

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona



ANNUAL REPORT 2013.2014

UAB

Universitat Autònoma
de Barcelona

UABCEI 
CAMPUS OF INTERNATIONAL
EXCELLENCE

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

ANNUAL REPORT 2013.2014

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CONTENTS

01 Presentation	04
02 Governance and institutional activity	06
03 Teaching	08
04 Research and transfer of knowledge and technology	14
05 Internationalisation	22
06 Social and environmental responsibility	26
07 University community	30
08 Resource management and organisation	32

PRESENTATION



The Annual Report reflects the collective efforts of everyone in the university community to strengthen the UAB and the public university model it represents.

The annual report for the 2013-2014 academic year at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona gives information about the main events in the different ambits of the university during the year. It aims to provide a transparent summary and a view of the activity of the UAB in fulfilling its fundamental missions as a public university: teaching, research and the transfer of knowledge to society. It also gives the main figures involved in our university activity.

A large part of the initiatives and projects are organised according to a series of strategic lines and the objectives of the Master Plan for 2013-2015, presented to the Senate on 31 October 2013. Despite the budgetary restrictions and the reduction in public funding, most of the programmes included in the plan for this year have been carried out.

The report emphasises the fact that the university had made progress in its strategy to promote internationalisation and teaching innovation and to strengthen its leading position in research. This year has therefore been one of increased teaching in English at undergraduate and postgraduate levels and a greater number of joint qualification with foreign universities, and the UAB now has an active presence on the MOOC Coursera

platform, which is becoming one of the leading elements of our university's international projection. In the area of research, the constitution of the Doctorate School will almost certainly reinforce the leadership of the UAB in the production of PhD theses and actively participate in the Plan for Industrial PhDs. Also, in order to develop the potential for participation in the new Horizon 2020 framework programme, this year we have encouraged collaboration with the UAB-CEI Sphere research centres as well as the creation of strategic research communities (CORE) formed by broad research groups which allows for strategic challenges to be taken on jointly. These initiatives will consolidate the growing capacity of the UAB to attract European funding. But in addition to all of this, the UAB has reconfirmed its responsibility to society and to the region by stimulating the transfer of knowledge, encouraging employability and entrepreneurship and implementing policies and programmes to guarantee equality and equity.

Thanks to the measures taken to improve the economic sustainability of the university and, especially, the efforts that have been made by the entire university community to cope with the lack of resources, we have managed to balance our accounts for the second year running.

So, despite some rather complicated external circumstances, the UAB has carried out its academic activity normally and in line with a firm desire to offer a public service and a commitment for the progress of the country. This activity has led us to excel in many different fields and to obtain growing recognition in the best university rankings.

This publication offers a closer look at some of the most important events in 2013-2014, but beyond its fundamental role of putting the activities, events and data into order, the report also reflects the collective efforts of everyone who forms part of the university community, the public university model that the UAB represents, and indicates the paths to follow in order to overcome our weaknesses and to continue building on our strengths to offer the best that we can to society.

Ferran Sancho Pifarré
Rector

Most significant figures 2013-2014

Courses

81	Undergraduate degrees
114	University Masters degrees
67	Doctoral programmes
427	Lifelong learning programmes (2012-2013)
15	Faculties and UAB Schools
13	Attached and affiliated university schools

Teaching

28,012	Undergraduate students
6,799	First year undergraduate students
4,960	Graduates (2012-2013)
1,940	University Masters degree students
1,464	Masters degree graduates (2012-2013)
3,924	PhD students
7,322	Lifelong learning (2012-2013)
6,408	Undergraduate students in attached centres
403	Graduates in attached centres (2012-2013)

Internationalisation

1,443	Foreign undergraduate students
556	Foreign official Masters degree students
1,412	Foreign PhD students
1,098	UAB students on exchange programmes

1,272	Students on Exchange programmes at the UAB
2,331	Foreign students on the Study Abroad programme

Human Resources (2013)

3,571	Teaching and research staff
629	Trainee researchers
2,429	Administration and services staff

Research (2013)

226	Research groups recognised by the Catalan government (Generalitat de Catalunya)
57	Departments
21	Study and research centres
7	UAB research institutes
37	Affiliated research centres
651	PhD theses read (2012-2013)
3,102	Articles published in indexed journals (WOK-ISI)
62	Spin off companies
43.41	Research budget (millions of Euros)

Budget (2013)

308.6	Settled expenditure budget (millions of Euros)
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Notes:

- Information for the 2013-2014 academic year correct at 31 May 2014.
- The number of full time undergraduate students is 25,288.
- The number of students does not include those on interuniversity programmes who are not registered directly at the UAB.
- Teaching and research staff includes postdoctoral researchers (Ramón y Cajal, Juan de la Cierva, Beatriu de Pinós, etc.), which number 160.
- The number of full time teaching and research staff is 2,648.

IN THE NEWS



Janice Monk is awarded an honorary doctorate from the UAB

Janice Jones Monk, professor of Geography and Development at the University of Arizona was awarded an honorary doctorate from the UAB on the recommendation of the Faculty of Philosophy and Arts on 16 October 2014 in the auditorium of the Faculty. Maria Dolores García-Ramon, professor in the Department of Geography was the sponsor of the honorand. Janice Monk has been a pioneer in the cultural and social focus of geography and one of the most outstanding figures in the development of gender geography.

Five members of the UAB teaching staff receive honorary doctorates

This year, five members of the UAB teaching staff were awarded honorary doctorates: **José Manuel Blecua**, by the Universidad Carlos III in Madrid; **Victòria Camps**, by the University of Huelva; **José Martínez Gázquez**, by the Friedrich Alexander University of Erlangen-Nuremberg (Germany); **Juan Enrique Martínez-Legaz**, by the National University of Engineering of Lima (Peru), and **Francisco Pérez Amorós**, by the Paulo Freire University (Nicaragua).

The Catalan government awards the Cross of Saint George to three lecturers from the UAB

Three lecturers from the UAB have been honoured this year with the Cross of Saint George by the Generalitat de Catalunya: **Rosa Gratacòs**, lecturer in the Department of Corporal Expression, Visual Arts and Music Education; **José Manuel Blecua**, professor in the Department of Spanish Studies and director of the Royal Spanish Academy, and **Josep Maria Martí**, lecturer in the Department of Audiovisual Communication and Advertising.

GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITY

We want to be a university of reference in Europe, a leader in research, with recognised and internationalised teaching and the capacity for transfer and innovative involvement in the region. (Master Plan 2013-2015, “Vision”)



At the session of the Senate held on 31 October 2013 the Rector's annual report on the university's general lines of policy and the Master Plan for 2013-2015 were approved.

Governance agreements

During this academic year the governing and representative bodies of the university have continued with their activities.

The Senate met twice: on 31 October 2013 and 22 May 2014. At the 31 October meeting the Rector's annual report on the university's general lines of policy was approved and the Senate made a declaration in favour of a Catalan public university model and against budget cuts.

The Governing Council met seven times and adopted 96 agreements

The Governing Council met seven times: on 9 October and 10 December 2013 and on the 23 January, 5 March, 9 April, 12 June and 22 July 2014. 96 agreements were adopted as well as discussions and debate. The following are some of the major issues:

- Declaration by the Governing Council in favour of a Catalan public university model.

- Approval and submission to the Board of Trustees of the UAB budget for 2014 as well as the economic report, the annual accounts and the UAB budget settlement for the year ending 31 December 2013.
- Approval of the general UAB regulations and plans for the following areas: academic teaching model for UAB lecturers, academic posts model, special registration for visiting model for the distribution of official Masters degrees operating budget, programming of minors, academic group delegates, simultaneous curricular itineraries which enable two to be obtained, Master Plan 2013-2015.

Master Plan for 2013-2015

The Master Plan for 2013-2015 makes the objectives and lines of action explicit and is the tool for articulating the fulfilment of the electoral programme for the Governing Team. The plan is inspired in the UAB tradition for planning and carrying out objectives in a fixed period and is based on a conceptual articulation made up of five elements: a mission, a vision, values, objectives and programmes.

In order to allow the university to achieve its vision, the plan defined five strategic lines around the central areas of teaching, research, transfer, participation and responsible management:

- Quality, multidisciplinary and internationalised teaching.
- Quality, accredited research with local and international impact.
- Transfer of scientific, technological, cultural and educational knowledge to society.
- Active participation by the community as part of an integrated university education in cultural creation and promotion, associations, equality, cooperation and volunteering.
- Responsible, efficient and accountable resource management that considers the professional paths of members of the university community.

The strategic lines contain thirteen institutional objectives with 54 programmes and associated actions.

Progress in the implementation of the Master Plan will be periodically evaluated according to 46 indicators assigned to the objectives that will enable them to be revised and, if necessary, adjustments made to the original strategy.



Economist Gabriel Masfurroll was appointed chairman of the Board of Trustees of the UAB at a ceremony which took place on 19 May at the Casa Convalescència. Masfurroll took over from Alicia Granados, who has been president of the council for the last five years.

Declaration of the Governing Council of the UAB, 9 October 2013

The Governing Council of the UAB lobbies the Secretariat for Universities and Research, the Government of the Generalitat and parliamentary groups for their support for an explicit defence of the Catalan public university model based on academic quality, a model which is a key instrument for building a fairer and more cohesive society and which provides a genuine drive for change.

This defence, which is demanded from the UAB as citizens and public servants, must have the Government's clear support for drawing up rational and coherent budgets which show that the educational system is a true social priority and reject any new budget cuts which would have a negative and irreversible effect.

Public universities are a state structure that must receive the treatment they deserve and for that reason the Governing Council of the UAB is asking, in the name of the university community, for sufficient resources to be able to guarantee the quality and stability of this public service, and budget plans that are coherent with the non-renounceable needs of the Catalan university system.

Board of Trustees

During the 2013-2014 academic year the functioning and structure of the UAB Board of Trustees has seen the appointment by the Government of the Generalitat de Catalunya of Gabriel Masfurroll as its new chairman.

The year has been characterised by the continuing University-Society Programme which was established 2005. Within this programme the Board of Trustees' objective is, as a participatory body for society at the university, to offer support to the UAB by encouraging and taking part in strategic activities that contribute towards strengthening links between the university and society.

In parallel, the Board of Trustees has developed the competences attributed to it by the Law for Catalan Universities in the ambits of the university community, economic planning and management, budgeting and heritage. As a result of this activity it has held 22 committee meetings and eight plenary sessions, and has produced 261 agreements.

IN THE NEWS



Poblet declaration on the employment market and human capital

As part of the second Catalunya Futura Seminar, organised by the Platform for Knowledge, Land and Innovation (CTI) on 9 and 10 May in Poblet, the **Poblet declaration on the employment market and human capital** was drawn up. The declaration promotes a production sector that generates graduate level jobs and promotes internationalisation and innovation in the business fabric.

The CTI platform promoted in turn by the Association of Catalan Public Universities, the PIMEC, Foment de Treball and the "la Caixa" Foundation, with the collaboration of the Generalitat, is a strategic project to reinforce economic and social development in Catalonia and promote stable interaction and cooperation between the business world, universities and government.



The UAB supports the Declaration toward a second industrialisation

On 30 April at the UAB, the principal regional agents in the Vallès Occidental (local councils, employer's organisation, trade unions, chambers of commerce and universities) signed the **Vallès Occidental Declaration toward a second industrialisation**. This document brings together a series of actions that are necessary for promoting strong and competitive industry that generates quality employment and economic growth.

TEACHING

The UAB encourages internationalisation of its teaching and aims to attract new talent.

Academic policy

During the 2013-2014 academic year, the UAB has demonstrated its firm commitment to strengthen the international dimension of its courses and the student CVs. Lines of teaching in English have been consolidated and extended in both undergraduate and Masters degrees and the double degree and joint degrees taken with foreign universities.

The strategy of offering double degrees in simultaneous studies has been successful, taking advantage of the teaching potential of the campus and the attraction of the best students.

In parallel to approval of a model of academic teaching adapted to the latest regulation, this year we have established criteria for planning the teaching activity in accordance with the needs of the programming and the teaching capacities of the departments.

It should be highlighted that the UAB's pledge for innovation in teaching activity has been recognised in the magnificent take-up of the MOOC courses on offer – which have doubled in just one year following the incorporation of the university on the Coursera platform.

In terms of activities to improve the employability of students and promote entrepreneurship more activities have been carried out within the UAB Emprèn business programme and two co-working spaces have been set up.

Undergraduate degree courses

Internationalisation of the course offer and the students has progressed significantly thanks, on the one hand, to the gradual introduction of **degrees taught in English** and, on the other, the **double and joint degrees with foreign universities**. Therefore in 2013-2014 the lines of teaching in English in the ADE and Primary Education degrees have been consolidated – as can be seen in the considerable increase in the grades required for acceptance on those courses. Added to this is the Degree in Economics in English which will be offered in 2014-2015.

The programming of the double degrees draws on the benefits of the teaching potential and transversality of the campus and on attracting the most motivated students with the best entry grades

Four new double undergraduate degrees have been introduced this year: Law + Political Science and Public Management; Environmental Sciences + Geology; Computer Science + Telecommunications Electronic Engineering, and Computer Science and Telecommunications Systems Engineering, which are added to the three already on offer, and it is planned to offer five more in the 2014-2015 academic year. The programming of double degrees in related courses has proved a very good option for taking advantage of the teaching potential and the



transversality of the campus and attracting the most motivated students with the best entry grades.

The UAB has also worked to increase the number of minors available to students with the aim of them complementing the courses with competencies, especially in the areas of social sciences and humanities, which, if passed, can be accredited on the European Diploma Supplement. In the 2013-2014 academic year 11 **minors** were offered and it is planned to offer 16 in 2014-2015.

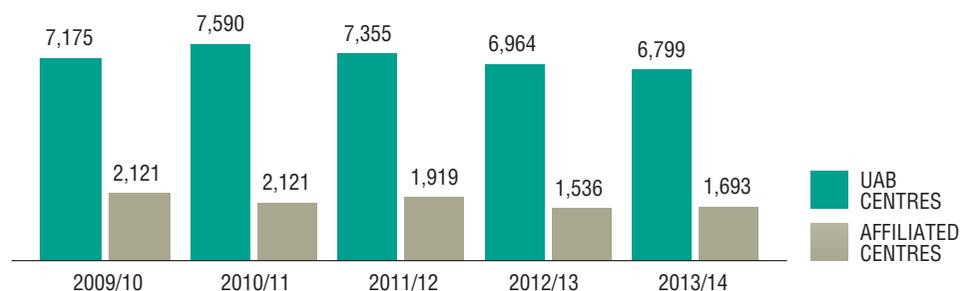
This year the UAB has completed its offer of undergraduate courses with the **Degree in Hotel Management**, taught by the University School for Tourism and Hotel management (EUTDH), which has developed from the UAB graduate course in Hotel Management.

This year it is important to mention that we have also established criteria for regulating teaching planning according to the programming needs and teaching capacities of the department. To facilitate this task, the **Teaching Programme Transparency** operating tool has been set up and is available to all departments in order to draw up their annual teaching plans.



On 10 June the opening ceremony took place for the remodelled and extended Mar University Campus, shared with the UPF, which houses the Teaching Unit of the Mar Health Park, where the UAB offers its joint Degree in Medicine (UAB-UPF) and the Degree in Physiotherapy.

NEW UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN UAB CENTRES. 2013-2014

	TOTAL	FEMALE
School of Engineering	2,312	16.0%
Faculty of Economics and Business	3,230	44.6%
Faculty of Bioscience	1,989	65.7%
Faculty of Science	2,466	37.1%
Faculty of Education	2,458	86.7%
Faculty of Communication	2,057	66.0%
Faculty of Political Science and Sociology	1,033	47.8%
Faculty of Law	2,151	62.5%
Faculty of Philosophy and Arts	3,636	59.9%
Faculty of Medicine	2,619	69.7%
Faculty of Psychology	1,834	79.6%
Faculty of Translation and Interpreting	1,278	75.3%
Faculty of Veterinary Science	949	73.3%
TOTAL	28,012	58.8%

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN ASSOCIATED AND AFFILIATED CENTRES. 2013-2014

	TOTAL	FEMALE
Eina, Barcelona Centre for Art and Design	455	65.3%
Escola Massana, Municipal Centre for Art and Design	354	70.1%
School of Risk Prevention and Health and Safety	234	22.2%
Higher School for Commerce and Distribution (ESCODI)	100	40.0%
University School of Health Sciences	1,137	65.4%
University School of Social Sciences	403	79.9%
Gimbernat University School of Nursing and Physiotherapy	1,432	63.0%
Sant Pau University School of Nursing	342	81.9%
University School of Nursing and Occupational Therapy of Terrassa (EUIT)	624	79.6%
Tomàs Cerdà University School of Computing	49	4.1%
Salesiana de Sarrià University School	651	64.8%
University School of Tourism and Hotel Management	627	9.6%
TOTAL	6,408	62.8%

IN THE NEWS



First graduation of the UAB-UPF Degree in Medicine

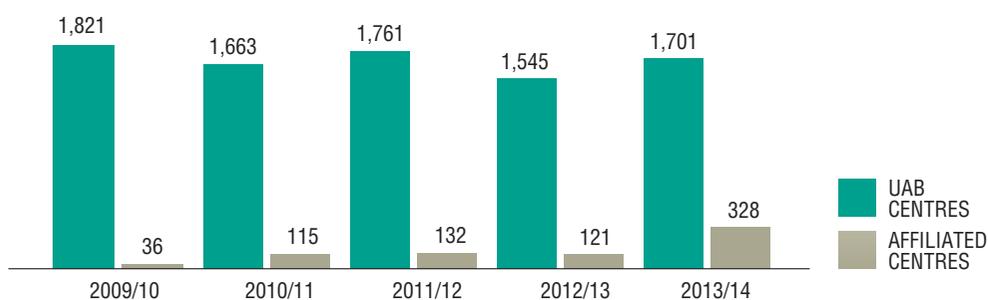
On 28 June 2013 the graduation ceremony and Hippocratic oath took place in the gardens of the Hospital del Mar in Barcelona for the first graduates of the joint Degree in Medicine from the UAB and the UPF (2008-2014). The event was attended by the Rector of the UAB, Ferran Sancho, the Secretary General and acting Rector of the UPF, Pelegrí Viader, the Manager of the Mar Health Park, Olga Pané, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the UAB, Manel Armengol, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences of the UPF, Joaquim Gea, and the teaching coordinators from both universities.



Vicens Vives Award for Prof. Elena Valderrama

Elena Valderrama, professor of the Department of Microelectronics and Electronic Systems of the UAB has received the Jaume Vicens Vives award for university teaching quality from the Catalan government "for her professional career and her leadership in teaching innovations aimed at improving learning in engineering degrees".

NEW UNIVERSITY MASTERS DEGREE STUDENTS



Erasmus Mundus Masters degrees and one PhD

Graduate degree courses

The graduate degree courses offered show that the UAB is committed to encouraging internationalisation and broadening the visibility of the university, attracting students and researchers from all over the world. This focus also offers students an education and experience that is vital for their professional and academic careers.

25% of university Masters degrees at the UAB are taught in English

In 2013-2014 university Masters degrees taught in English at the UAB represented 25% of all Masters degrees, including the eight Erasmus Mundus Masters degree in which the UAB is involved. It should also be remembered that many of the Masters degrees now include some subjects in third languages, an option that the UAB plans to continue to encourage in projects such as the **ECIU Student Packages** which consist of 30 credits offered in English for all students in all the universities of the consortium. Eight of the Masters degrees offered at the UAB and two at associated centres have obtained the title of **International Masters Programme**, awarded by the Generalitat de Catalunya with the aim of promoting quality Masters degrees with a high degree of internationalisation.

In terms of **lifelong learning**, during 2013-2014 the UAB continued to work on the reorganisation that was begun the year before and which has the following main objectives: create an organisational structure that acts as an umbrella for articulating and harmonising the management of all courses; improve the coherence of the lifelong learning courses with the objectives and academic policy of the UAB, and implement an economic activity model that allows the university to receive the returns that correspond to it.

In accordance with the objectives a process of separation has begun between the spaces and functions of the Graduate School and the new School for Doctoral Studies. A school is being created, attached to the UAB Foundation, to cover the non-subsidised official Masters degrees which have been developed from UAB Masters degrees and therefore all UAB Masters degrees are being reviewed to develop a set of criteria to convert UAB Masters degrees into official Masters degrees.

GRADUATE PROGRAMMES AND STUDENTS

		Students		
		Programmes	Total	Female
Official graduate programmes (2013-2014)				
University Masters degrees*	in UAB centres	83	1,940	59.4%
	in associated centres	18	403	65.5%
PhDs		67	3,924	55.4%
TOTAL		168	6,267	57.3%
UAB graduate programmes (2012-2013)				
UAB Masters degrees		194	3,979	64.0%
Postgraduate diplomas		114	1,650	70.3%
Specialisation courses		119	1,693	56.3%
TOTAL		427	7,322	63.6%

* The information for the UAB centres only includes the Masters degrees and students offered and coordinated by the UAB. The total number of Masters degrees that the UAB is involved in is 114.



On 25 April the business service UAB Emprèn Office was opened in the Plaça Cívica by the Vice Rector for Quality, Teaching and Employability, Gloria González, and the Vice Rector for Strategic Projects, Lluís Tort. This new office allows entrepreneurs to share a working area, develop projects and promote business opportunities.

IN THE NEWS



International education projects

The UAB supports reaching initiatives for leading and participating in educational and international cooperation projects, most of which fall within European Union public competitions.

This year has been marked by some changes in the European competitions, given that most of the programmes have been brought together under the umbrella of a single project, Erasmus+. Therefore support was given to the programmes selected in 2013 as well as the dissemination and support for the Erasmus+ programme and new initiatives.

As part of the latest competitions for the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP), in 2013 five projects were accepted and set up. They were the multilateral Comenius project, an intensive Erasmus project, a transversal Erasmus K3 programmes and two Erasmus thematic networks. Four programmes from the Tempus programme were also started. Within the old Erasmus Mundus Action 1 programme, the UAB has continued to offer eight Masters degrees and an Erasmus Mundus PhD. Finally, as part of the Erasmus Mundus Action 2 competitions the Nova Domus project involving the participation of the UAB was selected. The programme is aimed at doctoral exchanges among European and American institutions.

Entrepreneurship and employability

The **UAB Emprèn** programme brings together training, dissemination and promotion activities for entrepreneurship— one of the priorities of the Europe 2020 strategy. It is organised by the university and its support and assessment services and aimed at members of the university community interested in starting or taking part in an entrepreneurial project.

This programme is open to the entire university community within the UAB Emprèn framework and it particularly encourages the participation of students. It forms part of the aim of the university to contribute to the socioeconomic development of the region. In little more than a year UAB Emprèn has offered advice to more than 45 projects by students and graduates of the UAB.

UAB Emprèn has also advised more than 45 business projects by students and graduates of the UAB

Among the main activities carried out this year within the UAB Emprèn programme were the 3rd **Aprendre a Emprendre** course, open to undergraduate, Masters and PhD students and the diffusion and call for applications for the Imagine Express 2014 and Imagine Silicon Valley 2014 competitions. Support was also given to the School of Engineering Entrepreneur's Club and entrepreneur's clubs were set up in other faculties.

With the aim of promoting entrepreneurship through team-building, co-working and exchange of experiences, UAB Emprèn has established two shared working spaces this year where entrepreneurs can develop their ideas and projects, one in the Plaça Cívica and another in the Eureka building.

The activities of the university careers and employment office **Treball Campus**, with 15,226 individuals and 2,893 companies signed up, has included the receipt of 1,337 job offers and it has coordinated 2,391 work placement agreements. It has also managed around a hundred international mobility grants for work placements from the Leonardo da Vinci programme and seven work placement grants in Shanghai.

As part of an agreement between the Catalan universities and the Catalan Employment Service, Treball Campus organised 15 academic and professional guidance seminars at UAB centre with 1,088 students attending.



The UAB is a pioneer in the exploration of different methods of teaching and has become a reference in Spain for MOOC courses.

656

members of the teaching staff took part in the 21 courses on offer

Teaching innovation and quality

In the area of teaching innovation, the Unit for Teacher Training and Innovation of the Office for Teaching Quality at the UAB offered 21 training courses for teaching and research staff, attended by a total of 656 people. The UAB website also published and made available to the university community the results of the twelve interest groups for quality improvement.

The application of the **Internal System for Guaranteed Quality**, monitoring was carried out of all the undergraduate (74) and official Masters degrees (70) offered in UAB and attached centres, except for the international and Erasmus Mundus Masters degrees and qualifications and centres that have begun the accreditation process. The process of assessing student satisfaction for the 2012-2013 academic year was carried out using three institutional questionnaires: semesterly questionnaires of undergraduate and postgraduate student satisfaction with 1,300 members of the teaching staff; questionnaires about the qualifications, with a 16% rate of participation, and the introduction of new online semesterly questionnaires for the 1,000 individual undergraduate subjects. The results were made available to the different areas and members of the university community.

During the academic year the UAB, together with the other universities in the Catalan system, also took part in the design of a new employment questionnaire for graduates and Masters degree holders organised by the Agency for Quality in the University System of Catalonia (AQU). Together with the questionnaire on undergraduate degrees and doctorates this forms the **fifth year of the employment study for graduates of the Catalan university system** and the results covered a reference population of over 51,000 qualification holders, 8,000 of which were from the UAB.

Student satisfaction was measured using three institutional questionnaires

For the **process of accreditation of qualifications**, during the second half of 2013 the AQU issued universities with a guide and procedures for accrediting university qualification across the Catalan university system in line with the norms and the calendar of external accreditation visits to centres. In the case of the UAB, throughout 2014 external visits will be made two UAB centres and three attached centres for the accreditation of eight qualifications.



coursera

A year of UAB MOOC courses on Coursera

The UAB, as a pioneer in exploring new ways of teaching, has become a reference in Spain for MOOC courses. Currently, the UAB offers eight MOOC courses in different areas of knowledge on the prestigious **Coursera** platform. Of these, six were first offered in 2013-2014. A look at the figures for the first four courses shows that they were completed by more than 6,000 people. Total inscriptions for the courses were over 138,000 from more than 180 countries.

After this extremely positive start, the UAB is strongly committed to maintaining and gradually expanding the offer of MOOC courses, with the incorporation of two or three new courses a year.

The MOOC programme has shown that these courses, in addition to contributing to the open dissemination of science and culture, improve the visibility and image of the university, boost teaching innovation in the area of regulated teaching at the UAB, as seen by the use of digital MOOC Systems to complement the Basic Computing course on the Computer Engineering degree, and promoting internationalisation and teaching cooperation thanks to the spaces for contact and exchange that the platform offers the teachers of its courses in the Coursera Community.

Higher professional courses at the UAB

The UAB will be the first public Catalan university to offer Higher Vocational Training Courses (CFGS). From 2014-2015 the UAB Foundation, in collaboration with the University School of Tourism and Hotel Management and the School for Health and Safety, will offer three CFGS: on in Catering Services Management, on in International Trade and one on the Prevention of Labour Risks.

Students of vocational training can use the teaching and university services infrastructures (Virtual Campus, libraries, Language Service, Treball Campus, etc.) and take educational pathways that allow university access through credit recognition.

Virtual Campus and teaching support tools

Virtual Campus, the UAB online campus, serves over 3,700 subjects, 2,495 of which belong to the new undergraduate degrees and 518 modules of Masters degrees. Altogether, the activity indexes of the platform show that use is increasingly intensive with an annual rise of more than 30% in the main tools (e-mail, forums, news, submission of assignments, etc.). The online Moodle campus has also become a full part of Campus Virtual for a total of 1,115 subjects, doubling the use of its tools compared with last year.

More than 80% of subjects offered by the UAB use Virtual Campus

In terms of use of the other ICT teaching support tools there are 188 Wikis covering academic subjects in operation and this year 153 videos were published on the academic video portal of the UAB (UABTube).

Within the teaching management applications this year saw improvements in the course guide applications and the development of the Teaching Programme Transparency tool, the introduction of the previous appointment system for administration matters in centres and, finally, improvement of the management of documents for the monitoring process of official qualification in line with the requirements of the UAB Internal Quality Guarantee and the AQU directives.

Language Service

In 2013-2014 the UAB Idiomes Campus and UAB Idiomes Barcelona had 7,019 students on its language courses and accredited language levels for 2,040 people.

This year the Language Service developed the MOOC English for Teaching Purposes, a project which received funding from the AGAUR MOOC competition. It also published the multimedia platform COM comunicar, which offers individualised professional rubric for the evaluation of oral presentations and written work by students.

The Language Service offered 140 grants to UAB students which consisted of a 50% reduction in the language course fee. The UAB also offered several grants to promote competence in third languages among the UAB community and the use of English as a working language. These grants were awarded as part of the Plan for Languages for 20134 and were approved the Language Policy Committee of the university.

Finally, on 23 May UAB Idiomes Barcelona hosted a TESOL (the professional association of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) workshop.

IN THE NEWS



Information and orientation activities

In 2013-2014 more than 76,000 students from 625 secondary schools attended open days and information sessions at the UAB.

387 centres from all over Catalonia took part in the Open Days with a total of 20,373 students. The university also organised campus visits for future students from October to June and received future students and their families on Family Day. It also organised the UAB Graduate Fair offering information about official Masters degrees and other postgraduate courses.

The university left the campus to visit 199 secondary schools and 11 town halls to give information.

It was also present at the Education Fair and Saló Futura, the main education fairs in Catalonia, to give information about both undergraduate and postgraduate courses, as well as fairs in Valls, Badalona and Girona, and in Aula (Madrid), Feria Formación (Pamplona), Perpignan Fair and the Unitour fairs which took place in the Iberian peninsula and Canary Islands. On an international scale the UAB had a stand at the postgraduate fairs in: Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela, Costa Rica and Panama.

The UAB Information Point attended 60,000 enquiries through its different channels.

RESEARCH AND TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY

The UAB encourages an environment of top level research which promotes internationalisation and the attraction of talent.

During the 2013-2014 academic year the priority has been the internationalisation of research and the obtaining of resources from European programmes.

In the 7th Framework Programme the UAB obtained very good results thanks to which it is the first generalist university in terms of the number of projects it carries out.

To consolidate its position the university has promoted participation in the new Horizon 2020 framework programme and based on the synergies created among the bodies of the UAB-CIE Sphere has encouraged the setting up of different initiatives related to the strategy of intelligent specialisation which permits access to European funding.

The university's clear pledge to reinforce its human capital has been seen in the setting up of a talent retention programme between the UAB and Banco Santander to contract PhD research staff with accredited research and in its application to participate in the COFUND programme of the European Union in the trainee researcher and distinguished research (postdoc) categories.

In order to promote a top level research environment with the best researchers the UAB completed the EURAXESS (Human Resources Strategy for Researchers) procedure for good practice in researchers' contracts and working

conditions. Actions have also been carried out to attract research talent and incorporate researchers from different institutions and centres related to the UAB as attached researchers.

In the area of transfer, the UAB Research Park has set up support programmes for innovative projects and the creation of spin-off companies. The valorisation of research has achieved very important results which have made the UAB the leader among Spanish universities in the number of patents applied for.

Despite efforts to acquire resources in 2103 research funding showed a drop in income for projects from the national Plan as a result of the delay in the 2012 call. The size of the reduction in state funding was not compensated for by the growing capacity of the UAB to achieve European funding. In spite of the fact that 2013 was the last year of the 7th Framework Programme and, therefore, some of the calls have not been reopened, the UAB obtained more than 10 million Euros in European funding for financing research projects.

There was also an increase of more than 40% in the resources obtained from research agreements, compared with 2012.



Horizon 2020 at the UAB

On 31 January the UAB organised an official launch day for the new European research programme Horizon 2020 "Research and innovation in Europe: the universities of Horizon 2020".

The event, which was presided over the rector of the UAB, included contributions from Octavi Quintana, from the General Directorate of Research and Innovation of the European Commission, Susana Elena-Pérez, of the Joint Research Center, Carmen García Fernández, of the European Research Council, and Josep M. Martorell, Director General for Research at the Generalitat de Catalunya, in which they talked about the role of universities in intelligent specialisation strategies, scientific excellence and internationalisation.

The UAB also organised the Espresso Research Days with the aim of promoting participation in European programmes and offering researchers a meeting place for exchanging knowledge and experience in the ambit of international research.

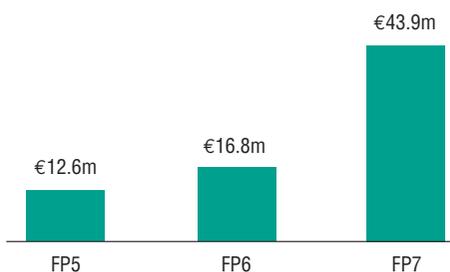
RESEARCH
ESPRESSO



25%

of resources obtained came from European funds (2013)

RESOURCES OBTAINED THROUGH THE EU FUNDS



RESEARCH FUNDING BY MAJOR CATEGORIES. 2013

Agreements and provision of services **39%**

International grants **25%**

Grants **12%**

Projects, groups and networks **10%**

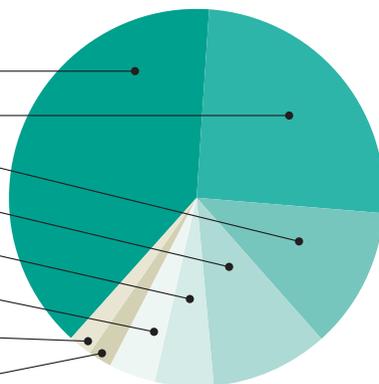
New staff incorporation **5%**

Specific funding **4%**

Mobility **2%**

Other grants **2%**

Total: 43,410,878 Euros



RESEARCH FUNDING BY TYPE OF ORGANISATION. 2013

Companies **28%**

Spanish government **24%**

European government **24%**

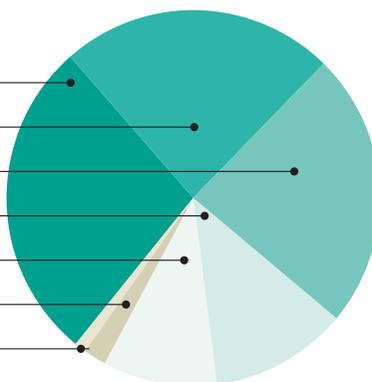
Regional and local governments **12%**

Provision of services **10%**

Higher education/Universities **2%**

Other **1%**

Total: 43,410,878 Euros



IN THE NEWS



Consolidator Grants for Àlex Fidora and Daniel Maspoch

Alexander Fidora, lecturer in the Department of Ancient and Medieval History of the UAB and an ICREA researcher was recognised in the first round of the Consolidator Grants from the European Research Council (ERC), for the LATTAL (The Latin Talmud and its Influence on Christian-Jewish Polemic) project.

Daniel Maspoch, researcher at the Catalan Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (ICN2), of which the UAB forms part and which is located on the UAB campus, received a Consolidator Grant for the InanoMOF (Multifunctional micro and nanostructures assembled from nanoscale metal-organic frameworks and inorganic nanoparticles) project.

Mario Cáceres obtains a Proof of Concept grant

Mario Cáceres, ICREA researcher at the Institute of Biotechnology and Biomedicine (IBB) of the UAB has obtained a Proof of Concept grant from the ERC to develop a kit for better diagnosis of illnesses such as Haemophilia A. This research also received an ERC Starting Grant in 2009.

CREAF obtains an ERC Synergy Grant

The team of Josep Peñuelas, researcher at the Centre for Ecological Research and Forestry Applications (CREAF) of which the UAB is a patron, and lecturer at the CSIC, was selected to receive a Synergy Grant from the ERC. Professor Peñuelas led the IMBALANCE-P project, which analyses the worldwide consequences of a lack of phosphorus and evaluates the impact of imbalance among the proportion of phosphorus, carbon and nitrogen in the different ecosystems of the planet.



On 25 November a seminar for the new International Doctorate entitled “New opportunities for a new horizon” was organised at the UAB jointly with the ACUP.

Research support services

In 2013-2014 progress was made in the creation of a structure to coordinate the scientific and technical services of all the bodies involved in the UAB-CIE Sphere, especially those located in the UAB campus. Support in terms of scientific and technical services enables common scientific facilities to be planned and shared and facilitates access to the FEDER lines of funding from the Generalitat.

The **Libraries Service** has expanded the contact of its Support for Research Accreditation and Evolution website with a set of resources for use by teaching and research staff as authors of scientific production. In addition a new remote access service for digital resources of the UAB has been introduced and the Trobador+, the new access portal for the UAB Digital Library, is now in operation.

During the year a campaign was carried out to promote the use of a single ID system, **ORCID** (Open Research and Contribution ID), for research staff to avoid ambiguities and duplications when assigning authorship to scientific production.

The **Publications Service**, as part of the university's strategy to disseminate UAB research and encourage policies of open access to scientific production a master plan of UAB scientific journals was drawn up and quality indicators approved.

Doctoral Studies

This year an institutional act constituted the School for Doctoral Studies at the UAB. This new centre aims to offer an efficient organisation that guarantees the quality of the programmes and promotes synergies between the university departments, institutes and research centres and hospital centres in the UAB CIE-Sphere.

The UAB is leader in the production of PhD theses in Catalonia

The opening of the School for Doctoral Studies will contribute to strengthening the UAB as a reference of excellence in higher education and will encourage the internationalisation of the PhD talent.

The 2014 grants for short stays abroad for trainee researcher grant holders at the UAB has been reoriented to facilitate mobility for PhD students to enable them to obtain the International PhD Supplement. The proposal of the UAB to the European Union's COFUND scheme for contracting predoctoral researchers will enable the resources destined for attracting young people to be increased.

During the year the UAB participated actively in the new Industrial PhD Plan from the Catalan government, which aims to promote the transfer of knowledge between universities and companies and contribute to the competitiveness and internationalisation of the industrial fabric. The first round of the programme approved ten projects presented by the UAB.

The UAB participates in the Industrial PhD Plan with 10 projects approved

In order to incentivise the second round of the plan, the UAB Research Park carried out two information sessions for students, coordinators and companies.

651

PhD theses read (2012-2013)



Directors of the UAB-CIE Sphere met on 10 July to review the CIE programme and plan for the future of this strategic alliance.

Strategic and innovative projects

The **UAB Campus of International Excellence** project has been a leading element when it comes to strengthening the interaction of the UAB with the surrounding area and building an ecosystem of knowledge and innovation that can make a significant contribution to socioeconomic development in the region. Once the national programme ended, the **UAB-CIE Sphere** has become an ideal framework for joint ventures between the UAB, affiliated centres and regional agencies.

The UAB-CIE Sphere is a fundamental instrument for carrying out initiatives related to RIS3CAT, the research and innovation strategy for the intelligent specialisation of Catalonia. Through the UAB-CIE Sphere an application has been made to access the COFUND programme and initiatives are being prepared for specialisation projects and regional competitiveness (PECT).

In line with the social challenges of Horizon 2020 and RIS3CAT, **strategic research communities (CORE)** have been set up, made up of large research groups to allow them to face joint strategic challenges in different disciplines. These communities aim to form a common critical mass and share activities in order to take advantage of the opportunities that are generated in the European framework and promote participation in large research and innovation projects.

To that end this year **COREs** were set up for **Mental Health, Cultural Heritage** and **Smart and Sustainable Cities**.



**CORES
UAB**

IN THE NEWS

Seven UAB lecturers given awards in the ICREA Academia programme

The six round of awards in the ICREA Academia programme included seven lecturers from the UAB: Alberto Fernández-Teruel, from the Department of Psychiatry; Ferran Martín, from the Department of Electronic Engineering; Núria Planas, from the Department of Maths and Experimental Science Teaching; Àlvar Sánchez, of the Department of Physics; Gonzalo Seco-Granados, of the Department of Telecommunications and Systems Engineering and Jordi Surrallés and Antonio Villaverde, from the Department of Genetics and Microbiology.

Isabelle Anguelovski receives the National Young Research Talent Award

The Catalan government and the Catalan Foundation for Research and innovation (FRCI) awarded the 2013 National Young Research Talent Award to Isabelle Anguelovski, a researcher with the Institute for Environmental Science and Technology (ICTA) of the UAB. This award recognises young researchers who are outstanding for the quality and excellence of their work.

Recercaixa selects two UAB projects

In its fourth year, the Recercaixa programme, a joint venture between the Social Projects section of "la Caixa" and ACUP, selected two personal research projects from the UAB:

Lourdes Aguilar from the Department of Spanish received funding for "Let's play and communicate better! The best prosodic competence as a way of educational integration and social inclusion for students with special education needs deriving from a disability"

Jordi Caballé, from the Department of Economics and Economic History will get funding for "Inequality, Social Mobility, Effort and Education" carried out jointly with Xavier Raurich, from the University of Barcelona.



The UAB Research Park has opened a new co-working space for business developers who want to enjoy synergies and all the benefits and services offered in locating at the UAB.

UAB Research Park

The **UAB Research Park (PRUAB)** focussed on a series of activities to facilitate the transfer of research results to the social and production sectors.

To promote cooperation and agreements between the research centres and companies the UAB Research Park launched a series of activities which helped to generate new projects. The **Ideas Laboratory** aims to bring companies, researchers and users together to give them work techniques that allow them to come up with new ideas and generate projects together. The **Innovation Laboratory** was also created to help to innovate within SMEs in traditional sectors. Apart from promoting good relations between industry and research in the area of technology, this year the Park organised the Technology and innovation Forum.

The incorporation in the Park of the software department of the multinational Zetes corporation will also help to establish links between the university and the companies that form part of the multinational's network.

In terms of training for entrepreneurship, the UAB Research park carried out different activities to promote entrepreneurial thinking among its researchers and promote the creation of innovative companies. Specifically, two training programmes

were carried out: the **Ideas Generation programme** aimed this year at researchers in the biotechnology sector, and the preparation of the second international **Food & Health Entrepreneurship Programme**, aimed at researchers and companies in the food sector.

The PRUAB and the UAB have launched 73 companies since 2001 with a 90% success rate

In terms of the support programme for the creation of technology-based companies (EBT) in 2013 the Research Park of the UAB took in eight new companies. Among the newly created companies is the Health & Sport Lab, which develops sports and health applications for a healthy lifestyle, and Mass Factory, a company that commercialises the OnTheBus platform for mobile devices which can help people with disabilities. The UAB also agreed on participation in the technology-based Visual Tagging Service initiative for developing image recognition technology for mobile device application developers.

The intensity of the UAB transfer activity was also reflected in the number of patent applications by the Office of Valorisation and Patents (OVP). Specifically in 2013 the OVP received 38 new inventions from university research groups. The health science sector submitted most inventions

with a total of 16 followed by information and communication technology with 13. The other inventions were mainly from the environmental and agrofood sectors.

Of these new inventions 21 were patented and there were 14 international extensions generated (patents applied for in other countries) and 27 derived. The total number of patents registered was 62.

In 2013 the UAB was the no. 1 university in Spain for patent applications

The main results of valorisation activities included 5 new licence contracts with different companies to begin the process of the use and commercialisation of patents.

During 2013 the UAB Research Park also worked intensely to increase international transfer and innovation especially for cooperation for development projects linked to R&D activities.





On 10 February the Centre for Demographic Studies celebrated its 30th anniversary with an institutional event at the auditorium of the Parliament of Catalonia.

IN THE NEWS



The UAB, the PRUAB and the Alba Park sign a cooperation agreement

The Rector of the UAB, Ferran Sancho, the Director General of the UAB Research Park, Buenaventura Guamis, and the President of the Alba Park, Pau Villòria, signed an agreement on 9 September to promote the transfer and exchange of scientific knowledge between the three organisations. The agreement plans to strengthen academic, professional, research and services relations between the UAB, the Research Park and the Alba Park, and to generate joint strategies for internationalisation in the science and technology sectors and in the geographical areas of common interest.



Second Ideas Generation programme

On 29 November the Ideas Generation programme awards 2013 were made, a joint initiative between the UAB and the UAB Research Park dedicated to promote initiatives in the bio sector carried out by PhD students and researchers at the university. First prize went to MyStone, a tool which makes identification and classification of renal calculations easier.

The ICN2 obtains the Severo Ochoa excellence award

The Catalan Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (ICN2) CERCA centre in which the UAB forms part has been recognised with the Severo Ochoa seal of excellence awarded by the Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness in the third round of the programme which corresponded to 2013. The ICN2 is the first research centre dedicated to nanoscience to be given this award. The proposal of the ICN2 for this round was centred on the development of nanodevices for technological purposes. Based on scientific advances in materials development, nanomanufacturing, theoretical characterisation and simulation it is hoped to achieve practical applications in three main lines: biosystems, energy and ICT. This recognition is worth one million Euros a year for four years to be spent on nanoscientific applications in biosystems, energy and information systems. Since the beginning of the Severo Ochoa programme, the Barcelona Graduate School of Economics (Barcelona GSE) and the High Energy Physics Institute (IFAE), both linked to the UAB have both received the distinction.



New headquarters on the campus

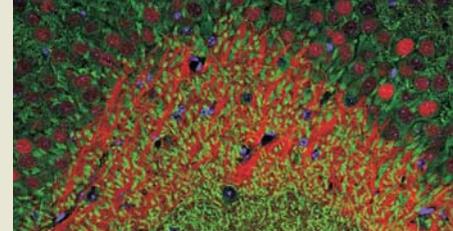
On 20 January the ICN2 opened its new headquarters on the UAB campus. The event was attended by the Councillor for Economy and Knowledge and the Chair of the ICN2 board, Andreu Mas-Colell, the Secretary of State for Research, Development and Innovation, Carmen Vela, the Chair of the CSIC, Emilio Lora-Tamayo, the Rector of the UAB, Ferran Sancho, The Secretary for Universities and Research of the Generalitat, Antoni Castellà, the Director General for Research of the Generalitat, Josep M. Martorell, the institutional coordinator of the CSIC in Catalonia and the Director of the ICN2, Pablo Ordejón.



Photo: BNE

Unpublished comedy by Lope de Vega discovered

Alejandro García Reidy, researcher in the PROLOPE group at the UAB and professor at Syracuse University, has discovered a manuscript copy of *Mujeres y criados* in the Spanish National Library, one of the works produced by the playwright during the Spanish Golden Age, and was thought to be lost.



Memory loss reversed in mice with Alzheimer using gene therapy

Researchers at the UAB led by Carlos Saura from the Institute of Neurosciences of the UAB have managed for the first time to reverse memory loss in its initial phase in mice with Alzheimer using gene therapy.

Research dissemination

In 2013-2014 there were 115 dissemination campaigns centres on research result of the UAB research staff. These Communications were reflected in 1,644 newspaper appearances, 140 radio references and 108 television references.

Of the campaigns for research dissemination in the humanities, outstanding examples were the discovery of an unpublished comedy by Lope de Vega and the publication of the most complete set of translations from Latin to Hebrew.

In social sciences, the impact of the study on urban segregation generated by the economic crisis in Barcelona and research into the transparency of city council websites in Catalonia are of particular note.

In the area of Health sciences and biology the media paid great attention to research which shows the reversal of memory laboratory mice with Alzheimer, the identification of a cell mechanism involved in anxiety and depression, and the creation of a video game for people with intellectual and mental disorders.

In experimental sciences, the first experimental indices of “new physics” were published along with the creation of the world’s first “magnetic” fibre.

In terms of environmental sciences, the study on acidification and warming that threaten Mediterranean species and the production of the Global Atlas of Environmental Justice were two of the main projects.

Other research with a considerable impact was the use of gene therapy to cure serious paediatric neurodegenerative conditions, the problem of public health caused by animal hoarding disorders, the quantification of accumulated carbon in forest floors in Spain and the use of toothpicks by Neanderthals to relieve gum pain.

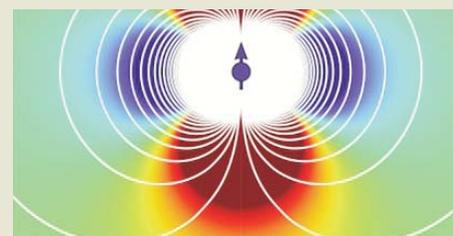
In terms of knowledge transfer the MATGAS laboratory for research and development of Ait Products on the UAB campus, of which the university forms part, was recognised as a world reference in R&D.

The covers of electronic publication **UAB Divulga** (Catalan, Spanish and English) received a total of 14,211 visits and the articles received 250,631. The covers of **UAB Innova** (Catalan and Spanish) received a total of 3,710 visits and the articles 9,510.



Economic crisis accentuates urban segregation in Catalonia

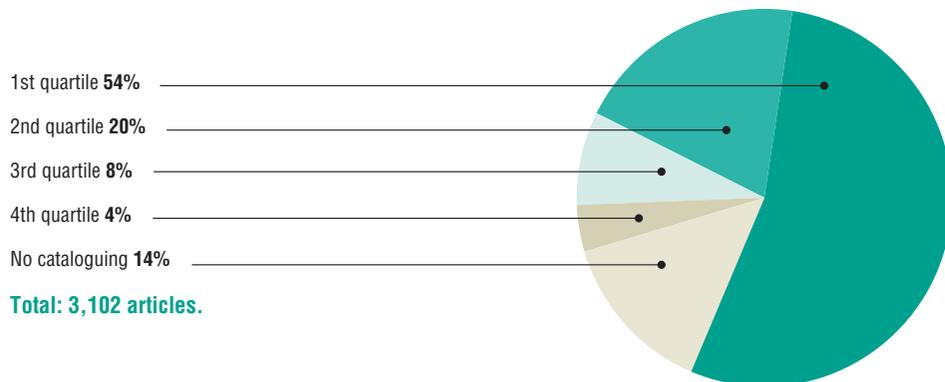
A study by the Institution of Governance and Public Policy of the UAB (IGOP) within the Recercaixa research project of excellence has analysed, for the first time, the impact of the socioeconomic crisis on urban space and has proposed strategies to protect the most vulnerable neighbourhoods.



First “magnetic fibre” in the world created

A team of scientists, led by Àlvar Sánchez, a researcher in the Department of Physics of the UAB have developed a material that can guide and transport magnetic fields from one place to another, similar to the action of fibre optics on light.

ARTICLES PUBLISHED BY RESEARCHERS AT THE UAB ACCORDING TO IMPACT OF THE PUBLICATION (THOMSON REUTERS). 2013



Total: 3,102 articles.

The UAB in the university ranking

In the 2013 **QS World University Rankings (QS WUR)**, the UAB has become consolidated among Spanish universities at 177th in the world and 79th in Europe. Among the criteria taken into account for the ranking, the UAB takes 104th place in the world for the academic reputation, which means continual improvement in visibility.

In terms of the best young university rankings the UAB has improved its position in the **QS Top 50 under 50** and is improving its global position.

This year, the UAB also maintained its position in the **Academic Ranking of World Universities**, known as the Shanghai Ranking. Specifically it has been placed between 201 and 300 in the world and is in the group of leading Spanish universities.

In terms of scientific areas the **QS World University Rankings by Subject**, are a major reference and the UAB is placed among the top 200 in the world in 22 of the 30 disciplines analysed and among the top 100 in physics, agricultural and forestry science, geography, communication and economics.

The UAB leads Spanish universities in the QS World University Rankings 2013

In the classification in scientific areas of the Shanghai ranking the UAB is placed among the top 200 universities in the world in the fields of medicine, life sciences and social sciences.

IN THE NEWS



The UAB Digital Document Deposit achieves leadership

The UAB Digital Document Deposit (DDD) continues to be the best positioned Spanish repository according to the Web Ranking of World Repositories made by the Cybermetry Laboratory of the CSIC.

The DDD has gone up five places to 11th in the world and 4th in Europe, preceded only by the Europe PubMed Central (Great Britain), HAL Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique - Archive Ouverte (France) and the HAL Sciences de l'Homme et de la Société (France).

In terms of institutional deposits, the DDD is also the best-classified in Spain and 6th in the world.

The DDD acts as a publishing and consultancy platform for the scientific production at the UAB. This positioning recognises the quality and interest of the collections as well as increasing the specific weight of the internet searches and gives international visibility to the university.

In the ranking by the Cybermetric Laboratory of the CSIC, the UAB achieved ninth position in the world in terms of the global efforts to create institutional research deposits.

The aim of the ranking by the Cybermetric Laboratory of the CSIC is to promote open access initiatives since one of the most important from of distributing research results in universities and research centres is the deposit for scientific articles and related material in institutional or thematic deposits.

9th

university in the world in universities under 50 years old according to QS and 23rd according to the Times Higher Education ranking

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTION

Internationalisation is a leading way of achieving the university's teaching and research objectives.

International projection

The 2013-2015 master plan defines internationalisation as a global orientation of strategic lines, especially in the areas of quality teaching and research. Internationalisation therefore becomes a major tool and the results (rankings, mobility figures, etc.) become indicators of the degree to which institutions have achieved their objectives.

During the year the main lines of action –mobility for students, academic and services staff, international projection of joint projects with other institutions– have been clearly influenced by the beginning of the Erasmus+ programme, the new European programme for education, training, youth and sport for the period 2014-2020.

In the first place it should be remembered that from 2015 the Erasmus programme will become a worldwide programme which will have an influence on the UAB mobility policy. Secondly, the drive towards double degrees and joint degrees will help to consolidate and expand projects already begun at the UAB, 25 in 2013-2014. Thirdly, the format of competitive European training programmes (Erasmus Mundus, Tempus, Alpha, etc.) has been modified which has required the support of the teaching staff that coordinate these activities.

Institutional visits

In the area of international relations, as well as the visits and contacts of faculties and departments, the UAB received a total of 63 institutional visits during the 2013-2014 academic year. Of those visits, most were European but there was also a series of delegations from US and Asian universities, above all. As a result of the visits 8 framework agreements were signed and 7 exchange contracts for undergraduate and Masters degree exchange students and one PhD student and 7 more student exchange contracts are being prepared for 2015-2016.

The UAB received a total of 63 institutional visits

Among the visits received was a delegation from the **University of Waseda**, one of Japan's most prestigious, and a student exchange agreement was signed. This year the UAB received a total of six delegations from Japan.

It should also be mentioned that a delegation from **Cornell University** was received to extend the exchange agreement it has with the Faculty of Veterinary Science to other areas, and the visit of the Saudi Arabian cultural attaché to take part in the training of medical students.



Erasmus+

The UAB, together with the UPF, received a delegation of Indian education professionals through the **Spanish-Indian Advice Foundation** and the **A4U university alliance**. The aim of the visit was to get to know the distance education platforms and the functioning of MOOCs in Spanish universities.

The Vice Rector for International Relations, Lluís Quintana, led an institutional visit to the different campuses of the **University of California**.

52

new agreements with foreign universities



The UAB hosts a meeting of the ECIU Executive Board

On 17 and 18 October 2013 the UAB organised and held a meeting of the Executive Council of the ECIU (European Consortium of Innovative Universities), where it discussed different topics of higher education, research and transfer and

European policy in those areas. The UAB is one of the founding universities of the ECIU, an association of 11 HE institutions from eleven European countries (and two universities from Mexico and Russia).

Participation in networks and consortia

During 2013-2014 the UAB participated actively in the networks and consortia of which it is a member. In terms of the ECIU (**European Consortium of Innovative Universities**), the UAB organised and hosted the Executive Board Meeting in October 2013 and took part in the meeting that took place in Aalborg (Denmark) in April 2014. It also took part in practically all the working groups of the associations and also the "Train the trainer for Erasmus+" meeting in Brussels in December 2013. The 4 Universities Alliance activities included a meeting of different universities in Turkey in November 2013. The UAB also took part in a meeting of all the worldwide Confucius institutes in Beijing in April 2014.

A novelty this year was the incorporation of the UAB in the World 100, which promotes research into the reputation of universities situated among the two-hundred best ranked in the most prestigious university ranking.

Activities for promoting visibility and international projection of the UAB were completed by its presence at the Expo China in Beijing in November 2013 and the stand of the Catalan Interuniversity Council at the most important international university fairs: EAIE in Istanbul in September 2013, APAIE in Seoul in March 2014 and NAFSA in San Diego, California in May-June 2014.

IN THE NEWS



The UAB joins the World 100 network

With the aim of strengthening strategic university alliances and participation in international networks, in May 2014 the UAB joined the World 100 Reputation Network, formed by universities interested in the study and management of reputation in higher education. There are more than 41 member institutions from 16 different countries, among which are universities as prestigious as University College London, King's College London, Edinburgh University, Toronto University, the National University of Australia and the University of Tokyo.



The UAB receives a delegation of future Indian leaders interested in the internationalisation of higher education and the MOOCs

On 29 May the UAB and the UPF received a group of leading professionals from the Indian higher education sector. Among the other activities that took place for the group, who were visiting Spain as part of the 3rd Indian Leadership Programme organised by the Spanish-Indian Foundation with the support of the A4U, was the round table "The Future of Education: MOOCs, Internet Platforms and Online Communities", centred on the future of education, online education (especially MOOCs) and teacher training.





From 12 to 16 May, 25 members of administration and services staff from universities all over Europe visited the campus to take part in the seventh Erasmus Staff Week.

Mobility programmes

In 2013-2014 the participation of the UAB in the **Erasmus Programme** allowed 666 UAB students to be sent to study in European universities and to receive a total of 847 European students. Within the same programme, 875 lecturers from the UAB and 32 members of the administration and services staff visited other European universities and 101 students did work placements in companies. Also, 25 members of the administration and services staff took part in the Erasmus Staff Week organised by the UAB.

In terms of the Spanish **Sicue mobility programme**, 172 students were welcomed by the UAB and 66 UAB students visited other Spanish universities.

A third of foreign students that come to study at the UAB through the university exchange programme come from Eastern Asian countries

The **UAB Mobility Programme** for UAB students to visit non-European countries saw 265 student visitors while the UAB received 319, a third of them from Eastern Asia.

In 2013-2014 attendance of specific **Study Abroad programmes** increased by 13% with a total of 2,331 students registered. The Pre-established mode, which offers training at the university's Casa Convalescència and the Eixample campus has introduced work placements in collaboration with Butler University (USA), has seen an 8% increase. Tailor-made courses have also increased by 30%.

The number of foreign students on the UAB Study Abroad Programme has doubled in 5 years

Reception and support for international students

Throughout the year the **International Welcome Point** has given support to the international community of the UAB with 7,561 meetings. Of these 2,021 were related to students on different exchange and study abroad programmes, 3,628 were related to obtaining and renewing work permits and 321 to obtaining international grants. The UAB has an advice service for foreign students to welcome them and ensure they have a good stay at the university and on the campus. This year 650 students attended the **International Welcome Days**. Then there were the Mentor and Tandem programmes which offer peer support. **Mentor** involved 31 local students and 406 international students while 1,326 registered for the **Tandem** language exchange programme.

22%

of UAB graduates (2012-2013) spent a period abroad

IN THE NEWS



More than 600 international students took part in the welcome and Integration activities

This academic year more than 600 international students took part in the foreign students programme organised by the UAB to facilitate their reception, stay and Integration in the university and in the country. Within this programme there were two **International Welcome Days**, one in September and one in February, plus the offer of support through the **Mentor programme**, which helps students to integrate through contact with local students from the same faculty, and the **Tandem programme** for language pairs. There were also several cultural excursions to get to know about Catalonia and its culture.



The Confucius Institute offers grants for study and research in China

On 18 December 2013, the Graduate School of the UAB hosted the presentation of a series of grants offered by the Confucius Institute Foundation for studying in China. The grants, aimed at undergraduate, Masters and PhD students as well as teaching and research staff hope to provide encourage a closer relationship with China and increase Chinese studies.

PARTICIPANTS IN MOBILITY PROGRAMMES. 2013-2014

	Incoming students	Outgoing students
ERASMUS COURSES	847	666
ERASMUS PLACEMENTS		101
UAB	319	265
SICUE	106	66
STUDY ABROAD	2,331	
TOTAL	3,603	1,098

COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN OF ERASMUS STUDENTS AT THE UAB. 2013-2014



COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN OF STUDENTS ON THE UAB MOBILITY PROGRAMME. 2013-2014



SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT

245

students have benefitted from
the Finestretra Programme

Promotion of participation, equality and equity is one of the basic objectives of the university, together with respect for the environment.

UAB commitment to the environment

The UAB is committed to serve the community and the regions and has a firm commitment to social progress, cooperation and respect for the environment.

The UAB promotes equality policies aimed at students with difficulties

In 2013-2014 the university continued to promote policies of equality, especially those destined to support student with special study needs.

Socio-educational programmes at the UAB have progressed with their aim of bringing the university closer to different groups, especially future students. It has also continued to develop policies for encouraging volunteering and awareness-raising in the area of several social problems.

The objective of progressing towards a healthy and sustainable campus has seen measures to reduce the impact of certain environmental matters and awareness-raising.

Student equity and support

As part of the UAB commitment to its students this year has seen the first round of the **Emergencia** grants. These new grants are aimed at redressing situations that make it difficult to study at the UAB for students on low incomes or in difficult economic, social or family situations.

The UAB destines 300,000 Euros to Finestretra and Emergencia grants

It should be pointed out that in 2012-2013 the UAB already had the **Finestretra Programme** set up to compensate for situations that make university study difficult. Since it was set up around 250 students have benefitted from this funding and the effects of the economic crisis and the increase in university fees were palliated.

University-Society programme of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees as one of the bodies of the university has launched the **University-Society programme** with strategic actions which contribute to strengthening links with society.

As part of this programme, the Board of Trustees has supported the university's activities in the area of social responsibility and is particularly focussed on activities that promote involvement with the surrounding area and those that guarantee equity and equality in education. The University-Society programme also works in activities in different strategic areas for innovation, entrepreneurship, knowledge transfer and connection with the region, among other things.

In 2013 the Board of Trustees signed an agreement with the AQU Catalonia for a survey on employment of graduates and Masters degree holders and PhDs from Catalan universities. The results were presented in July 2014. These studies on transfer to the employment market take place every three years and are funded equally between the AQU Catalonia and the Board of Trustees of the Catalan universities.



Socio-educational programmes

The UAB socio-educational programmes aim to bring the university closer to society, and especially future students who for family or social reasons do not consider higher education.

With this objective in mind most of the programmes, such as the **Campus Ítaca**, the **Argó Programme**, the **CROMA** programme and the **Children's University of Catalonia** organised by ACUP, offer participative activities on the UAB campus for primary and secondary students in Catalonia.

The university also launched the **University within Reach** programme to provide lifelong learning linked to active ageing and offer training opportunities and social involvement through the programme. Learning on the campus and the fourteen university outreach classrooms for elderly people linked to the UAB.



This year more than 3,000 people were able to benefit from socio-educational programmes. For the fifth year in a row 20 **Ítaca-Santander grants** were awarded to sixth form students with high academic performance and from difficult socio-economic backgrounds. This year saw the graduation of the second cohort of students who have been able to complete their studies thanks to this grant.



On 17 September the fifth Ítaca-Santander grants were awarded by Ferran Sancho, Rector of the UAB, Luis Herrero, general sub director of the Banco Santander and regional director for Catalonia, and Gabriel Masfurroll, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the UAB, at an event that took place in the Casa Convalescència, Barcelona.

IN THE NEWS



300 children from the CROMA programme visit the UAB

On 8 May 300 children participating in the CROMA programme visited the UAB to see the university at first hand, together with a group of student volunteers. CROMA is a socio-educational programme involving volunteers from the UAB to offer personal support to children from 9 to 12 years old with problems in achieving educational objectives as a result of socio-cultural or personal circumstances.



Meeting of European universities for social commitment

This year the first meeting took place of the group of universities for commitment and social action of the ECIU network launched by the Fundació Autònoma Solidària, with the aim of creating a place for exchanging experiences and training in the area of social action. In addition to the UAB, the universities of Aveiro (Portugal), Lodz (Poland) and Stavanger (Norway) also took part.



This year, 359 members of the university community and 4 foreign volunteers from the European Voluntary Service took part in the FAS programmes. They attended 3,040 people.

Social programmes and volunteering

The **Fundació Autònoma Solidària (FAS)** aims to work for a university that is more supportive and committed to society through the promotion of community participation in volunteering projects.

Volunteering at the UAB has enabled people in situations of risk or social exclusion to benefit from personal support

The actions carried out by volunteers have enabled many people in difficult situations or who have experienced the risk of social exclusion to benefit from social support thanks to the **CROMA programme, Justice programme and Social and Health programme**. UAB students also receive advice about health and healthy living from the volunteers of the Health programme.

The FAS also has volunteer groups for awareness-raising and action campaigns on the campus in order to commit university students to social problems. This year they have worked in the area of the environment and cooperation and the situation of those affected by mortgages.

Cooperation for development

The FAS is also commissioned to strengthen cooperation between the UAB and the universities in developing countries through the diffusion of projects and action for international cooperation and assessment in project management.

Also, thanks to the **Solidarity Fund**, managed by FAS and made up of volunteer contributions from the university community, has funded 18 projects for cooperation for development this year in Africa, Latin American and Asian countries, and an awareness-raising campaign at the UAB.



Student Disability Service

The **Student Disability Service (PIUNE)** supported 176 students of the UAB. In cooperation with the different faculties and the teaching staff they have received educational help needed as a result of their disability through the tutorial action plan (PATdis).

Students with a disability at the UAB have had funding available for personal assistance during the academic day and mobility thanks to the **Impuls grants** financed by the Board of Trustees.



The UAB has installed the Ecocharger, the first completely sustainable mobile device charger in Europe, thanks to an agreement with the company Green Solution

IN THE NEWS



Protest at food waste

On 20 February around fifteen organisations and companies attended the UAB - Casa Convalescència to protest about food waste in an action driven by the UAB and the Take Advantage of Food Platform. This is a pioneering initiative in Spain which brings together all kind of agents in the food chain (agriculture, the food industry, distributors, consumers, governments and social bodies) to fight against waste.



“Let’s clean up Europe!” project

On 10 May the Association for the Defence and Study of Nature (ADENC) and the Fundació Autònoma Solidària organised a team of volunteers to clean up the River Ripoll at its stretch in Sabadell as part of the “Let’s Clean Up Europe” project.

Environmental management

Environmental management at the UAB falls within the **Healthy and Sustainable Campus (Campus SiS)** project and its reference is the UAB Sustainability Action Plan for 2013-2017.

The application of new technology for mobility (smart mobility) has enabled the promotion of collective transport and has achieved more rational use of private vehicles. This year the BICI UAB programme was set up with measures such as the construction of safe parking places and cycle lanes and special bike insurance.

In terms of dissemination and awareness-raising activities this year Sustainable and Safe Mobility Week was organised as part of the European Waste Prevention Week and Bicycle Day and a new sustainable transport guide for 2014 was published.

To promote energy saving at the university several awareness-raising measures have been introduced into the community proposed by the energy improvement group (see Chapter 8 “Resource Management”).



“Oh my Got!” campaign

The group of environment volunteers of the Fundació Autònoma Solidària, with the cooperation of the UAB Environment Office, has carried out the awareness-raising campaign “Oh my Got!”, to promote the use of their reusable cup (got) at the university and thereby reduce the environmental impact of disposable cups.

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY



On 20 June the first UAB Alumni Meeting took place. Those attending were hosted at an institutional welcome act and, during the day, they were able to listen to a talk by journalist Mònica Terribas and scientist Miquel Osset about the impact of science and then a musical performance.

Students

The creation of the Hotel d'Entitats and the operation of the Associations' Resource Centre in a new building of the Plaça Cívica marked a new milestone in support for the almost ninety associations at the UAB.

The **Hotel d'Entitats** of the UAB is a shared and multi-use space for student groups and associations who form part of the community to carry out projects and activities at the UAB.

The **Associations' Resource Centre** is a support space for associations and the student councils at the university and it is the reference point for the logistical and dissemination resources of the community.

The UAB associations also have the opportunity to apply for different types of funding for their activities.

This year has almost seen the completion of the student councils in the centres and the figure of the group delegate in practically the whole of the UAB. On 5 June the Second Delegates Seminar took place, uniting all the academic group representatives so that they become accustomed of the main aspects of the delegate figure.

The **Programme for academic orientation and psychological service** attended 448 students. In 83 cases this involved accompaniment in the learning process and careers advice.

Teaching and research staff

The Governing Council approved the regulations for academic staff at the UAB which, within the framework of the law for improving educational quality incorporates and measures teaching activity in a broad sense and places value on individualised student attention.

The Governing Council approved the regulations for academic staff

In order to achieve maximum transparency in terms of the different management posts, the Governing Council also approved the regulations for academic management at the UAB, which offer information about the name, location and cost.

Budgetary rigour has been crucial to maintaining the current staffing structure and has offered 56 trainee research staff places and 10 tenure track lecturers as well as starting a programme for the retention of talent that has offered 4 grants in collaboration with the Banco Santander.

Administration and services staff

The human resources policy for administration and services staff has been affected by the current budgetary and legal scenario but nevertheless, the bases have been set out for defining administration and services staff as a professional career.

Specifically, practical tools have been developed as well as data bases for facilitating personnel management and to determine human resources requirements and Jobs Committee (RLT) and a Staff Committee have been set up to update the RLT and define the Administration and Services staff for planning purposes.

In terms of training the internationalisation of the administration and services staff is being encouraged through the activities of the Erasmus+ programme and promotion of language learning with free training adapted to the need of the staff.

Observatory for Equality

The **Observatory for Equality** has carried out several activities for raising visibility, training, research and participation. Campaigns have been launched such as "#communication. Facing sexism, homophobia, racism, I won't shut up!" and a seminar was organised under the title "Gender violence, intersectionality and subjectivity".

In relation with research activities, the Observatory participated actively in the European MISEAL projects (Measure for Social Inclusion and Equity in Higher Education Institutions) in Latin America) and EGERA (Effective Gender Equality in Research and the Academia). The European EGERA projects aims to achieve equality in the academic world and strengthen the dimension of gender in research.



On 15 December the UAB Fun Run took place with 2,144 runners and it raised almost 9,000 Euros which went towards the TV3 Marathon which this year was dedicated to scientific research into neurodegenerative diseases.



Cultural activity

During 2013-2014, “Cultura en Viu” programmed 230 activities. There were 8 exhibitions and more than 130 events in the Cinema and the Theatre with more than 11,000 people attending.

There were also 22 activities with recognised academic credit in music, dance, theatre, image and literary creation with 260 participants. Among the activities organised there were those by the regular dance, music (choir, orchestra, combo and chamber) and theatre with 10 original productions, sometimes jointly with other universities.

The “Autònoma Actua” competition enabled the presentation of productions and acts on the day of the UAB Party with performance, music and audiovisuals by 13 groups from the university. In total there was support for over a hundred artistic activities either carried out or proposed by the different groups in the university community. There were also collaborations with outside organisations such as the Liceu Opera House and the Verdi Cinema.

This year there were different pathways for the dissemination of the artistic heritage of the UAB including works by Andreu Alfaro, Jordi Benito and Perejaume, among other well-known names.

Friends of the UAB

The **Association of Friends of the UAB** which brings together members and former member of the university community and friends of the UAB has organised a series of activities in university life through a series of discussions, talks and cultural excursions.

At the **Friends’ Party** which took place on 14 November, the Friends’ Friends awards were made in recognition of their professional careers to Dolors Lamarca, philologist and former director of the Library of Catalonia. Joan-Ramon Laporte, professor at the UAB and head of the Pharmacology Service at the Vall d’Hebron Hospital and Joaquim Nadal, professor of Contemporary History at the University of Girona and ex-councillor for Regional Policy and Public Works of the Catalan government. The Fundació Autònoma Solidària also received the UAB Group award and the University-Society Award of the Board of Trustees went to Dr. María Jesús Izquierdo, a lecturer in sociological theory at the UAB.

On 26 June there was a special meeting of the Friends’ Association where Albert Sòria was chosen as the new president of the Association. Sòria takes over from Antonio Franco who has been head of the associated for the last four years.



International Women's Day

On 7 March the 9th institution celebration of International Women’s Day took place. The event paid homage to Amparo Moreno Sardà, emeritus professor in the Department of Journalism and Communication for her contribution to women’s rights.

Ombuds Office

The **Ombuds office** of the UAB is the body responsible for respecting the rights and freedom of the members of the university community before the university bodies and services. This year there were 143 actions (27% than the previous year) of which 79% corresponded to for undergraduate and graduate students. The academic questions continued to be the most important (32%) followed by economic matters, which were the cause of almost a quarter of the actions (23%).

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISATION



The UAB managed to spend the budget for 2013 with a €0.65m surplus and has therefore continued with the actions planned to deal with the accumulated debt.

Budget spend

In agreement with the general lines and the calendar of the budget stabilisation plan, approved by the Board of Trustees, the UAB met the forecast for 2013 and closed the accounts with a €0.5m surplus.

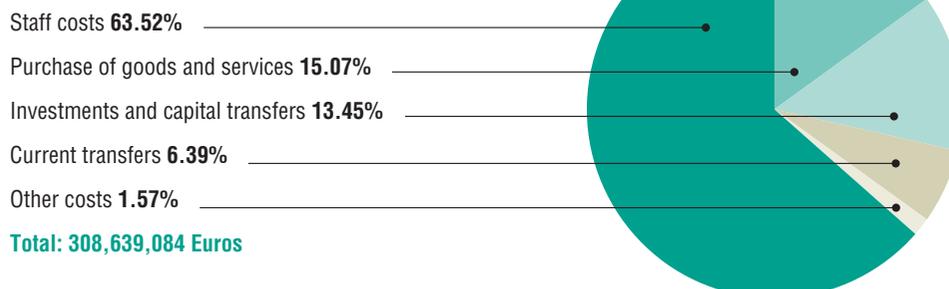
The income account experienced an over drop of €5.4m compared with 2012. The amount which most affected this reduction was €4m in fees and other income. Of that €2.1m corresponded to official courses and is explained by the students of the old qualifications, €0.9m to lifelong learning courses, which, although less than last year are over the calculated figure for 2013 and the rest in the reduction of income for goods and services.

Current transfers were reduced overall by €0.4m. The biggest reduction was €1.9m from the Generalitat de Catalunya and represents the extra salary payment in December 2012, followed by €1m from private companies and the European Union. These reductions were partly compensated for by an increase of €2.3m from the MEC and its autonomous branches and also from other public funding, mainly trainee researcher grants and the Leonardo da Vinci programme.

INCOME BUDGET. 2013



SPENDING BUDGET. 2013



Note: the difference between recognised rights (€295.1m) does not determine the deficit or profit for the year since one part of the income may come from previous years' balances and/or be spent in future years.



Energy efficiency actions

In 2013-2014 electricity consumption fell by 7.22% and gas by 6.51% compared with the previous year. This reduction is the result of improvements to installations and particularly lighting and central heating, as well as awareness raising measures given by energy saving groups of the UAB. This year the Institute of Science and Environmental Technology and the Catalan Institute of Palaeontology building was completed. This is a reference in sustainable construction

with energy savings of 40% compared with conventional builds. The building has the LEED GOLD (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) international seal of approval which enables the ecological and environmental nature of a building to be measured through all its phases of life.

Research income and material investment fell overall by €1.1m. This reduction is explained by a drop in state funding (-€2.2m and regional government funding (-€3.1m which was greater than the increase in income from private companies (+€0.5m, non-profit organisations (+€1.5m) and external income (+€2.2m).

The expenditure budget executed was €5.1m less than the previous year.

Staff expenses were reduced by €2.1m, despite an increase in expenditure on specific staff activities of €1.8m. The reduction is a result of the cuts in public staff spending equivalent to one extra payment, the freezing of salaries and the application of the measures planned for academic staff and administration and services staff.

Spending from current accounts and services was reduced by €3.9m compared with the previous year (7.6%) and financial costs increased by €0.5m because of treasury problems.

Current transfers increased by €3.1m thanks mainly to an increase in grants. Material investment however decreased by €2.6m.

Reorganisation processes

In 2013-2014 two priority strategic reorganisation projects were carried out, one on the structure of administrative support for the centres and departments of the UAB and the other on the direction and management structure of the foundations and societies that make up the UAB Foundation.

The reorganisation process for the centre and department support structure is a result of new academic management process and research support requirements, new types of students and an increase in audits and book keeping procedures. The process began on the Sabadell campus and will be extended, with the necessary modifications, to the rest of the university.

The reorganisation of the UAB Foundation aims to recover and consolidate its role as a service to the UAB, ensure the viability of the services it offers and improve the management of non-subsidised education. Among the actions this year was to set in motion the process of grouping activities from the different bodies that make up the UAN Foundation, unify the health foundations through the creation of the Health and Ageing Foundation and integrate the academic management of the three schools in the White Building.

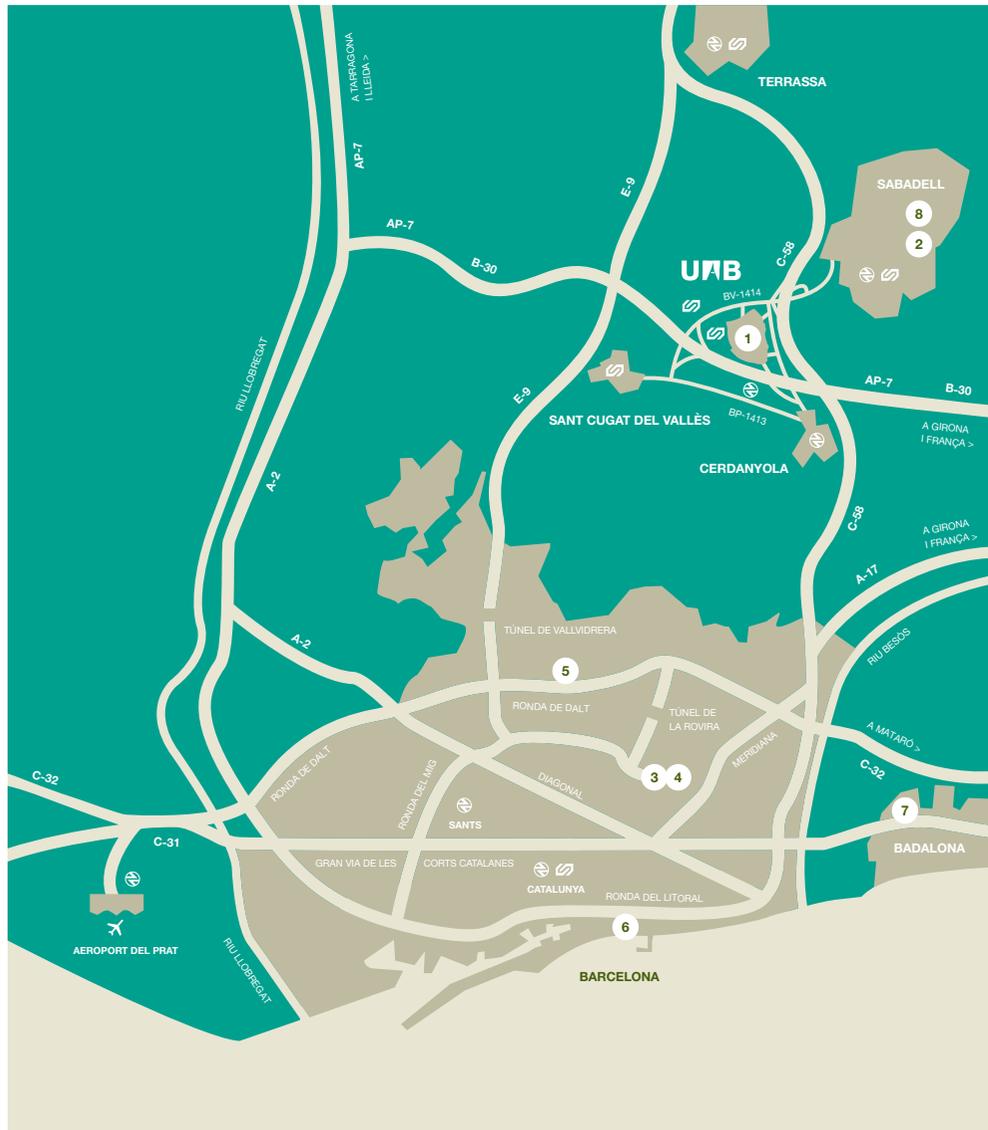
With the aim of optimising resources for administrative support to the Rectorat building, a Support Office was set up for the Executive Management and the Ombuds Office which enables more transversal operation and better team work.

ICT projects portfolio

This year the UAB has introduced the ICT Projects Portfolio in order to provide a transparent and participative instrument for the collection, analysis and prioritisation of requests related to ICT and communication from different centres and areas of the campus.

The ICT Projects Committee made up of members of the Governing Team is responsible for deciding which projects should be carried out each year in line with the strategic objectives of the institution.

The 2014 Projects Portfolio established 80 initiatives as priorities and has limited the other proposals to the availability of resources.



Campus UAB

- 1 Bellaterra Campus
- 2 Sabadell Campus
- 3 Barcelona Campus (UAB Casa Convalescència)

University hospital centres

(Teaching units of the Faculty of Medicine)

- 4 Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau (Barcelona)
- 5 Hospital Universitari de la Vall d'Hebron (Barcelona)
- 6 Hospital del Mar (Barcelona)
- 7 Hospital Universitari Germans Trias i Pujol (Badalona)
- 8 Corporació Sanitària Parc Taulí (Sabadell)

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