in scientific production, the attraction of international talent and the success in competitions for resources.

The IFAE is a consortium set up by the Generalitat de Catalunya and the UAB in 1991 to promote and carry out research into fundamental physics,

i.e. particle physics, astrophysics and cosmology. The centre is divided into two sections: experimental and theory.

The Severo Ochoa award is valid for four years and guarantees funding of four million Euros over that period. Researchers from recognised research centres also have preference in access to other competitions and large scientific installations.

Since 2011, the Barcelona Graduate School of Economics, an interuniversity research institute attached to the UAB and the UPF, has also received this award.



a reference university for research training. The UAB has also worked actively in the pilot phase of the **Programme of Industrial Doctoral Studies** which aims to promote knowledge transfer between the university and companies and contribute to the competitiveness and international projection of the Catalan industrial fabric. Specifically, the UAB has coordinated the areas of food, bioengineering and cultural and creative industries.

Finally, it should be mentioned that the UAB has drawn up codes of good practice in the areas of research and the School for Doctoral Studies. These new documents for self-regulation, written in agreement with the university's principles and values and inspired in the European Research Charter and other scientific documents for good practice in public institutions offer a set of phases for action, recommendations and commitments for carrying out research activities and the monitoring of PhD candidates in their research training and the writing of their PhD thesis.

In terms of PhDs, this year the Governing Council approved the creation of the **School for Doctoral Studies** of the UAB, whose mission is to organise, manage and supervise the offer of PhD studies.

The setting up of the School of Doctoral Studies aims to guarantee academic quality and management and to promote national and international cooperation to position the UAB as



This year the Communications Library and the General Documentation Centre of the UAB celebrated their tenth anniversary with a commemorative exhibition entitled "10 years of BCHG". This library was created in 2002 on the unification of the Communications Library, the General Documentation Centre and the General Library and is currently on the was largest in the UAB in terms of books and document resources. It is the reference centre for resources concerning communication.

Research support services

The Knowledge Transfer and Strategic Projects Committee at the UAB approved recognition of the **Speech Treatment Service (STP)** as a scientific-technical service. The same committee also approved the creation of the **Laboratory for Access to Information Services of the UAB (INFOACC-UAB)**, associated with the Centre for Accessibility and Environmental Intelligence of Catalonia, a UAB Research and Study centre.

The **UAB Libraries Service** has consolidated the functioning of the bibliography module in the Mellenium course for computerised libraries that was set up last year. Now in its second year the Consortium Loan Service (PUC) has also shown an increase in use by the university community. The libraries consultation service showed an increase in the use of electronic resources thanks to the consolidation of the new access platforms.

This year the Libraries Service has also launched a website that aims to orientate teaching and research staff in process to evaluate their research activity and ANECA, AQU and CNEAI accreditation through access to support services and forms for accreditation.



SIBHIL-LA, a new scientific-technical service in the field of the humanities

On 13 December the Faculty of Philosophy and Arts hosted an event for the celebration and recognition of the 25th anniversary of the Local History of Catalonia Documentation Service (SDHLC) and TRACES – the Data Base for Catalan Language and Literature, which merged this year to create the **Bibliographical Information and History, Language and Literature Information Service of Catalonia (SIBHIL-LA)**.

This new transversal service managed the most complete documentary collection about the history of Catalonia and Catalan language and literature with the aim of becoming a key tool for knowledge transfer in the humanities disciplines and to meet the needs of cultural education and research.

IN THE NEWS

Three UAB lecturers awarded honorary doctorates

In 2012-2013, three lecturers from the UAB were awarded the highest university recognition.

Blanca Vilà, Professor of Private International Law at the UAB was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Macedonia at a ceremony on 9 November in Thessalonica.

Roman Gubern, Emeritus Professor in the Department of Audiovisual Communication and Advertising at the UAB was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Girona on 14 March.

Ramón Garrabou, Emeritus Professor of the Department of Economics and Economic History was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Girona on 14 March.

Victòria Camps receives the National Essay Prize in the Spanish Arts

Victòria Camps, Emeritus Professor in the Department of Philosophy of the UAB was awarded the National Essay Prize for her work entitled *The Government of Emotions*. This prize, awarded by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport recognises the best essay published in 2011.

Ricardo García Cárcel wins the Spanish National History Prize

For the work *Inheritance of the Past: historical memories in Spain*, Ricardo García Cárcel, Professor in the Department of Modern and Contemporary History at the UAB, was awarded the National History Prize by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport for the best work by a Spanish historian to be published in 2011.



On 23 July, the President of the Generalitat de Catalunya, Artur Mas, opened the new Henkel R+D centres at the UAB Research Park. The centres, a laboratory and a spin-off company, Afinitica, will be mainly dedicated to research into new concepts and materials for the creation of high added value adhesive products.

Collaboration between Henkel and the UAB began in 2010 with the opening of the first R+D+I and advanced technologies laboratory at PRUAB and has been recognised this year with the 2012 National Research Award in the public-private partnership category.

UAB Research Park

The **UAB Research Park (PRUAB)** has focussed its activity of evaluation of research results through knowledge and technology transfer by the university to the production fabric and society at large.

With this objective, during the year it carried out several activities to facilitate interaction and alignment of the research carried out at the UAB and the associated research centres to the technological, scientific and social demands of the local area. PRUAB worked actively in the organisation of the first Science & Innovation Forum UAB^{CEI} to demonstrate the potential of the UAB in R+D+I (see the «Highlights» section) and launched the PRUAB Innoget Cloud, an innovation portal that allows the promotion and structuring of collaborations in R+D+I among the more than 4,000 online researchers linked to the UAB Research Park and the business environment.

In 2012, within the support programme for the creation of technology-based companies (EBT), the UAB Research Park started up seven new companies from the information and communication technology sector, social sciences, biomedicine, mathematics and aeronautical engineering. Among the new companies, Aslogic, which specialises in consultancy services in the area of aeronautics and logistics, merits a special mention and is the third EBT to work with the UAB. In 2013, the UAB also agreed to participate in two new technological initiatives: Mass Factory, which develops applications for people with disabilities in the use of urban transport and Health & SportLab, which develops remote cardiac control applications for sports players.

The drive for transfer has also meant a significant increase in the number of patent applications to the **Patent Valorisation Office (OVP)** of the UAB. Specifically in 2012 the OVP received 44 inventions – a positive figure that exceeds the mean for similar offices at other Spanish universities. By sector, most of the applications were divided between science and human and animal health (15) and ICT and electronics (14).

The UAB has applied for patents for approximately 32% of these inventions. In other words 14 inventions have been patented and 37 international extensions generated in applications for patents in other countries. The total number of patents in 2012, priority applications plus international extensions, was 51 (compared with 43 in the previous year). Up to 2012 the UAB has successfully applied for 250 patents and it is the Catalan university with most European patents published from 2003-2013.

In 2013 the UAB also signed seven transfer agreements with different companies so that the patents granted under licence can be developed and eventually commercialised.





The EU will fund the large GRAPHENE project, with the participation of the UAB and ICN2

The UAB and the Catalan Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (ICN2) will be two of the

three Catalan centres to participate in the GRAPHENE project (Graphene Science and Technology for ICT and Beyond), one of the two big research projects in the FET Flagship competition, driven by European Union framework programmes. Coordinated by Jari Kinaret, from the Chalmers Higher Technical Institute (Switzerland), the project will involve 126 academic and industrial groups from 17 European countries who will work towards the development of new graphene applications.

IN THE NEWS



New printed electronics cluster

On 1 February at the UAB Research Park, the official presentation of the PEC4 Association took place. This is the first printed electronics cluster in Spain and will work online to promote R+D+I projects and specialised training in one of the most innovative sectors with the most potential for growth in the industrial sphere.

The event took place in the presence of the UAB Rector, Ferran Sancho, the President of the Spanish Research Council, Emilio Lora-Tamayo, and heads of the Catalan research centres that form part of the cluster: the CETEMMSA technology centre, the National Microelectronics Centre (IMBCNM) of the Spanish Research Council, the Centre for Accessibility and Environmental Intelligence of Catalonia (CAIAC) of the UAB and the CIMITEC.



The UAB hosts the Food & Health Entrepreneurship Program for the first time in Europe

From 27 to 31 May the UAB Research Park hosted the prestigious Food & Health Entrepreneurship Program of the University of California at Davis. This is an international training programme for innovation and technology transfer in the food ambit and was organised for the first time in Europe.

The programme has the support and collaboration of the UAB^{CEI}, The Food and Farming Research and Technology Institute (IRTA) and the Alicia Foundation, with the support of Danone and Gallina Blanca Star.

Research dissemination

Throughout 2012-2013 there were 134 campaigns for the dissemination of research, focussed on the results of research projects by researchers at the UAB and also in conferences and other scientific events and institutional initiatives related to the area of the research. These campaigns resulted in 1,560 mentions in the press, 115 on the radio and 118 on television.

The articles published in the UAB online journal for scientific dissemination, **UAB Divulga**, also received 231,870 hits and now have a total of 1,800 subscribers. E-publication for the dissemination of news about innovation and entrepreneurship in **UAB Innova**, also received 6,870 visits.

Among the dissemination campaigns carried out this year, those related to health and the environment had the greatest impact. The first field included the cure for diabetes in dogs, the success of the new genetic study of embryos applied to cases of extreme infertility and hereditary diseases and a new vaccination against Leishmania. Environmental research included the publication in *Mature* of a study demonstrating that climate change accelerated technological progress in the Stone Age and the presentation of the initial results of the MedSea campaign in the Mediterranean.

In social sciences the media gave broad coverage to the discovery of a fort over 4,000 years old in Murcia, a study on the change taking place in the phases of courtship and the identification of a new language variety among young Latin-Americans in Barcelona.

Other research disseminated this year includes the first observations of protein structure using the ALBA synchrotron, the sequencing of the pig and melon genomes, the discovery of a dinosaur egg that links the dinosaurs with present day birds, the identification of a system of caverns on Mars and the discovery of an ovarian tumour in the skeleton of a woman from the age of the Romans.

In terms of innovation and entrepreneurship, the press reported on the creation of the first printed electronics cluster in Spain, the first year of the Open Science & Innovation UAB^{CEI} and the development of an online changing room for clothes by Artificial Intelligence Technologies (AITech), a UAB spin-off company located at the UAB Research Park.

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTION

The UAB has broadened its horizons through actions in three major lines: students and staff mobility, the projection of the university abroad and collaboration with foreign universities.



new collaboration and exchange agreements with foreign universities

International projection

Intensification of international projection in all areas of the university is a fundamental strategic aim of the UAB. The internationalisation of teaching and research at the UAB is opening up new horizons through actions along three main lines: students and staff mobility, the projection of the university abroad and collaboration with foreign universities. Among the actions carried out to increase international projection of the UAB the following are particularly significant: participation in international fairs and forums, which this year has included specific presentation by the UAB and its projects at the China Study Forum in Beijing and at the Study Abroad Forum in Chicago; the involvement of the UAB in strengthening and consolidating the international networks that it forms part of (A4U, ECIU, EUA), and specific actions such as visits to foreign universities and government institutions, especially in emerging countries.

The result of this activity is that the UAB has continued to increase the number of international collaborations in research, exchange agreements for students and lecturers and the number and scope of joint projects. Special mention should be given to the launch of two double degrees with the Asian universities of (South Korea) and Renmin (China).

Institutional visits

Within the ambit of international relations, this year 50 institutional visits were made in addition to the usual visits and contacts of the faculties and schools of the UAB. The vast majority were outside Europe, mainly in emerging countries such as Russia, Brazil and China, Asian countries such as South Korea and Malaysia, Anglo-Saxon countries such as the USA and Australia and African and Latin American countries. Of the English countries France, England and Norway are highlighted.

The result of those visits was 10 framework agreements, 7 student exchange agreements for undergraduate and Master's level and 4 lecturer exchange agreements. 10 new student exchange agreements are also being prepared for 2014-2015. Among the visits received at the UAB are Monash University, one of the most prestigious in Australia and a delegation of eleven rectors from Kurdistan, with a proposal to send students to the UAB to study for Master's degrees or PhDs with grants from the regional government. There was also a visit by a delegation of 25 people from the University of Toulouse interested in strengthening collaboration relations with the UAB. As regards the visits the UAB made to India and Russia as part of the 4 Universities Alliance Group (A4U) in 2011 and 2012, this year the UAB received a group of researchers from those two countries who met with researchers from the UAB with the aim of collaborating on specific research.

One of the main institutional trips was to the centenary celebrations of the University of Pyeongtaek (South Korea), with which the UAB has been working for more than 15 years. Also, in September it was represented at the 3rd ASEM Rectors' Conference in Groningen, and in April the Vice-Rector for International Relations visited the Technological Institute of Monterrey (Mexico), a member of the ECIU with which the UAB has several lines of collaboration. The UAB was also present at the First Arab-European Conference on Higher Education which took place in May in Barcelona.

Finally, regarding relations with Oriental Asia, the UAB visited China in September 2012 to close an agreements to offer a double Master's degree in Chinese and European Law at the University of Renmin from 2014-2015, and the trip to South Korea in March to monitor the double degree in Spanish Philology at the University of Hankuk, which began this year.



The Alliance of 4 Universities goes to Turkey to promote bilateral collaborations

During the first week of March the Alliance of 4 Universities (A-4U) travelled to Turkey to promote bilateral collaborations between the Turkish and Spanish universities in the areas of education, research and technology transfer.

The mission consisted of a series of meetings and visits to seven universities in Ankara and Istanbul

where the vice-rectors of international relations and strategic projects of the four universities that make up the Alliance (UAB, UAM, UC3M i UPF) drew up different proposals to facilitate the exchange of students and staff, the development of double degrees and work experience for A-4U students in Turkey and the possibility of promoting joint participation in research projects within the Horizon 2000 programme of the European Union.

The Alliance of 4 Universities also had high level talks with members of the KOSGEB (State support agency for SME development), TÜBİTAK (national council for scientific and technological research) and the Permanent Delegation of the EU in Turkey, the Cervantes Institute, the Spanish Embassy in Turkey, the Marmara Research Centre and several science and technology parks. During these meetings the A-4U was able to find out about the activities of their Turkish peers and make progress with the design of joint activities.

Participation in networks and consortia

The UAB has continued to take an active part in the different university networks. It was represented at two executive board meetings of the **ECIU** (European Consortium of Innovative Universities) during the year and has collaborated in practically all of the working groups in the association. Additionally the UAB is the university responsible for coordinating the members of the **EUA** (European University Association), and attended the annual conference in Gant (Netherlands) in April.

For the fourth consecutive year, the **Confucius Institute of Barcelona** was the venue for the HSK official Chinese exams. It also continued and extended its offer of regular Chinese classes on the UAB campus, which it also organises.

This year the UAB took part in the 5th anniversary celebrations of the **CASB** (Consortium for

Advanced Studies in Barcelona); a consortium made up of eight of the most prestigious US universities. CASB organises study periods at Barcelona's universities for the universities in the consortium and promotes mobility between universities through the awarding of postdoctoral grants; this year a researcher from the UAB visited the University of Columbia.

The UAB office in Shanghai has continued to work to expand and consolidate its links with China. Once again it handled the China Scholarship Council (CSC) grant applications to study at the UAB – three-year awards that the Chinese government offers to the best Chinese students to carry out their doctoral studies in Spain as CSC grant holders.

IN THE NEWS



Universities from Kurdistan visit the UAB

A delegation of rectors from nine universities and scientific institutions in Kurdistan visited the UAB on 10 April to facilitate study visits at the UAB by Kurdish Master's and PhD students. The education system in the regions of Kurdistan is under reform to improve the level of professional preparation of its students. With that aim in mind, the regional government is establishing agreements with the best universities in the world and offering numerous grants to Kurdish students so that they can spend six months at the UAB.



Catalan universities forge new links with China

In September 2012 a delegation of representatives from the Catalan public universities, among which was the Vice-Rector for International Relations from the UAB, Lluís Quintana, visited China on a trip organised by the Confucius Institute of Barcelona. The objectives of the visit were to strengthen relationships between the Catalan and the Chinese universities, improve knowledge about the Hanban task (the general office of the Confucius Institute), promote relations between the Institute and the Catalan universities and encourage teaching and diffusion of Chinese language and culture.



From 13 to 23 May two lecturers and six students from the final year of the Degree in Social Education at the UAB travelled to the Tampere University of Applied Sciences (Finland) to take part in an intensive Erasmus programme: "See me! – creative methods with youngsters", together with around fifty other people from the seven organising universities.

Erasmus promotes efficient and multinational education in specialised topics which otherwise would not be taught, prepares students and lecturers for joint working in multinational groups and makes it possible for the participants to benefit from educational conditions that are not available in a single institution and obtain new perspectives about the topic under study. In 2013 the UAB presented two proposals for intensive Erasmus programmes of which one, in the area of environmental science, has been selected and consists in organising an advanced course on socially sustainable ungrowth.

In collaboration with the Interuniversity Council of Catalonia (CIC), the UAB attended the European EAIE fair in Dublin in September 2012 and the Asian APAIE fair in Hong Kong, in March 2013. During these annual fairs twenty three interviews with universities of interest take place and these often result in new collaborations. The UAB also took part in the ACA consortium in Brussels in January, the China Study Forum in Beijing in March and the Forum on Education Abroad in Chicago in April.

Mobility programmes

In 2012-2013, the participation of the UAB in the **Erasmus programme** enabled it to send 822 students to study in European universities and to receive a total of 940 European students. Within the same programme 95 lecturers and 36 members of Administration and Services staff spent period in other European universities and 78 students carried out work experience in companies. 19 members of the UAB took part in the Erasmus Staff Week organised by the UAB. As part of the Erasmus programme the UAB has established 1,008 agreements with more than 500 European universities.

In terms of national programmes, 530 agreements were established within the **Sicue-Sèneca programme**, leading to mobility for 235 students of which 137 were received by the UAB and 98 spent period at other universities in Spain.

The **UAB mobility programme** for study at non-European universities included 244 outgoing students and 264 incoming students. These exchanges were possible thanks to 299 agreements in around thirty countries.

The **Study Abroad programme**, managed by the UAB Foundation ended the 2012-2013 consolidating the healthy figures of the previous year, with 1,958 students participating in the different programme options. The Preestablished Study Abroad programme saw a 9% drop in applications but number on the tailor-made courses were maintained and in some cases increased. Courses were therefore organised for different universities and agencies of the USA, Brazil, Mexico and the United Kingdom.

Reception and support for international students

Throughout the year the **International Welcome Point (IWP)** of the UAB attended 6,999 members of the international community. More than half of these were related to obtaining and renewing legal documentation for staying in Spain and a quarter dealt with the different exchange programmes and the Study Abroad programme. There were also numerous consultations for obtaining work permits or authorisation, especially for pre-doctoral grant holders from the UAB in the contract phase and international postgraduate grant holders (MAEC-AECID, IFPFORD, CONICYT, Erasmus Mundus, etc.).

The UAB offers a welcome programme for foreign students to help them settle and integrate in the university and the country. This year the **International Welcome Days** were attended by 450 international students. The UAB also offers a **Mentor** programme and a **Tandem** programme. In the Mentor programme for peer accompaniment and support 46 local students and 430 international students took part, while the Tandem programme for language exchange and acquisition of oral fluency saw the participation of 780 students.

IN THE NEWS



The UAB welcomes international students

Each semester, in September and February, the UAB organises International Student Welcome Days. This event is the official welcoming of international students and several different activities are organised so that they can find out about the services offered by the university as well as the different students groups at the UAB and get to know the UAB campus.



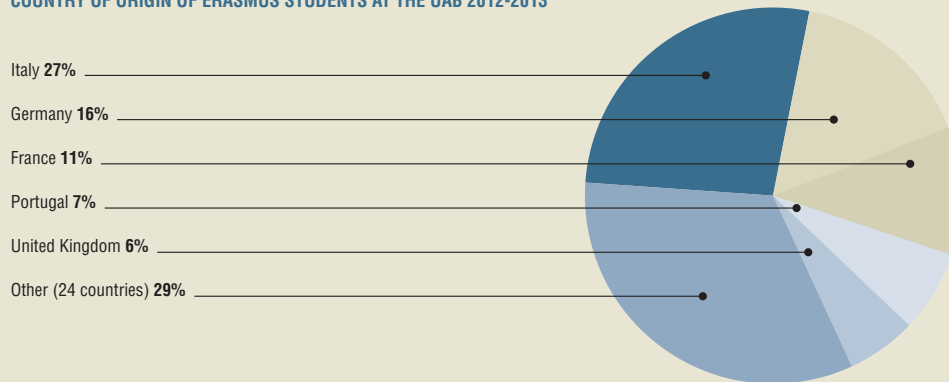
The UAB receives administrative staff from 18 European universities

From 6 to 10 May, the UAB organised the sixth consecutive Erasmus Staff Week, which is a meeting of members of the administration and services staff from universities all over Europe. This year the UAB received professionals from 18 universities who visited different parts of the campus to find out about the services offered by the UAB to the university community. Erasmus Staff Week is organised under the umbrella of the Erasmus Staff Mobility programme, which offers training periods for university staff at other European universities to encourage the exchange of experiences and to open up common ground for collaboration that will contribute the consolidation of the EHEA.

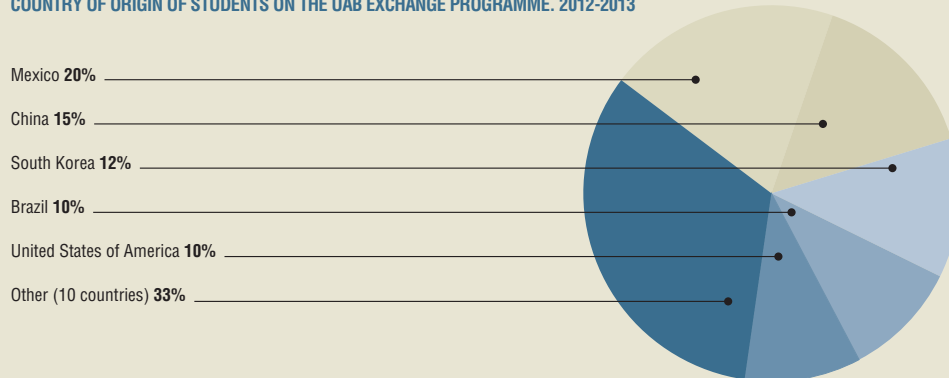
PARTICIPANTS IN MOBILITY PROGRAMMES 2012-2013

	Incoming students	Outgoing students
ERASMUS STUDY	940	822
ERASMUS WORK EXPERIENCE		78
UAB PROGRAMME	264	244
SICUE-SÈNECA	137	98
STUDY ABROAD	1,958	
TOTAL	3,299	1,242

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF ERASMUS STUDENTS AT THE UAB 2012-2013



COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF STUDENTS ON THE UAB EXCHANGE PROGRAMME. 2012-2013



SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT

Among the UAB's core values are the furthering of social cohesion and responsibility in the use of resources.

The university's responsibility to society

The UAB carries out its fundamental missions from a vocation of service to the community and the region. Given this vision of the university as a public service, among the UAB's core values are the furthering of social cohesion and responsibility in the use of resources.

This commitment is ever-present in its teaching, research and knowledge transfer, and is also embedded in its socially and environmentally responsible management model. These principles have led the UAB to pioneer social and volunteer programmes and groundbreaking educational initiatives.

Regarding the **Social Responsibility Programme**, this year saw the creation and first meeting of the Social Responsibility Committee of the UAB, which will oversee the Healthy and Sustainable Campus programme (see the Highlights section).

Additionally, in line with the work of the Quality Assurance Unit in compiling all the UAB's activities in the area of social responsibility, and taking into account the experience of other universities, it was decided to look into alternatives to the SGE 21 accreditation process, in coordination with the other Catalan public universities.

University and Society Programme of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees uses the **University and Society Programme** as a strategic instrument to strengthen the ties between society and the University.

Through this programme, the Board of Trustees plays an active role in implementing most of the University's programmes and activities in the area of social responsibility, and exerts particular influence on those that are beneficial to the environment or guarantee equity and equality in access to education.

It is noteworthy that this year important steps were taken towards reasserting the active role of the UAB within its area of territorial influence. Thus, in the framework of the UAB^{CEI} Sphere, two programmes to promote entrepreneurship and innovation were launched: UAB Emprèn and PIME Innova. PIME Innova aims to boost collaboration between the University and SMEs (small and medium enterprises), and generate opportunities for the latter to innovate, and so improve their productivity, thus benefitting the UAB^{CEI} territory. UAB Emprèn (UAB Enterprise), for its part, aims to promote entrepreneurship within the university community through support, advice, training, and specific guidance for the growth of business projects.

232

volunteers participated in the FAS social programmes

Also in this area, there was collaboration with the UAB Research Park and the Association of Friends of the UAB in defining the contents of the Open Science and Innovation Forum UAB^{CEI} (see the Highlights section).

The Board of Trustees continued to give its support to UAB socio-educational programmes to assist in the transition from school to university, and to the Impuls grants for students with disabilities.

The funding provided by the Board of Trustees to the University and Society Programme totalled 203,600 euros.



Socio-educational programmes

The UAB is firmly committed to bringing the university closer to society through various socio-educational programmes aimed at different groups, especially future students who might have difficulties in gaining access to higher education. This year was a landmark year, in that the two most emblematic programmes - Campus Ítaca and the Argó Programme - reached their tenth anniversary.

Campus Ítaca is a social and educational programme run by the Institute of Education (ICE) and the Faculty of Education, and sponsored by the Santander banking group, which aims to help secondary schoolchildren to continue on into the next stage of their education. This year, 432 pupils took part, from 56 state secondary schools in Catalonia. This programme is complemented by the **Ítaca-Santander grants programme**, which gives grants to academically high-performing upper secondary school pupils coming from difficult backgrounds.

On 15 May, the fourth edition of the visit to the UAB by children and teenagers on the CROMA project took place. The visit is in recognition of their efforts throughout the school year and gives them the opportunity to explore the university together with the student volunteers who have given them support. The CROMA programme received an award this year at the 9th Francesc Candel Awards, through which the Lluís Carulla Foundation rewards good practice in the integration of immigrants into Catalan society.

The **Argó Programme** aims to help upper secondary and vocational school pupils to make the transition to University. This year over 800 students joined, from around 100 schools.

For its part, **University within Reach** combines lifelong learning with active ageing, and offers opportunities for learning and social involvement through its Learning on Campus programme and its fourteen university outreach courses for seniors, which are linked to the UAB.

The UAB also continued to collaborate with **The University of the Children of Catalonia**. Organised by the Catalan Association of Public Universities (ACUP), this aims to bring the university closer to young people. The UAB is one of the universities where most activities were organised, with the participation of 125 primary-schoolchildren from three schools in Sabadell, Sant Boi de Llobregat and Castellar del Vallès.

IN THE NEWS



The Argó Programme is 10 years old

The tenth edition of the Argó Programme was held this year, a programme launched by the UAB in 2003-2004 to facilitate the transition from school to university. Over these ten years, close to 5,000 students have taken part, and each year over 300 teaching staff and researchers from UAB departments and research institutes.



Educational Synergy Award

In the third edition of the Educational Synergy Award, the Board of Trustees gave the award to the project "Awakening interest in science", by the lecturers Ramón Alibés and Gregori Ujaque of the Department of Chemistry, in recognition of the success of the programme that provides secondary-school pupils with information and materials from the UAB's Department of Chemistry. Second prize went to the reading-promotion project "Reading in pairs at secondary school", by David Duran and Marta Flores, of the Department of Educational Psychology.



INFRA_LINES

ENRIC LLEVAT

The exhibition «Infra_lines» by the artist Enric Llevat, consists of works done in ink, produced with the collaboration of various organisations attached to the UAB, such as the Computer Vision Centre, the Centre for Ambient Intelligence and Accessibility of Catalonia, the Fundació Autònoma Solidària and Cultura en Viu, which worked on making it completely accessible for disabled persons.



Social and volunteer programmes

The **Autònoma Solidària Foundation** (the UAB voluntary-participation organisation) aims to increase the university's solidarity and commitment to society by involving the university community in volunteer projects. This year the different FAS programmes involved 229 UAB students and 3 foreign volunteers from the European Volunteer Service, who attended to 2,899 persons.

These UAB volunteers are proof of the University's commitment to helping those who are in difficult circumstances or are at risk of social exclusion, through a series of cultural, social and support activities that form part of the social and educational programme **CROMA** and the **Justice Programme**. In the **Social and Healthcare Programme** the UAB volunteers give support to hospitalised children and their families, in various hospitals in Barcelona. The **Health Programme** raises awareness and gives advice on matters of health and healthy living through its information desks (the *xiringus*) around the campus.

The FAS also has three groups of volunteers to carry out campaigns on campus to raise awareness among students of the social problems in their communities. This year was devoted to environmental and cooperation issues and to the problems of persons affected by mortgage problems.

Helping the disabled

The **Student Disability Service (PIUNE)** attended to 128 students studying different courses at the UAB. Its Tutoring Action Plan (PATDis) was drawn up, with the help of the various faculties and lecturers, to help meet the educational needs deriving from these students' disabilities.

On another note, the **Impuls 2012-2013 grants** were awarded this year to 9 students, for personal attention during class-time and/or mobility in the case of difficulties in using public transport.

Cooperation for development

The FAS also has the mission of strengthening cooperation between the UAB and universities in the southern hemisphere, by disseminating international cooperation projects and giving advice on project management. In addition, the FAS awards grants through the **Solidarity Fund**, with contributions from the University, teaching staff, administrative and service staff and students. This fund financed 13 cooperation for development projects this year in Africa, Latin America and Asia, and an awareness-raising campaign at the UAB.



United Nations volunteers

This year two UAB students were selected by the **United Nations University Volunteers** programme to work for six months with international bodies in impoverished countries. These students will go to Guatemala, on the United Nations Development Programme and to the delegation of the World Health Organisation, respectively.

A total of 19 universities in Spain participate in this programme, which has the support of the AECID.



Managing the environment

As from this academic year, the UAB's environmental management will be conducted in the framework of the **Healthy Sustainable Campus (Campus SiS)** and according to the new **Action Plan for sustainability for the period 2013-2017**.

Among other actions already taken, the UAB's **Mobility Plan** continued to promote public transport for reaching the campus and a more rational use of private vehicles. Also, a new path for the use of walkers and cyclists was opened between Cerdanyola and Sant Cugat del Vallès and more parking facilities were provided on campus for bicycles.

Regarding information and awareness-raising activities, this year saw a new edition of the **Sustainable and Safe Mobility Week** and of the **Bicycle Day**, and the **2013 Guide to Sustainable Transport was published**.

With the aim of promoting energy-saving, some of the awareness-raising measures proposed last year by the groups on energy improvement were implemented (see the section Resource Management).

On 22 November, the minister for territory and sustainability of the Generalitat de Catalunya, Lluís Recoder, took part in the official opening of the walking and cycling path, which links up with the existing paths between the UAB and the nearby towns of Cerdanyola del Vallès and Sant Cugat del Vallès. This marked the end of the UAB's Sustainable and Safe Mobility Week.



Volunteers for sustainability

The FAS and the Environment Office work together to promote environmentally-friendly lifestyles, raise awareness about the value of the university's natural surroundings, and make proposals towards furthering a sustainable campus.

This year, the group of volunteers for the environment took part in the European Week for Waste Prevention and held a campaign to promote consumer awareness and the project «Eating sensibly at the UAB», aimed at combatting food wastage. These volunteers also launched a project to build and maintain nesting boxes for birds on the UAB campus.

IN THE NEWS



Prevention of food wastage

On St. George's Day, April 23rd, over 300 persons took part in an event to combat food wastage and poverty, as part of the Earth Day celebrations and the campaign «Eating sensibly at the UAB». They ate a special meal prepared by a team of chefs from the Alícia Foundation and the UAB volunteers for the environment, with the collaboration of the Plaça Cívica Restaurant.

The project «Eating sensibly at the UAB» aims to make the university community aware of food wastage and propose corrective measures to the campus restaurants and the Vila Universitària residential complex.



The UAB and the Alícia Foundation publish a guide on food wastage.

The UAB, in collaboration with the Alícia Foundation, presented *Making the most of our food*, a guide to reducing food wastage in the hotel and catering industries.

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY



On April 18, the UAB Alumni Network (*Xarxa Alumni*) was presented at an institutional event held in the Casa Convalescència. Former students from different areas, academics, institutional representatives and professionals from different sectors all agreed on how important this network is as a bridge between the UAB and its former students.

Sphere of Participation

This year, and in order to encourage participation and awareness and intervention activities in relation to the fight against inequality, and also to foster membership of associations and cultural activities, the UAB has created **Sphere of Participation** (*Àmbit de Participació*). This new structure integrates programmes, entities and services that are aimed at the students and the university community, and its aim is to improve the coordination of the different implicated areas and make students more aware of their presence.

At the moment, the Sphere of Participation is made up of the *Fundació Autònoma Solidària* ('Solidarity Foundation'), *Cultura en Viu* ('Living Culture'), the *Observatori per a la Igualtat* ('Observatory for Equality') and the structure for student support and guidance.

Students

This year, support has once again been offered to student groups at the UAB by means of different forms of aid for the organisation and promotion of activities.

Participation in student representation bodies has also been encouraged by means of a support programme for student councils in different centres, and there has been active collaboration with the UAB representatives on supra-university student representation bodies.

As for the activity of the *Consell d'Estudiants de la UAB* ('UAB Student Council – CEUAB'), constituted on 25 April 2012, in its first year it has drafted and

passed its Internal Regulations and elected the representatives to its Permanent Commission, with 72% attendance of its plenary meeting.

Teaching and research staff

Budgetary restrictions and limitations imposed on the contracting of personnel have made it impossible for new teaching posts to be offered and have stalled the stabilisation of accredited teaching staff. Nevertheless, the University has been able to create interim positions for all professors that have obtained an AQU (Quality Assurance Agency) research accreditation or the ANECA (National Agency for Quality Assessment and Accreditation) university lecturer accreditation.

Also, as part of the application of the general lines of UAB academic studies and despite the economic context, it was possible to announce a call for trainee research staff.

As for its permanent staff, the UAB, like other public universities in Catalonia, was only able to access the call for the new Serra Húnter Programme (2012-2020), whose objective is the incorporation in Catalan universities of highly qualified teaching and research staff and those with merits that can be homologated with those of international standards.

This year also saw work continue on producing a model for the academic dedication of teaching staff, an instrument being designed to potentiate research activity among teaching and research staff and to encourage the monitoring and tutoring of students. This instrument is to be accompanied by a model department structure and methods to make the programme more transparent and thus improve the university's personnel planning.

Administrative and service staff

The economic and legislative situation has had major repercussions on human resources policy in the area of administrative and service staff.

The difficulties caused by the depletion of resources, along with the need to deal with new requirements derived from the adaptation of studies to the EHEA and the increase in management and evaluation



The UAB took first prize in the IX University Debating League (*Lliga de Debat Universitari*) organised by the Vives University Network (*Xarxa Vives d'Universitats*) from April 8 to 12 at the UB. The winning team was made up of David Gutiérrez (captain), Social and Labour Law masters student, David Daura, Law student, and Jordi Alegre, Raquel Chasserot and Jordi Farnés, students taking the Double Degree in Business Administration and Management (ADE) and Law. The debates were on the topic of «Should the right to healthcare be universal?»



Vila Universitària (the 'University Village') celebrated its twentieth anniversary this year with a series of events, including a charity fun run in collaboration with *La Marató*, TV3's fund raising event, and entered by more than 500 people. The celebrations also included a grand reunion ball attended by former residents.

IN THE NEWS



Cultural Activity

In the 2012-2013 academic year, **Cultura en Viu** ('Living Culture') scheduled more than 150 artistic activities that were open to the whole university community. The programme was very well received, with more than 12,000 people enjoying musical, theatre and dance productions performed by the UAB's different groups, as well as cinema screenings and exhibitions.

Cultura en Viu also gave its support to the organisation and development of more than seventy artistic and cultural activities proposed by different bodies at the University or in collaboration with such external organisations as the MACBA, the ESMUC, the Grand Liceu Theatre, the MAC (Cerdanyola Art Museum), Verdi Cinemas Barcelona and the Capellades International Music Competition.

UAB athletes win medals at World Swimming Championships

UAB students Marga Crespi and Txell Mas (synchronised swimming), Mireia Belmonte (swimming) and Laura Ester, Mati Ortiz and Maica Garcia (water polo) collected eleven medals between them at the World Swimming Championships held in Barcelona from 19 July to 4 August 2013.

work, have all been determinant in setting up a project to reorganise the management structures of the different centres. The first phase of the project involved the definition of indicators and the collection of information in order to then produce a new support model that will be implemented in some centres during the pilot phase, and once validated, will be applied to all the others on campus.

A telecommuting project addressed at admin and service staff was also implemented this year. Twenty people took part in the first phase of the project, who worked remotely for one to three workdays a week over a six-month period.

Observatory for Equality

The different promotion and awareness activities in relation to inequalities in terms of gender and disability organised this year by the **Observatory for Equality** (*Observatori per a la Igualtat*) included the creation of the **Third action plan for equality between women and men at the UAB, quadrennial 2013-2017**, an instrument designed to guarantee and promote gender equality at the UAB, and which was passed by the Governing Council on 17 July. In order to encourage the participation of the university community in the drafting of the plan, the Observatory ran a campaign titled "We have a Plan. Let's Challenge Inequality."

Also, on 8 March 2013 the VIII Institutional Workshop was held on occasion of **International Women's Day**. The event paid tribute to the *Dones i Drets* ('Women

and Rights') research group at the UAB for its contributions to the defence of women's rights, with special mention for its biggest promoter, the Professor of Legal Philosophy, Francesca Puigpelat.

Ombudsman

The **Ombudsman** (*Síndic de Greuges*) is the body responsible for overseeing the rights and liberties of the university community in relation to university bodies and services. In 2012, 195 interventions were recorded, of which 74% corresponded to degree and postgraduate students. Academic affairs were once again the most important issue (32%), followed by economic affairs, which were the cause of almost a quarter of all interventions (23%).

Friends of the UAB

This year, the **Association of Friends of the UAB** (*Associació d'Amics de la UAB*), which includes members and ex-members of the university community and friends of the UAB, celebrated the constitution of the B30 Area Association (*Associació Àmbit B30*), an initiative that it has been helping to promote since its foundation. The Friends of the UAB also collaborated with the first edition of the Open Science & Innovation Forum UAB^{CEI}. Four debating workshops were also held as part of the *La Universitat Opina* ('The University Gives its Opinion') programme, along with five dinners with impresarios from the Claris Group and a variety of courses, workshops and book presentations in the Association's offices, as well as its traditional annual festival, which was held on 22 November.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

In 2012 the UAB balanced its budget with a €0.25M surplus which has gone towards the accumulated debt.

314

million-euro budget (2012 budgeted expenditure liquidated)

The 2012 budget for the UAB displays measures for expenditure adjustment such as the establishment of basic criteria approved by the Board of Trustees to a value of €20M. These include both urgent rationalisation measures for public university expenditure on a national scale and a regional scale and reflect the reduction in public funding for universities.

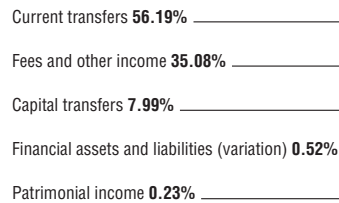
The UAB has achieved this goal and its budgets results for 2012 showed a €0.25M surplus which was destined to compensating the accumulated deficit.

The treasury has experienced some difficult moments, mainly in terms of the outstanding debt held by the Generalitat de Catalunya, which on 31 December was €53.2M.

Income budget execution

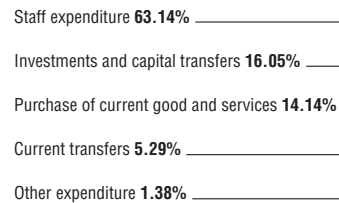
In the income budget, the highlight is an increase of 17.39% in fees and other income, mainly as a result of the new Decree on fees of 12 July 2012 for undergraduate and Master's degrees, which gave the UAB a net increase in income of €10.5M. Income from lifelong learning courses were €2M over the 2012 forecast, although less than the previous year.

LIQUIDATED INCOME 2012



Total: 299,548,040 euros

LIQUIDATED EXPENDITURE 2012



Total: 313,736,180 euros

Note: the difference between acknowledged rights (€299,5M), part of which corresponds to finalist and/or pluriennial income and acknowledged obligations (€313,7M) does not determine the annual budget deficit or surplus, since part of this income may be from previous years and/or may be spent in the years following liquidation.

However, income for services fell by 21.3% as a result of the economic crisis. Current transfers were down by 10.6% (€20M). The main reason was a reduction of €16.4M in the contribution of the Generalitat de Catalunya and €4.3M from the MECD. Only the transfers from private companies, ISFL and the European Union increased.

Of the total reduction in funding from the Generalitat de Catalunya, €8.7M corresponded to the equivalent of staff expenditure (the extra salary payment for December), €3.4M to the reduction in the current contribution in the framework of increased income derived from the increase in fees for the 2012-2013 academic year (2.6% from the reduction in contributions from the basic funding model), €1.3M to the reduction in objective-led funding and €0.7M to the reduction of PROFOR for research, among the most significant items.

Research and material innovation income fell by 37.6% (€14.4M). €5.8M less income was received from the central government and €2.6M less from the European Union. The University Investment Plan was reduced compared with previous years to €6.4M, and €2.95M was received despite the fact the agreement was signed for €16.4M.

Execution of the expenditure budget

In terms of current expenditure, the total reduction in staff expenditure was €15.75M, 7.37% compared with 2011. Around 6% of this was the result of central government measures to reduce staff salaries by the equivalent of the extra salary payment in December and 1.37% resulted from actions by the application of measures planned by the UAB for Teaching and Research staff and Administration and Services staff and the application of the Budget Law of the Generalitat de Catalunya for 2012, which eliminated social benefits and subsidies.

Expenditure for current goods and services increased by just 1.25% compared with the previous year and financial expenditure increased by €0.25M as a result of treasury problems.



Energy saving measures

As part of the plan for a Sustainable Campus, the UAB continued to implement measures to reduce its energy costs, optimising consumption and improving the efficiency of its use of resources. The actions have concentrated on improving heating installations and installing efficient lighting technology.

Thanks to these actions the UAB reduced its electricity consumption by 10.2% and its gas consumption by 19% compared with 2010.

Apart from these general measures, smaller actions within the university buildings, both technical (replacement of lighting, installations of timers, etc.) and in terms of awareness (turning off lights where there is enough natural light, for example) could make a significant contribution to reducing electricity consumption. The UAB is therefore promoting staff training within each building for improvements in energy consumption. Currently twelve such training groups exist.

The groups analyse and propose actions or energy efficiency within their workplace which, where viable, are implemented with the technical and economic support of the Architecture and logistics Section of the Office for the Environment.

WORK CARRIED OUT IN 2012-2013

- Refurbishment of two laboratories in the Faculties of Science and Bioscience.
- Conversion of five offices into two teaching seminar rooms in the Faculty of Education.
- Air-conditioning in the seminar rooms of the Faculties of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine.
- Construction of adapted toilets.
- Construction and adaptation of accesses, paths and pedestrian areas.
- Construction of a pavement and bicycle lane in the North road.
- New study room in Building R of the Plaça Cívica.
- Conversion of the Necropsy Room into a computer room in the Teaching Unit of the Hospital de Sant Pau.
- Refurbishment of the MOVE areas in the B3 odd-number tower, ground floor.
- Renewal of accesses to the Faculties of Communication and Translation and Interpreting, and the School of Engineering.
- Complete refurbishment of the C2 odd-number tower, 4th floor, for Biochemistry and the C2 odd-number tower, 4th floor, for Chemistry to provide teaching laboratories.
- New classroom for the Master's degree in Biocomputing in the Faculty of Science.
- Modification of the administration office in the Department of Paediatrics.
- Partial refurbishment of the M1 tower for the Institute of Neuroscience, phase II.
- Refurbishment of the Teaching Unit of the Hospital del Mar (phase 2D).
- Adaptation of a commercial premises and partial refurbishment and new layout of areas in the ETC building, ground floor, of the Plaça Cívica to house the Fundació Autònoma Solidària.
- Modification of the SLIPI public help desk in the Faculties of Science and Bioscience in the C1 even-numbers tower.
- Extension and redistribution of areas of the International Welcome Point in the Plaça Cívica.



UAB Campuses

- 1 Campus of Bellaterra
- 2 Campus of Sabadell
- 3 Sant Pau Campus (Barcelona)

University Hospitals

(Teaching Units of the Faculty of Medicine)

- 4 Hospital de la Santa Creu i de Sant Pau University Teaching Unit (Barcelona)
- 5 Hospital de la Vall d'Hebron University Teaching Unit (Barcelona)
- 6 Hospital del Mar University Teaching Unit (Barcelona)
- 7 Hospital Germans Trias i Pujol University Teaching Unit (Badalona)
- 8 Teaching Unit of the Corporation Parc Taulí (Sabadell)

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