

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona



ANNUAL REPORT 2015.2016

UAB
Universitat Autònoma
de Barcelona

UAB **e** CEI
CAMPUS OF INTERNATIONAL
EXCELLENCE

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

ANNUAL REPORT 2015.2016

Edited by

Secretaria General
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Coordination

Gabinet del Rectorat
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Design

Mètode Design

Photographs

Pierre Caufapé
Xavier Cervera (*La Vanguardia*)
Pedro Moreno
Jordi Pareto
Àrea de Comunicació i de Promoció
Àrea de Relacions Internacionals
Fundació Alumni UAB
Fundació Autònoma Solidària
Oficina de Medi Ambient
Parc de Recerca UAB

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Campus de Bellaterra
08193 Bellaterra (Cerdanyola del Vallès)
www.uab.es

Information in this report for the
2015-2016 academic year is accurate at 31 May 2016.

This report is also available in Catalan
(www.uab.es/memoria/2015-2016/)
and in Spanish (www.uab.es/memoria/2015-2016/castellano).

INDEX

01 Presentation	04
02 Governance and Institutional Activities	06
03 Teaching	08
04 Research and knowledge and technology transfer	14
05 International projection	22
06 Social and environmental commitment	26
07 University community	32
08 Resources management and organisation	34

PRESENTATION



The annual report for the academic year is necessary both for communicating to society both the transparency of the university's activities and its expenditure. As a public university with a commitment to society the UAB has the obligation of giving information about its results and the resources it has employed

The annual report of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona for the academic year allows the most significant events and achievements over the last year (2015-2016) to be highlighted, and the main figures for the activities of the university to be presented. This publication therefore aims to contribute to reminding society of the importance of the task of public universities like the UAB for achieving social and economic progress in the country.

It has to be said that much of the content of this report pertains to the mandate of Ferran Sancho, rector for most of the period, since the Governing Team changed as a result of the elections on 19 May, which came into effect on 6 June. For that reason, I would like to offer my thanks to the outgoing Governing Team for the four-year period in which they governed the university, and in particular during the difficult times the UAB encountered during that period.

Despite the budget limitations and restrictions imposed on the university's autonomy, the UAB has continued to build on its internationalised and quality teaching staff and also an excellent level of research activity which has favoured the capture of talent and resources and the transfer of knowledge to the production sector and society at large.

In the area of teaching, this year the UAB improved its capacity to attract undergraduate and postgraduate students, especially international Master's degree students, for which there was an increase of around 40%. The quality of the courses at the UAB was recognised in the most important university rankings,

such as the QS, which placed courses in the humanities and Health sciences at 62nd and 67th position in the world, respectively, and the Times Higher Education ranking, which placed 12 specialist areas at the UAB among the top 100 in the world. In addition, all the official qualifications that have finalised the accreditation process have received either favourable or excellent results from the Agency for Quality in the Catalan University System, in accordance with the standards demanded by the European Area of Higher Education.

The activity of the UAB research groups has been reflected as a 72% increase in resources obtained within the framework of the European Horizon 2020 programme, with almost 14.5 million Euros, and over 22 million Euros obtained in the National Plan. This year saw the result of the first P-Sphere programme for the attraction of talent aimed at international researchers and co-funded by the COFUND 2015 call for applications. Thanks to this programme 25 postdoc researchers from 14 different countries joined the UAB. The intensive research activity also meant an increase in the number of PhD these presented. This year, a total of 734 these were presented and more than 3,300 indexed articles were published in journals.

With regard to transfer activities, the promotion of the valorisation of research results led to the UAB becoming leader in Spain for the number of applications for patents made to the European Patents Office in 2105. The UAB also had a turnover of more than 25 million Euros for services offered and the signing of 640 agreements.

This year the UAB continued to develop active policies

for equity and equality of opportunity for access to the university with the award of 137 grants, and has reaffirmed its commitment to society and to the region through socio-educational and volunteering programmes as well as its commitment to responsible and sustainable management of resources.

The annual report for the academic year is necessary both for communicating to society both the transparency of the university's activities and its expenditure. As a public university with a commitment to society the UAB has the obligation of giving information about its results and the resources it has employed. It is important to highlight that these fact and figures are the result of the work and effort of all the different groups which make up the university community: students, teaching and research staff and administration and services staff. There is no doubt that the people who form this community are the main strength of the university and their commitment has been essential in obtaining the results that it has achieved in conditions which have often been difficult.

Reading this report has reasserted the view that I expressed when I took over as the rector of the UAB that, without a quality university with teaching and research at the highest level, it is difficult to imagine a society in which we have educated, critical and well-prepared citizens to take on the challenges that present themselves, or who are capable of transferring qualitative and quantitative knowledge to facilitate the innovation and modernisation that is constantly demanded today.

Margarita Arboix
Rector

Figures for 2015-2016

Courses	
87	Bachelor's degrees
131	Master's degrees
64	PhD programmes
818	Lifelong learning programmes (2014-2015)
13	UAB faculties and schools
11	Attached and associated university schools
Teaching	
6,634	New undergraduate students
26,467	Total undergraduate students
5,383	Bachelor's degree graduates (2014-2015)
2,865	Master's degree students
1,706	Master's degree graduates (2014-2015)
1,344	New undergraduate students in attached centres
5,884	Total undergraduate students in attached centres
1,164	Bachelor's degree graduates in attached centres (2014-2015)
614	Master's degree students in attached centres
296	Master's degree graduates in attached centres (2014-2015)
8,378	Lifelong learning centres (2014-2015)

Research (2015)	
264	Research groups recognised by the Government of Catalonia
57	Departments
24	Research and study centres
7	UAB research institutes
37	Attached research institutes
5,130	PhD students
734	Doctoral theses presented (2014-2015)
3,316	Articles published in indexed journals (WOK-ISI)
64	Total patents applied for
8	New companies in the UAB Research Park
77.84	Resources allocated for research (in millions of Euros)
Internationalisation	
1,346	Foreign undergraduate students
1,005	Foreign official Master's degree students
1,100	Estudiants estrangers de màster propi (2014-2015)
1,692	Foreign PhD students
1,162	UAB students on exchange programmes
1,298	Students on exchange programmes at the UAB
3,129	Foreign students on the Study Abroad programme

Human resources (2015)	
3,675	Teaching and research staff
587	Trainee research staff
2,348	Administration and services staff
Budget (2015)	
311.97	Expenditure settlement statement (in millions of Euros)

Notes:

- Information for the 2015-2016 academic year was correct at 31 May 2016.
- The number of full-time equivalent undergraduate students is 24,566.
- The number of students does not include students on interuniversity programmes who are not registered directly at the UAB.
- Teaching and research staff includes postdoctoral researchers (Ramon y Cajal, Juan de la Cierva, Beatriu de Pinós, etc.), of whom there are 159.
- The number of full-time equivalent teaching and research staff is 2,662.

GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES



On 29 September the inauguration event for the 2015-2016 academic year was held in the conference room of the Rectorat. Emeritus Professor María Josefa Yzuel, from the Department of Physics gave the inaugural speech entitled “The Science of Light and Light-Based Technology”.

Agreements of the governing bodies

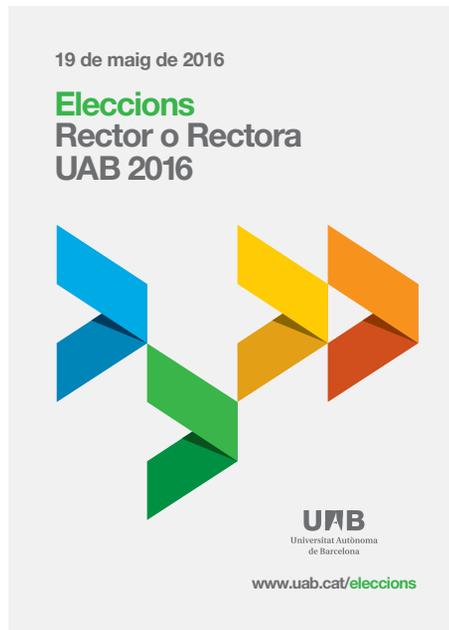
This academic year the governing and representative bodies have continued with their activities.

The Senate met once on 17 December 2015. During its meeting the rector's annual report on the general policy lines of the university was presented.

The Governing Council met eight times: on 30 September, 12 November and 10 December in 2015; 3 February, 10 March, 10 May and 14 July 2016. 83 agreements were adopted and the meetings included points of information and discussion.

83

agreements made by the Governing Council



On 19 May elections took place to choose the new rector of the UAB. The university community voted for candidate teams led by Professor of Pharmacology Margarita Arboix and Professor of Theoretical Physics Antoni Méndez. Margarita Arboix was elected with 60% of the weighted vote and took up the position of rector on 6 June. On 14 July Rector Arboix chaired the meeting of the Governing Council for the first time.

Board of Trustees

In 2015-2016 the Board of Trustees of the UAB made some new appointments to the Board and its committees as a result of the elections. Mariona Serra was nominated as a member of the Board of Trustees in representation of alumni of the UAB and the meeting agreed to nominate her to chair the University-Company Committee.

This year has seen the continuation of the University-Society Programme which started in 2005 as a consequence of the strong commitment of the Board to the university and its environment. With the creation of the University-Company Committee in 2015, in addition to the pre-existing University-Society Committee, this programme has expanded to focus more on two different but very important objectives in the university-society ambit and to obtain all the added value and all the possible returns for the university.

Parallel to this commitment to actions in the university-society ambit, the Board of Trustees has developed the competences attributed to it by the Law on Catalan Universities in the areas of university community, programming and management, and finances, budgets and heritage. Specifically, this year there were 23 committee meetings and 7 Board meetings and 234 agreements were reached.



6 June Margarita Arboix took up her position as Rector of the UAB. The ceremony, which took place in the conference hall of the Rectorat, was chaired by Catalan Minister for Business and knowledge, Jordi Baiget, and included speeches by the former rector of the UAB, Ferran Sancho, the mayor of Cerdanyola del Vallès, Carles Escolà, and Gabriel Masfurroll, chair of the UAB Board of Trustees.

HIGHLIGHTS



Tatsuo Itoh is awarded an honorary doctorate by the UAB

Tatsuo Itoh, a lecturer at UCLA was awarded an honorary doctorate by the UAB on 14 October in recognition of his contribution to the progress of science in the field of radiofrequency and microwave engineering. Professor Ferran Martín of the Department of Electronic Engineering acted as his sponsor in the first doctorate honoris causa to be proposed by the School of Engineering.



Recognition of the UAB teaching staff

This academic year many members of the UAB academic staff have received academic and institutional recognition. Among the distinctions, one special highlight was the award of an honorary doctorate to emeritus lecturer Francisco Rico of the Department of Spanish Studies by the University of Bologna. This year Mr. Rico was also awarded the Golden Medal for merit in Fine Art.

Homage paid to former rector Carles Solà

On 20 May a ceremony took place in the conference hall of the Rectorat in recognition of the academic career of Carles Solà on the occasion of his retirement. Professor in the Department of Chemical, Biological and Environmental Engineering, Prof. Solà was rector of the UAB from 1994 to 2002. The ceremony brought together his friends and colleagues who were able to provide many anecdotes and praised both his contributions to teaching and research and his personal qualities.



The Government of Catalonia awarded the Sant Jordi Cross to Bonaventura Clotet and Miquel Vilardell, of the Department of Medicine at the UAB and Josep Enric Llebot, of the Department of Physics.

The Spanish Ministry for Education, Culture and Sport awarded Professors José Manuel Blecua and Carme Riera the Grand Cross of the Civil Order of Alphonse X the Wise and the National Prize for Spanish Arts, respectively.



Timothy J. Kehoe – new honorary doctor of the UAB

Timothy Jerome Kehoe, from the University of Minnesota was awarded an honorary doctorate by the UAB on 16 March. He was proposed by the Faculty of Economics and Business and was sponsored by Jordi Caballé of the Department of Economics and Economic History. This award was in recognition of the valuable contribution by Dr. Kehoe in the fields of dynamic economics and macroeconomics and also in recognition of his generous work with the UAB.

TEACHING

The innovative offer of quality and internationalized courses at the UAB has received the recognition of the main institutions and university rankings.



Bachelor's Degrees

This year the UAB has consolidated its innovative, quality and internationalised offer of Bachelor's degrees, Master's degrees and postgraduate degrees and courses, which have merited recognition by institutions and the main university rankings.

All the official courses which have reached the end of the accreditation process with favourable or excellent results from the Agency for Quality of the Catalan University System.

The internationalisation of courses at the UAB, which is progressing thanks to a large number of qualification in English, double degrees with foreign universities and Erasmus Mundus Master's degrees and PhDs, has attracted students from around the world and has enriched the student experience in general.

The UAB has continued to support the success of the MOOC as an innovative way of broadening access to university studies and complementing them.

The UAB has made improvements in employability and the entry of its students into the labour market by providing professional practice and internships for students and graduates while promoting an entrepreneurial spirit. This year the EUROUAB Student Careers internship programme was launched.

The attraction of the range of Bachelor's degrees offered by the UAB, to which this year the degree in Tourism in English has been added, is evident once again this year looking at the demand. Taking into account the number of Applications as first preference in June 2015, demand grew by 3.5% from 9,892 to 10,244 applications. Also, the double degree in Physics and Mathematics has maintained its position as the qualification with the highest cut-off grade in the Catalan university system at 14.15. It should be noted that 18 degrees at the UAB have a cut-off grade higher than 10: specifically in the Faculties of Biosciences (7) and Medicine (3) as well as Physics Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, Advertising and Public Relations, Veterinary Medicine and the double degrees in Physics + Mathematics, Physics + Chemistry, Pre-school Education + Primary Education and Criminology + Law.

As far as new students are concerned the UAB centres have registered 2.3% more for their own degrees following three years of decline. Attached centres have experienced a major decrease due to the process of de-attachment of the school of the Bages University Foundation and ESCODI, which did not admit any new students from the UAB this year.

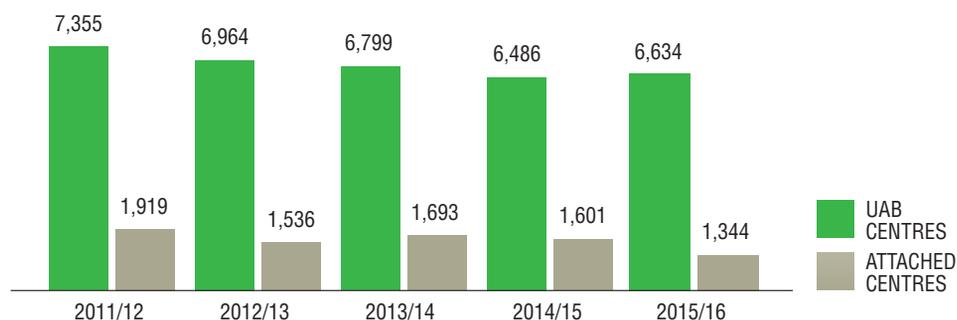
On the other hand, the number of graduates stabilised in 2014-2015 with a slight fall of 2% following two years of 10% growth.

For 2016-2017 access to philology courses has been approved which allows students to take an open degree in Language and Literature which allows students to begin studying in two languages simultaneously and to decide in the second year in which they want to graduate. Similarly, access to degrees in Telecommunications Engineering will be combined and students need not decide whether to graduate in Electrical Engineering or Telecommunications Systems until the third year.



The quality of courses at the UAB has been recognised in the main university rankings, so THE WUR by subject in 2016 placed UAB humanities courses in 62nd place and courses in the area of Health in 67th position. In the QS WUR by subject de 2016 the UAB is placed among the top 100 in 12 specialised areas among which are Veterinary Medicine, at 21st place in the world, 11th in Europe and 1st in Spain.

NEW BACHELOR'S DEGREE STUDENTS

BACHELOR'S DEGREE STUDENTS, 2015-2016.
UAB CENTRES

Centre	Women	Men	TOTAL
School of Engineering	359	1,833	2,192
Faculty of Economics and Business	1,278	1,666	2,944
Faculty of Biosciences	1,275	628	1,903
Faculty of Science	888	1,498	2,386
Faculty of Education	2,051	308	2,359
Faculty of Communication	1,260	617	1,877
Faculty of Political Science and Sociology	472	546	1,018
Faculty of Law	1,274	683	1,957
Faculty of Philosophy and Arts	1,915	1,330	3,245
Faculty of Medicine	1,877	822	2,699
Faculty of Psychology	1,412	328	1,740
Faculty of Translation and Interpreting	951	284	1,235
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	661	251	912
Total	15,673	10,794	26,467

BACHELOR'S DEGREE STUDENTS, 2015-2016.
ATTACHED CENTRES

Centre	Women	Men	TOTAL
Eina, University Centre of Art and Design of Barcelona	289	119	408
Escola Massana, Municipal Art and Design Centre	212	83	295
School for Prevention and Integrated Security	48	189	237
Higher School for Commerce* and Distribution (ESCODI)	18	37	55
US for Health Science*	496	319	815
US for Social Science*	188	42	230
Gimbernat US for Nursing and Physiotherapy	844	567	1,411
Sant Pau US for Nursing	287	54	341
US for Nursing and Occupational Therapy of Terrassa (EUIT)	563	141	704
Tomàs Cerdà US for Computer Science	4	45	49
EUS for Tourism and Hotel Management	485	242	727
Salesian US of Sarrià	67	545	612
Total	3,501	2,383	5,884

* In process of de-attachment.

HIGHLIGHTS

Veterinary Medicine creates a pioneering programme of animal body donation

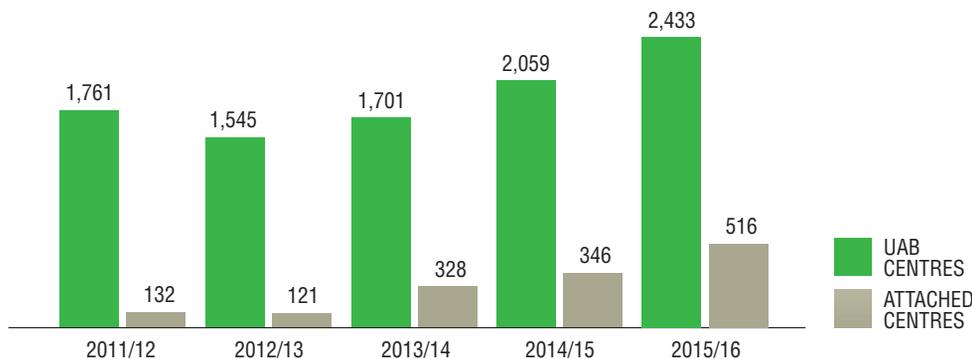
The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine has created the Animal Body Donation Programme to satisfy the needs of the numerous practicals that take place in the teaching centre. This is a pioneering programme in Spain but one which is already established in European and American universities. It has been designed to follow the regulations for animal welfare and bioethics of the UAB with the involvement of veterinarians, lecturers and students from the faculty. The programme regulates and encourages the donation of bodies from clients of the Veterinary Clinic which is located beside the faculty.



UAB students win six medals at the University Physics Competition de 2015

A total of twenty-one students on the Physics degree course and the double Physics + Mathematics degree participated in teams of three in the international University Physics Competition. This annual event, consisting of the solution to a physics problem, received 150 entries this year. Competitors could choose between two different problems and the solution had to be presented in a scientific article in English. The UAB teams were very well placed, achieving three silver and three bronze medals.

NEW MASTER'S DEGREE STUDENTS



42%

more International students on university Master's degrees than last year

Postgraduate Courses

The prestige of the official university Master's degrees at the UAB as a result of their quality and international focus has been clearly seen again this year with an increase of the number of students registered of 23%. In terms of quality, 32% of official university Master's degrees at the UAB which have received accreditation from the Catalan University Agency have received it with a distinction.

In terms of the internationalisation of the official Master's degrees, it should be highlighted that a quarter of them are taught solely in English and that there has been an increase in the number of international students. Foreign students have increased by 42% in comparison with last academic year and now make up 35% of all official Master's degree students.

From the 2016-2017 academic year the UAB will coordinate the new Erasmus Mundus Master's degree in infectious diseases which will be taught jointly with the University of Edinburgh and the François Rabelais University in Tours. Erasmus Mundus courses are promoted and financed by the EU as part of the Erasmus+ programme and contribute to the prestige and international projection of the UAB and the establishment of collaboration networks with universities in other countries. The UAB currently participates in nine

Erasmus Mundus degrees – nine Master's degrees and one PhD.

This year an agreement was signed with Lingnan University in Hong Kong which will offer students the opportunity to take a double Master's degree in Economics (see 05 International Projection).

Last year the UAB Foundation created the training programme FUAB Formació, which aims to bring together all the unsubsidised official courses offered by the UAB. In 2015-2016 Master's degrees in Advanced Accountancy and Auditing, in collaboration with the Association of Economists

of Catalonia, and there were 31 students. The FUAB Formació brand also offers the schools located in the White Building of the University Village a unified structure of academic management to support all areas and levels of training.

In terms of UAB postgraduate courses and CPD, the UAB has a broad offer of more than 800 quality courses which give graduates a definite advantage when it comes to seeking employment and those trying to improve their prospects through additional training. In 2014-2015 almost 8,400 students took part.

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES AND STUDENTS

Official postgraduate courses (2015-2016)	Programmes	Women	Men	Total
Master's degree in UAB centres*	82	1,697	1,168	2,865
Master's degrees in attached centres	19	372	242	614
PhDs	88	2,891	2,239	5,130
TOTAL	189	4,960	3,649	8,609

UAB postgraduate courses (2014-2015)	Programmes	Women	Men	Total
UAB Master's degrees	182	2,158	1,064	3,269
Postgraduate diplomas	152	1,064	498	1,562
Specialisation courses	484	2,164	1,383	3,547
TOTAL	818	5,386	2,992	8,378

* The information includes the Master's programmes coordinated by the UAB and the Master's degree students registered at the UAB. The total number of Master's degrees in which the UAB participates is 131.

The new EUROUAB Student Careers internship programme

As part of the collaboration agreement between the UAB and La Caixa Social Projects, this year the **EUROUAB Student Careers** grant programme was set up for students to do international internships in institutions and countries in Europe.

The aims of the programme are: to offer new professional international mobility opportunities to UAB students with low incomes and good academic records; help them to shape their professional profile; facilitate the acquisition of experience in the labour market, and improve

their competences for make it easier for them to practice as professionals.

The first call for applications was aimed at final year Bachelor's degree students at UAB centres and 16 people were awarded a EUROUAB Student Careers grant.

Employability and entrepreneurship

The UAB helps to improve employability and the entry of students and graduates into the labour market with a series of professional orientation activities and internships. This year the **Treball Campus** university employment service received 3,046 offers of work and internships and signed 2,855 contracts. It also organised 118 professional orientation group activities and 335 individual activities. The international internships programmes **Erasmus+ Internships** and **UAB Internship Programme** enabled 327 students to do internships both within and outside Europe. Also, thanks to an agreement with La Caixa Social Projects the new EUROUAB Student Careers programme was set up.

As far as the promotion of entrepreneurship is concerned, the UAB has its own **UAB Emprèn** programme which acts as an umbrella for the training, dissemination and promotion of the entrepreneurial activities organised by the university. UAB Emprèn offers specialised training in entrepreneurship and company management, advice on the development of the business model, search for financing, networking and internationalisation. It also organises events to encourage the entrepreneurial spirit, giving entrepreneurs access to the UAB Emprèn Space and offering access to various of the country's accelerators.

Over the year, UAB Emprèn organised numerous activities such as the *Aprendre a Emprendre* Exprés 2015 and the Startup Lab UAB seminars, monthly meetings of entrepreneurs for sharing experiences and practicing their business pitches as well as several training workshops dealing with topics such as the preparation of the negotiation process with investors and innovation and current tendencies in the mobile phone sector. UAB Emprèn promoted the participation of UAB students and graduates in programmes and competitions for entrepreneurship training such as YUZZ Sant Cugat, Imagine Express, BizBarcelona, Ent-Ex and BoosterWE.



HIGHLIGHTS



Eleven students are awarded grants to study for one of the Master's degrees with an Excellence Award

On 13 October the Fundació Catalunya - La Pedrera awarded grants to 50 students with the fifth **Grant Programme for Master's Degrees** with an Excellence Award. Eleven of those students will study for a Master's degree at the UAB, which is the institution with most grant holding students. Their selection of Master's degrees included in the programme was made on the basis of the standard of excellence using public information about Master's degrees and other information required at universities. The Master's degrees selected all have international projection, are taught in English, are research degrees, have recognised teaching staff, a minimum of 20 students and have been running for at least two years.



The #MEMEnginy16 enjoys success at the UAB

Once again this year the School of Engineering hosted the #MEMEnginy16, a seminar organised by the **Student Council of the School of Engineering** with the aim of facilitating contact between engineering students and companies, innovation and research. The seminar was attended by a large number of both students and company representatives. Among the organisations to have a stand at the faculty were Deloitte, Worldline, Mango, AppWorld, etc. The UAB employment service Treball Campus offered students advice on searching for a job. During the day the **Master's and Postgraduate Fair of the School of Engineering** also took place to give information about the courses on offer to students in their final year.

32%

of Master's degrees accredited with an Award of Excellence

Quality and innovation

In 2015 the adaptation, approval and publication of the **Internal Quality Guarantee System** was virtually concluded in all the UAB and attached centres in compliance with the requirements established in the European Standard Guidelines for quality assurance in higher education and in order to fulfil the requirements for accreditation of the qualifications.

This year also saw the development of processes for the verification and modification of PhD programme and the quality guarantee system in the School for Doctoral Studies.

in the application of the Internal Quality Guarantee System **processes of management and evaluation** in the creation of nine master's degrees and one PhD were carried out and also in the modification of 56 Bachelor's and Master's degrees and eight PhD programmes, as well as a **monitoring process** for the university Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

In terms of the **accreditation process for qualifications**, all the qualifications involved in the process from the first semester of 2016 received favourable accreditation. In total there were 39 Bachelor's degrees and 57 Master's degrees accredited. Of these, 18 received

favourable accreditation with distinction. This process will continue for the rest of the centres and qualifications until the end of 2018.

For the **process of collecting student satisfaction surveys** a special section was opened in the quality portal of the UAB to include and distribute the information, results and the main indicators of the surveys and to facilitate access to the surveys to encourage more students to complete them.

A total of 6,700 students took part in the evaluation of the teaching activity of more than 2,000 lecturers, almost 7,000 students evaluated more than 3,000 Bachelor's and Master's degrees and 813 graduates completed the survey at the end of their degree courses.

in the area of teaching training and innovation 45 training courses were offered in 2015 to teaching and research staff with a total attendance of 780.

In the area of **teaching training and innovation** 45 training courses were offered in 2015 to teaching and research staff, to help improve teaching quality, professional development and innovation in the classroom, with a total attendance of 780.



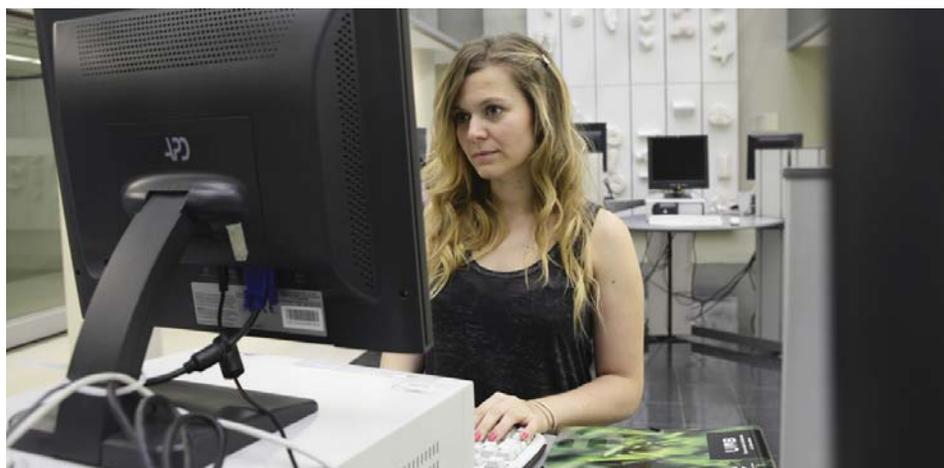
The MOOC project at the UAB

This year the UAB offered 18 MOOC through the international Coursera platform which more than 160,000 people signed up for. The consolidation of the certificates validated and the on-demand option permitted enrolment onto courses and commencement of the learning activity at any time. Among other new features this year saw the specialisation Design and Creation of Computer Games, which brings together five courses and a project for which 20,000 people enrolled.

In May 2016, the committee for the MOOC project at the UAB prioritised five new courses to be offered the following year.

With the design and programming of the MOOC, the UAB aims to make strides in the area of teaching innovation, exploring a complementary form of teaching which also broadens access to university studies, thereby generating a major return to society in the form of transmission of knowledge.

The UAB was the first university in Spain and one of the first in Europe to offer MOOC. This year it participated actively in the meeting held on 30 September in Mexico City on the drive to promote courses in Spanish on Coursera.



Online Campus and support tools for teaching staff

This year the strategic definition of areas of support for learning at the UAB continued. The aim is to draw up a strategic support plan for lecturers which enables the definitions and optimisation of support structures for teaching staff and e-learning., collaboration with other organisational units in these tasks and the consolidation and promotion of the Moodle environment using technical and training actions.

Currently the online support environment for teaching staff at the UAB is made up of two different technological platforms: the classic Campus Virtual and the Moodle-based Campus Virtual. They are integrated to facilitate their use by the entire community. The objective over the last two years has been to promote the Moodle-based Campus Virtual in parallel to the introduction of technical improvements and new tools. As a result, the number of subject courses active has risen by 116% compared with the previous year. There have also been two pilot projects within Moodle. The first was the implementation of the Mahara teaching portfolio tool and the second the use of the ACME automatic problem corrector.

This year 600 computers were renewed in the computer classrooms and an analysis of the model of proving computers in the classrooms was carried out.

Orientation and promotion activities

In 2015-2016, UAB Idiomes Campus and UAB Idiomes Barcelona had 7,285 students of English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Chinese, Portuguese, Arabic, Korean, Russian, Swedish, Catalan and Spanish for foreigners. It there accredited a language level for 1,756 people.

New students were offered an online level test in English, German, French or Italian which was taken up by 2,937 students, 40% of which were new students. Exchange students were offered courses in Catalan and Spanish. There were also two examination session for the interuniversity CLUC English exam at level B2. Also, this year the CertACLES seal of quality was maintained for levels B1, B2 and C1 in English at the UAB.

The Language Service continued to offer support for English as a working language through a series of general and specific courses aimed at teaching staff and administrative and services staff.

In the framework of the UAB Plan for Languages for 2015, this year 140 grants were offered to UAB students to take language courses and a series of calls for applications were published to promote improvement in language competence in third languages of the university community and the use of English as a working language.

2016 the new UAB Plan for Languages came into effect, which will cover the period 2016-2020.

HIGHLIGHTS



Orientation and promotion activities

In 2015-2016 more than 78,000 from 650 secondary schools took part in the university orientation activities at the UAB.

The UAB opened the doors to the campus to future students through a series of activities. The Open Days received 22,000 students from 441 secondary schools; 132 guided tours were offered to 5,700 people and Families' Day welcomed 624 families and a total of 1,980 people.

In 2015-2016 more than 78,000 from 650 secondary schools took part in some of the university orientation activities at the UAB.

The UAB also made numerous visits to secondary schools and town councils to give information about its courses and services. A total of 285 orientation talks were given to audiences composed of over 12,800 students.

In terms of having a presence in educational trade fairs, the UAB took part in the Saló de l'Ensenyament and the Saló Futura, which are the two main Catalan education fairs and offer information about university courses and the offer of postgraduate courses, respectively. It was also present at other fairs such as the Espai de l'Estudiant (Valls), Orienta't (Badalona), the Fira d'Orientació in Menorca, Aula (Madrid) and the Unitour fairs. In the area of postgraduate courses, the UAB was present at the specialist fairs in the main cities in Spain. It also expanded its presence to international postgraduate fairs in more than 20 European, American and Asian countries in 2015-2016.

The Information Point which attends both to the university community and people outside the university responded to more than 80.000 requests for information through the different channels available.

RESEARCH AND TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY

The UAB is committed to strengthening the capture of talent and the international competitiveness of its research.

This year research activity by the UAB and the UAB-CIE Sphere has gained greater importance and recognition and has had a decisive impact in terms of improving on international university ranking and being number one in Spain in the Times Higher Education World University Ranking. The university's internationalisation strategy has been bolstered by the creation of the International Projects Office which has as its main objectives the assessment and management of applications for projects with international financing in the areas of research, teaching innovation and knowledge transfer.

It should be pointed out that the UAB has demonstrated a growing capacity for obtaining European funding and this has contributed to placing Catalonia in the leading position in Spain in terms of participation in the Horizon 2020 programme.

As a result of the setting up of the P-Sphere project, the UAB and the centres of the UAB-CIE Sphere have taken on 25 postdoc researchers from 14 different countries. Also, the new calls for application for trainee researchers and teaching and research staff and the incorporation of new ICREA researchers in the UAB-CIE Sphere centres demonstrate the university's commitment to strengthening its human capital and international competitiveness.

Intensive research activity and an increase in the number of postgraduate students have led to a greater number of doctoral theses being presented – this year the total was 734 theses. On the other hand, it is also worth mentioning that the UAB among Catalan universities for participation on the Industrial PhD Programme.

The transfer of knowledge to society and to production is one of the university's main missions and an essential element for contributing to the creation of an innovative ecosystem. Promoting the valorisation of research results therefore placed the UAB as the leader among Spanish universities in terms of the number of applications to the European Patents Office in 2015.

The UAB Research Park this year created the Business Representation Council and has set up the Engega! start-up programme, which aims to help researchers on the campus to find new technological applications in the energy efficiency sector.

1a

university in Spain and 163rd in the world according to the Times Higher Education World University Ranking

Research funding

There was a major rise in the securing of resources for research funding through international programmes in 2015. Specifically, the UAB saw an increase of 72% in the total resources obtained from the Horizon 2020 programme compared with the previous year and has managed to coordinate seven new projects. From the beginning of the new European programme the UAB has secured 18.9 million Euros, with 44 projects financed, representing a 138% increase compared with the same period for the 7th Framework Programme. These figures go to demonstrate the excellence and competitiveness on an international scale of the researchers at the UAB and position the UAB in second place in terms of Catalan universities' ability to secure funding, only after the UPC.

In terms of non-competitive projects, agreements with companies and institutions during 2015 meant that the UAB had a turnover of 25.5 million Euros through the signing of 640 agreements and provision of services.



25%

of research resources obtained in European competitions (2015)

HIGHLIGHTS



Antoni Verger and Isabelle Anguelovski receive Starting Grants from the ERC

In the 2015 call for application for Starting Grants, the European Research Council (ERC) recognised two Ramón y Cajal researchers from the UAB: **Isabelle Anguelovski**, from the Institute of Environmental Science and Technology (IRTA) and **Antoni Verger**, from the Department of Sociology.

Anguelovski's grant will finance the *Green Locally Unwanted Land Uses – GREENLULUS* project and Verger's will provide funding for his project *Reforming Schools Globally: A Multi-Scalar Analysis of Autonomy and Accountability Policies in the Education Sector - REFORMED*.

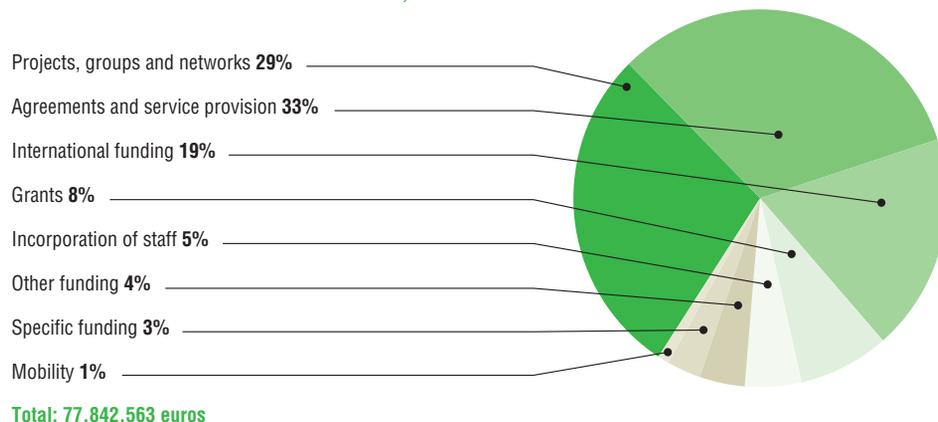
Joan Martínez Alier receives an Advanced Grant from the ERC

Joan Martínez Alier, a researcher in the Institute for Environmental Science and Technology (ICTA-UAB) and emeritus lecturer of the UAB has obtained an Advanced Grant from the ERC, which will enable him to continue with the ENVJUSTICE project on environmental sustainability and the law.

ICTA and CRAG researchers recognised with Consolidator Grants from the ERC

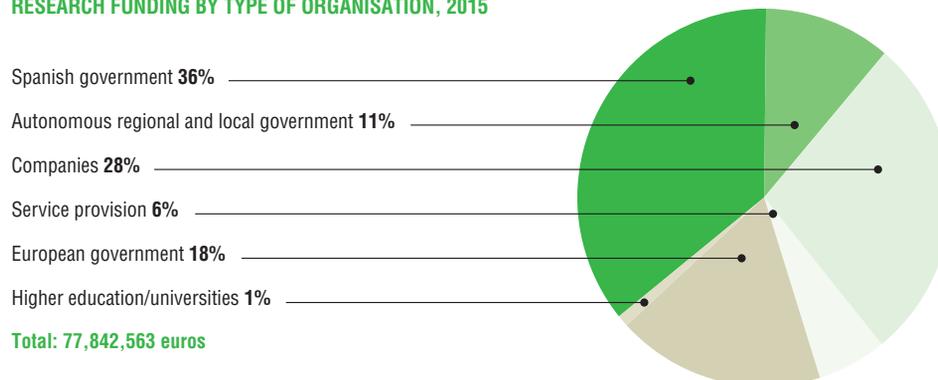
The ERC has awarded two Consolidator Grants to two researchers from the UAB-CIE Sphere: **Eric Galbraith**, from the Institute of Environmental Science and Technology of the UAB will use his grant to complete his project *Biogeochemical and ecosystem interactions with socio-economic activity in the global ocean (BIGSEA)*; and **Ana Caño**, a researcher in the Center for Research in Agricultural Genomics (CRAG), which is a consortium of the Spanish National Research Council, the IRTA, the UAB and the University of Barcelona, will receive a grant to finance the project *Improving Drought Resistance in Crops and Arabidopsis (IDRICA)*.

RESEARCH FUNDING BY MAJOR CATEGORIES, 2015



Total: 77,842,563 euros

RESEARCH FUNDING BY TYPE OF ORGANISATION, 2015



Total: 77,842,563 euros



On 17 May as part of the activities of the first Research Week of the Faculty of Philosophy and Arts, Paul Spence from King's College, London gave a talk about digital culture and new participation architectures. One of the main objective of the Research Week is to promote dissemination and visibility work carried out in the departments of the faculty and highlight the importance of the results.

P-Sphere Postdoctoral Fellows

Throughout 2016 the UAB and the centres of the UAB-CIE Sphere took on 25 new postdoc researchers as a result of the first talent attraction project **P-Sphere Postdoctoral Fellows**, selected in the 2014 COFUND call aimed at postdoc researchers. This programme, which is coordinated by the UAB and counts on the participation of the centres of the UAB-CIE Sphere aims to attract experienced researchers to develop lines of research around the strategic challenges of the EU Horizon 2020 programme.

The P-Sphere Postdoctoral Fellows project is guided by two principal objectives of UAB research policy: excellence and internationalisation. The selection of the candidates is made in accordance with the criteria established in the European Research Charter and the Code of Conduct for the Contracting of Researchers. In addition, to be eligible for a place, researchers must have already fulfilled the Marie S. Curie requisites for international mobility.

The international nature of the project has attracted both international and intersectorial talent and has allowed for the incorporation of researchers of 14 different nationalities who have trained in highly prestigious institutions such as the Max-Planck-Institut für Physik and the Massachusetts Institute for Technology.

Strategic research communities

This year, the **CORE for Cultural Heritage** incorporated three new sites in the Archaeological Campus of the UAB: the Gavà Mines Archaeological Park (in Baix Llobregat), the Guissona Archaeological Park (La Noguera) and the “Dou i l’Aubert” in Sant Esteve d’en Bas (La Garrotxa). Also this year, the **Digital Humanities Network** was created as a pioneering State initiative to give a structure to the research groups of the UAB-CIE Sphere interested in relations with the humanities, IT, artificial intelligence and computer imaging. The coordination of the network will be carried out with the support of the CORE for Cultural Heritage.

The **CORE for Mental Health** addressed the hospitals associated with the UAB and the groups and research institutes of the university itself in the 2nd CORE Seminar, which took place on 4 November 2015 at the Hospital del Mar and under the title “Aetiology, intervention and prevention of suicide”. The CORE for Mental Health also organised the first Conference in Health Psychology and Mental Health at the Hospital del Mar as well as different dissemination and training activities in mental health within the Health and Sustainability Week at the UAB, with the participation of external organisations and the university’s health and safety services.

The **CORE for Smart and Sustainable Cities** created working groups to make progress on the Smart

Campus Living Lab UAB and also for the creation of fablabs. It also included the CORE groups in platform such as BCNLab, Leading Cities Network, Design for Europe, IoT Catalan Alliance, Smart City Business Institute and SmartLivingPlat. The CORE for Smart and Sustainable Cities organised a series of meetings over the year in the areas of innovation and urban planning. Specifically, on 10 December it organised the Urban Innovation and Social Challenges Seminar together with IGOP-UAB at the Palau Macaya in Barcelona; on 8 March it coordinated the seminar “Emerging manufacturing cultures toward a circular economy” at the School of Engineering; and on 15 and 16 June it organised a symposium on urban planning and development at the Casa Àsia in Barcelona.

The three COREs participated in different Spanish and European projects and published news versions of their websites.





On 8 April the first graduation ceremony for PhDs took place along with the prize giving for special merit. The event was organised by the School for Doctoral Studies and the UAB Alumni Association and was chaired by former rector Ferran Sancho with the attendance of more than 150 new PhDs.

HIGHLIGHTS

The UAB awarded six grants from RecercaCaixa

The UAB is leader in the Catalan universities for the number of projects awarded grants from the sixth call of the RecercaCaixa competition. Specifically, of the 19 projects to receive funding, 6 are research projects of UAB researchers. Since 2010 the RecercaCaixa programme has promoted 139 projects of 31 Catalan universities and research centres to the total value of 9,905,408 Euros.

ICREA Acadèmia recognition for six UAB lecturers

In the seventh ICREA Acadèmia programme the following UAB lecturers were recognised: Maria Teresa Espinal, lecturer in the Department of Catalan Studies; Àngel Gallego, lecturer in the Department of Spanish Studies; Salvador Ventura, lecturer in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; Eva Anduiza, lecturer in the Department of Political Science and Public Law; Xavier Pons, lecturer in the Department of Geography, and Manel del Valle, lecturer in the Department of Chemistry.

Academic recognition of Maria Dolors García Ramón

Maria Dolors García Ramón, emeritus lecturer in the Department of Geography received the 2016 Vautrin Lud Award, which is considered the highest distinction in the field of geography on an international scale, in recognition of her academic career. The International Geographical Union (IGU) also awarded her the IGU Lauréat d'Honneur.

PhD programmes

The UAB is internationally recognised for the quality and innovative nature of its research and is a reference in the production of doctoral theses in Catalonia. The intensive research activity along with an increase in the number of postgraduate students have that the number of doctoral theses presented this year rose to 734.

Also, with almost a third of all industrial PhD projects presented in 2015, the UAB has become one of the leading universities in high level applied research. Specifically, of the 98 of the applications, 27 were projects at the UAB. This figure places us, together with the UPC, as the university with most leading research projects focussed on bringing those who are completing their research training with the reality of Catalan industrial R&D.

In terms of the organisation of the PhD programmes, this year verification and modification processes have been applied as well as the School for Doctoral Studies quality guarantee system.

734

doctoral theses presented (2014-2015)



The Institution of Research Centres of Catalonia (CERCA) awarded prizes to three doctoral theses from the UAB-CIR Sphere centres with the **Pioneer Awards 2015**. The winners were Maria Soler, of the Catalan Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (ICN2); Michal Drozdal, of the Centre for Computer Imaging (CVC), and Nuria Alexandra Vázquez, also from the ICN2. The objective of the Pioneer Awards is to recognise recent PhDs attached to CERCA centres whose research is aimed at achieving industrial or commercial results.



This year the Research Park launched the Engega! Programme – a new initiative to help campus researchers find new technological application in the field of energy efficiency. Through this programme the participants can obtain the necessary tools to draw up a work plan and find out how to market their Technology as quickly and securely as possible. In this first year of the Engega! Programme 41 participants presented twelve projects.

UAB Research Park

The **UAB Research Park** launched programmes and activities to promote the valorisation of research results and to contribute to the creation of an innovative and competitive environment.

In order to create bridges between the companies in the Park and detect the technological and social needs of the region, this year the UAB Research Park created the **Business Representation Council**. It also carried out different activities, such as the “Investment in the success of science” meeting to bring potential investors and professionals together with Technology-based companies and the entrepreneurial initiatives generated by the UAB.

Also this year, a working group was formed to seek funding for R&D projects and to offer support to companies in the preparation of applications for Spanish and European competitions. Thanks to this service five companies received the Horizon SME grant and, for the first time, a European project for the promotion of regional innovation policies was recognised.

In support of the generation of new R&D projects between companies and researchers, the Research Park of the UAB organised two **ideas laboratories**, one focussed on the application of ICT in the primary sector and the other on the circular economy of agroindustry. Also, together with the City Council of Sabadell and the Catalan Energy

Efficiency Cluster (CEEC) the **Forum for Technology and innovation** was organised, which focussed on solutions for the management of energy resources, and was attended by over 80 delegates.

Once again this year the UAB Research Park supported the activities of the TECNIO centres of the UAB-CIE Sphere for the promotion of R&D projects in the world of business.

During the year the UAB Research Park continued to encourage and offer support to entrepreneurial projects based on the results of research carried out on the UAB campus and organised the fourth **Ideas Generation Programme**, focussed on the generation of new applications for aerospace technology. The programme had the support of three leading companies in the sector: Air Liquide, GTD and Sener.

The UAB Research park also launched a new initiative to help researchers on the UAB campus to find new applications for their technology in the energy efficiency and clean energy sector with the **Engega!**, promoted jointly with the Repsol Foundation and KIC InnoEnergy.

With regard to the creation of companies this year the Park helped to create three companies which emerged from research carried out on the UAB campus and also offered support to five start-ups which have joined the network of companies in the Park.



Business Representation Council

In 2015 the UAB Research Park set up the Business Representation Council to involve companies in the orientation and definition of the lines of action of the Park and to improve the transfer of knowledge from the university to society.

Among the roles of the Council is advising the Board of Trustees of the Park on strategies to follow and activities and actions to carry out, collaborating in the detection of sectorial needs and making proposals for specific actions related to the Park's objectives and offering support for the organisation of meetings and dissemination activities.

This new council is made up of 24 representatives from companies and chaired by Pere Vallès, CEO of Scytl, the global market leader in electronic voting which originated from a UAB research group.



The UAB has launched a web page on **intellectual property and open access** with the aim of helping to resolve questions about these two areas, such as the doubts about the production and publication of teaching materials, the publication of academic

production on the DDD, the open publication of financed projects and primary research data, the conditions of use and to digital resources (licences), open access licences (Creative Commons) and the publication of books and articles by the Publications Service.

The web page is aimed at the entire university community but in particular teaching and research staff and trainee researchers. It contains a selection of FAQs about intellectual property and open access with orientative answers. It also offers the option of asking new questions.

HIGHLIGHTS



20th anniversary of the CEHIC

This year the **Centre for History of Science Studies (CEHIC)** carried out a series of academic activities to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the centre's foundation and its new location in the Sciences Research Module.

The Centre for History of Science Studies (CEHIC) of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona has become a central point of reference in the research, teaching and dissemination of the history of science, technology and medicine in Catalonia and Spain. One of the most important tasks of the centre is the coordination of the PhD in History of Science offered jointly by the UAB and the University of Barcelona.

The QUIT celebrates its 25th anniversary

On 20 March the Faculty of Economics and Business celebrated the 25th anniversary of the creation of the UAB **Centre for Sociological Studies on Everyday Life and Work (QUIT)**. <The event was titled "25 years of research into everyday life and work" and included discussions about the work carried out over these years and the origins of the centre, which was an initiative of teaching staff and PhD students from the Department of Sociology at the UAB to investigate the world of work in its broadest sense, covering all areas, spaces and times in its development.

Valorisation of research and patents

The intensity of transfer activity at the UAB was also reflected in the number of patents applied for from the **Patents and Valorisation Office** of the UAB. Specifically, in 2015 the office received 44 new inventions from university research groups. The health sciences sector generated most inventions, with a total of 20. The other inventions came mainly from the environment, ICT and agrofood sectors. Of these inventions 22 were patented and 42 international extensions generated (patents requested in other countries). The total number of patents registered was therefore 64.

The main results of valorisation activities were the signing of 10 agreements with different companies for the transfer of research results to the socioeconomic environment.

In 2015 the UAB was the number one university in Spain and the number two research centre (after the Spanish National Research Council) in the number of applications to the European Patents Office.



Ideas Generation Programme Awards

The winner of the fourth Ideas Generation Programme this year was **2D EDGE**, an innovative system for synthesising graphene which allows it to be produced at high quality. Second prize went to OISensing and the third prize was awarded to Smart Coding Tech.

The ICTA receives the María de Maeztu award

The **Institute of Environmental Science and Technology (ICTA-UAB)** was one of the four units accredited by the Spanish Ministry of Finance and Competitiveness as **María de Maeztu Units of Excellence 2015**. This accreditation aims to recognise excellence in organisational research structures located mainly in universities. Thank to this recognition, the ICTA will receive 2 million Euros in funding over four years.

Highlighted in the report was the fact that ICTA scientific production is internationally competitive in terms of quality and quantity and it also praised the postgraduate courses taught at the centre.

The ICTA is the second centre attached to the UAB to receive María de Maeztu accreditation. During the first year of the competition (2014), it was awarded to the Barcelona Graduate School



of Mathematics (Barcelona GSM), with the participation of the Department of Mathematics of the UAB and the Centre for Mathematics Research.

Severo Ochoa awards to two research centres in the UAB-CIE Sphere

The **Institute for Materials Science of Barcelona (ICMAB-CSIC)** and the **Centre for Research in Agricultural Genomics (CRAG)**, which is a consortium of the CSIC, the IRTA, the UAB and the University of Barcelona, were awarded the Severo Ochoa seal of excellence in the fifth year of these awards made by the Spanish Ministry of Finance and Competitiveness. This award recognises excellence and guarantees funding of a million Euros a year over the next four years.

The **Barcelona Graduate School of Economics (Barcelona GSE)**, which is an interuniversity research institute including the participation of the UAB, and which was awarded the honour in the first competition in 2011, has been awarded it for a second time and will therefore receive funding for a further four years.

The UAB and the UAB-CIE Sphere now have five centres of excellence recognised by the Ministry: the Barcelona Graduate School of Economics (Barcelona GSE), the Institute for High Energy Physics (IFAE), the Catalan Institute for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (ICN2), the Institute for Materials Science of Barcelona (ICMAB) and the Centre for Research in Agricultural Genomics (CRAG).

Research dissemination

During the 2015-2016 academic year **169 dissemination campaigns** were carried out, focussed on the results of UAB research staff and institutional initiatives related to the area of research and innovation. These campaigns resulted in 2,155 impacts in digital media and 1,949 in other media, of which 1,735 were newspapers, 138 on the radio and 76 on television. Internationally, 49 press releases were sent to international agencies resulting in 1,165 impacts in the media in other countries. Also, 143 scientific articles were published in the online journal UAB Divulga, which has 2,719 subscribers.

The 169 dissemination campaigns of the UAB research results produced 2,155 impacts in digital media and 1,949 in other media

Among the most important research was the discovery at the Draga archaeological site of the only two Neolithic jewels to be found in Europe; improvements in the treatment of bladder cancer using olive oil and microbacteria; the first studies in memory using optogenetics; the geological study of Mars to attribute some of the features of its relief to tsunamis; the beginning of a pilot project to control fertility in wild boar; a study on the use of digital technologies in children under 8 and an analysis of late pregnancies in Europe. Other results include the discovery of the existence of CO₂ deposit in the Antarctic during the glacial period; the discovery of unpublished works by

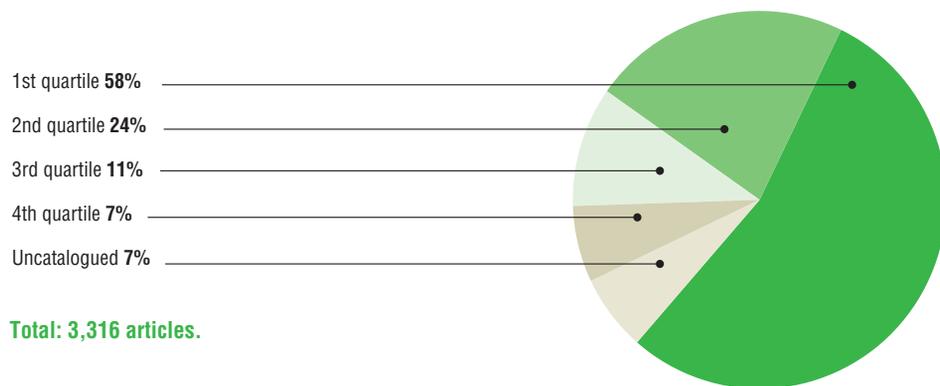
Mompouandi Blancafort on piano rolls; and the determination of mechanisms used by bacteria to avoid antibiotics. Another highlight is the discovery of a protein which can improve mobility after spinal injury; a study which attributes emotions and awareness in fish; and the identification in the River Besòs of a bacteria capable of decontaminating aquifers.

Research results in all areas of knowledge was disseminated. In the area of **health sciences** one highlight was the identification of a powerful drug against family amyloidosis; the identification of a change which is responsible resistance to brain tumours and new mechanisms of anti-tumour actions; a geometric study of the brain which could change strategies against Alzheimer's disease; and the identification of a new gene relation to cancer of the colon.

In the area of **biology**, a study was carried out into the resistance of beans to drought; research into infidelity among female marmots; the creation of a biosensor to assess the toxicity of water; and a presentation of pollen-level forecasts for the spring.

In **social sciences** there was a study of GNP per capita in Spain; research into the role of men in caring for children, adolescents and young people; and the legal prohibition in Gambia of female genital mutilation as a result of anthropological research carried out at the UAB.

ARTICLES PUBLISHED BY RESEARCHERS OF THE UAB ACCORDING TO IMPACT (THOMSON REUTERS), 2015



In the area of the **humanities**, a register was made of 300 archaeological remains found at Aiguestortes; a critical edition of *La dama boba* by Lope de Vega; archaeological research in Kurdistan which show the evolution towards the first cities in Mesopotamia; the discovery of glosses by Nicolau de Cusa in a Vatican manuscript; an international meeting to study the Latin translation of the Talmud; the creation of a portal to discover the past history of cities; and the cataloguing of the musical collection of Tarragona cathedral.

In fields related to **experimental sciences**, a new method to measure the coherence of quantum states was developed; a new way of intertwining three photons was created, and a study was carried out with the CRM of Zipf's Law in the texts of the Project Gutenberg.

Research highlights in **engineering** included the construction of a sustainable water purification plant and the development of a simulator to teach driverless cars to see the city.

And in the area of **environmental sciences**, highlights were studies of the effects of ocean warming and acidification on calcareous phytoplankton; an evaluation of the effects of Fukushima on the oceans; and a study of the importance of Saharan dust in climate change.

Collaboration with the entities that make up the **UAB-CIE Sphere** has also resulted in some major research. For example, collaboration with the ICN2

for the development of viral nanocapsules for the treatment of infections; the organisation with the ICN2 of a festival of nanoscience in the Faculty of Science; work with the ICP to describe the oldest animal footprints in Catalonia; research with the Biomedical Research Institute of the Hospital Sant Pau to the changes in the brain that occur in cocaine users; work with the Jordi Gol Institute for Research into Primary Care to develop a tool to measure the risk of bone fracture for use in health centres; work with the Centre for Research into Animal Health to develop a vaccine against the MERS virus in dromedaries; and the diagnosis of brain tumours using cerebrospinal fluid developed by the Vall d'Hebron Institute of Oncology.

UABDIVULGA
BARCELONA RECERCA E INNOVACIÓ

9a

universitat jove del món segons el rànquing QS 50 under 50

HIGHLIGHTS



First Science and Knowledge night

On 18 November the UAB, Sabadell City Council and the Parc Taulí i Bosch and Cardellach Foundations organised the first **Science and Knowledge Night** at the Teatre Municipal La Faràndula in Sabadell. Through this initiative they hope to present a closer view of science and researchers to the public in order to increase the perception of science in people's lives and to promote scientific careers as an option for young people. The resources obtained at this first Science Night were used for the project "Prevention of mental health problems in our children and young people" which is being carried out by the Centre for Mental Health of the Parc Taulí Health Corporation.

The UAB and the Documenta bookshop bring science closer to the public

The UAB Publications Service and the Documenta bookshop organised a series of talks under the heading "Divulgar al carrer", or spreading knowledge in the streets, to bring science and scientific advances closer to the general public. Through the works of the *El Espejo y la Lámpara* collection of the UAB current topics related to thinking and science are covered.

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTION

The UAB internationalisation strategy focuses on fostering mobility, international partnerships and talent recruitment.

43

new international agreements

Strategic lines

The UAB has a policy of international relations with universities and prestigious institutions around the world which facilitates the signing of collaboration and exchange agreements for teaching and research staff and promotes mobility for the entire university community.

A leader in the attraction of foreign students, this year more than 3,000 students took part in the UAB Study Abroad programme, mainly from the USA. Also significant was the launch of the new International Summer Term and the large numbers of Asian students which make up one third of the students who come to the UAB through the university's own exchange agreement with universities outside Europe.

The UAB actively participates in some of the most dynamic international university networks. This year it took over the chair of the European Consortium of innovative Universities, which is made up of young universities that have strong research activity and are highly active in innovation and transfer to society.

Institutional relations

In 2015-2016 the UAB received a total of 40 institutions visits by delegations from different countries. First there were visits by 14 delegations from Asian universities who came from China, Japan, South Korea and the Philippines, and also the China Scholarship Council (CSC), which gives grants to Chinese students to take their master's degree and PhD at foreign universities. The university also received visits from delegations from Latin American countries such as Colombia, Chile, Brazil and Argentina who were interested in getting to know the UAB better and to extend collaborations in the fields of science and health sciences.

Representatives of the Thompson Rivers University in Canada visited to sign the agreement for a double degree in Chemistry which will begin in the 2017-2018 academic year, and the drawing up of new agreements. As far as the European universities area concerned there was significant interest by French and British universities to promote collaboration with the UAB. Universities from the USA and Australia also visited this year.

As a result of these visits, six framework agreements and five student exchange agreements for degree and Master's courses were signed

along with two internship agreements: one with Tufts University in the USA in the area of veterinary medicine and the other in the field of nursing with Thompson Rivers University, with which a double degree in the biosciences is also being prepared. Finally, there was the visit by the Egyptian Minister for Higher Education and the signature of a general collaboration agreement with Egypt for a teaching assistant in Arabic at the Faculty of Translation and Interpreting.

Visits by the UAB abroad also facilitated the establishment of new relations with universities in Japan such as Hitotsubashi University, in Hong Kong, such as the University of Hong Kong and the University of Lignan, with which it signed an agreement to offer a double Master's degree in Economic Analysis and Finance, and Australia where it signed a student exchange agreement with the University of Western Australia for the 2017-2018 academic year.



In October 2015 Professor Lluís Tort of the Department of Physiology at the UAB was made chair of the ECIU, a consortium made up of young universities with strong research activity and highly active in innovation and transfer to society.

Participation in networks and consortia

During the year the UAB played an active role in the networks and consortia it belongs to. One highlight was the nomination of Prof. Lluís Tort of the Department of Physiology and Vice Rector for Strategic Projects and Planning up until May 2016, to chair the **European Consortium of Innovative Universities**.



With regard to the activity of the **Aliança 4 Universitats (A4U)**, the UAB took part in the institutional visits to Indonesia and countries in the Arabian Peninsula. In June 2015 a delegation made up of representatives of the four universities visited Indonesia. The visit included five universities, the Ministry of Education, the government grant agency and teaching staff who do an exchange visit to a foreign university. In October 2015 it visited 8 universities in Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Qatar. As a result of these visits the UAB established different collaborations with universities in these two areas. In the case of Indonesia, existing collaboration with different institution was consolidated as a result of the K107 programme within Erasmus+, thanks to which there are exchange students from Bachelor's, Master's and PhD programmes and

teaching staff. With the Arab countries the university is working to attract students to study for Master's degrees and PhDs at the UAB. Specifically regarding the new relations with Qatar and the UAE, the UAB has taken a special interest in establishing collaborations with them in the areas of political science and translation and interpreting.



The UAB also participated actively in the **Young European Research Universities Network (YERUN)** which held its first general assembly on 12 February 2016 at the New University of Lisbon, and in the **World 100 Reputation Network**, which looked at the relationship between the geographical location of universities and their prestige at its annual meeting.



HIGHLIGHTS



The UAB and the University of Lingnan (Hong Kong) launch a double Master's degree in Economics and Finance

On 2 December the UAB and the University of Lingnan in Hong Kong signed an agreement to offer a double Master's degree which will allow students interested in international banking and finance to obtain a two-year Master's degree in Economic Analysis (IDEA) from the UAB and an MSc in International Banking and Finance (MIBF) from the University of Lingnan. The degree will be taught in English on the UAB and Hong Kong campuses and it is forecast that the programme will be offered in 2016-2017.



The Egyptian embassy in Spain collaborates with the UAB in teaching

Ferran Sancho, rector of the UAB, and Basem Saleh, the cultural councillor of the Egyptian Embassy in Spain signed a collaboration agreement on 25 May 2016. The signing took place at the Rectorat in the presence of the Egyptian Minister for Higher Education, Ashraf Shihi. This framework agreement will allow the two institutions to work together in teaching, with the aim of offering classes in the Egyptian dialect on the Bachelor's degree in Translation and Interpreting and the new Master's degree in Contemporary Arab Studies which will begin during the next academic year.



From 18 to 22 April Erasmus Staff Week took place at the UAB. 21 professional from universities in 13 different countries attended. This activity is organised by the UAB within the framework of the Erasmus+ programme and allows those attending to find out about the organisation of the university and the campus and some of the services it offers.

Mobility programmes

in 2015-2016 participation by the UAB in the **Erasmus+ programme**, which includes 1,391 agreements with 521 European universities, enabled 583 students from the UAB to study at European universities and 814 European students to study at the UAB. Within the same programme, 56 members of the teaching and research staff of the UAB and 16 members of the administration and services staff spent periods in other European universities and 224 student did internships in companies. 21 members of administration and services staff from universities all over Europe came to the Erasmus Staff Week organised by the UAB.

Spain's SICUE programme, with 440 agreements, facilitated the mobility of 144 students of which 98 were welcomed to the UAB and 46 UAB students spend periods at other universities in Spain.

The **UAB programme** for student mobility to non-European countries, which has 381 agreements with 206 universities in 31 countries, saw 309 outgoing students and 386 incoming students, a third of which were from Eastern Asian countries.

The **Study Abroad programme** had 3,129 inscriptions, 20% more than the previous year, consolidating the leadership of the UAB in the attraction of foreign students. In 2014-2015 70% of students coming to Catalonia on the Study Abroad programme chose the UAB.

El 70% dels estudiants que van venir a Catalunya mitjançant un programa Study Abroad van triar la UAB per fer-hi una estada

In the Pre-Established mode, which is taught at the Casa Convalescència and on the Eixample campus, there was a 14% increase in students. Of the total 80% were from north America. in terms of Selected Courses, 86 students took 352 undergraduate subjects. The Tailor Made courses also experienced considerable growth in the number of students (54%), teaching hours (16%) and programmes offered (43%). This year saw courses with students from universities in South Korea and Uruguay and the collaboration agreements with the United Kingdom, Mexico, Colombia, Germany, Finland, Taiwan, China and Macau were maintained.

Welcome and support for international students

Throughout the year the International Welcome Point, which offers help and advice to the international community at the UAB, attended to 8,589 requests in person. Of those 3,918 were related to obtaining or renewing legal permits to be in Spain, 2,930 to the different exchange programmes and 328 to support in obtaining a work permit. The number of international postgraduate grant holders seeking help was equally large at 304.

The UAB also has a welcome programme for foreign students to facilitate their stay and their integration into the university community and the country. The **International Welcome Days**, are held at the beginning of each semester and aim to help new students find their way around the campus and find out about the services and associations of the university. The **Mentor programme** for student peer support and the **Tàndem programme**, for language acquisition and exchange also help the students to settle in more quickly.

This year an **International Day** was also organised for UAB students who wanted to do an exchange at a foreign university in 2016-2017. The day included information sessions and stands for different universities.

HIGHLIGHTS



First International Summer Term

During the months of June and July the first International Summer Term took place at the UAB. More than fifty students from all over the world came to take intensive courses in different specialised areas (geography, architecture and design, education, international economics, television, nanotechnology & nanoscience and human rights). They took classes in and practiced speaking Catalan and Spanish and they had the opportunity to take part in different activities to get to know the UAB, Barcelona and Catalan culture. The Vice Rector for International Relations, Marius Martínez, and the Vice Rector for Students and Employability Sara Moreno, received the students in a reception meeting on 20 June.

Information session about Fulbright grants

On 3 December there was an information session about Fulbright grants at the Faculty of Philosophy and Arts. In 2015 twenty-two students from the UAB applied for Fulbright grants, of which **four were selected to go to the USA in 2016**. The UAB was the fourth university in Spain in terms of the number of applicants but the second in terms of successful applications. Of the 32 Fulbright scholars in Spain who have gone to the USA, 12.5% are from the UAB. Since these grants have been available in Spain 270 students from the UAB have been successful and of them 70 are now on the UAB teaching and research staff.

PARTICIPANTS IN MOBILITY PROGRAMMES. 2015-2016

	Incoming	Outgoing
ERASMUS STUDY	814	583
ERASMUS INTERNSHIPS		224
UAB PROGRAMME	386	206
UAB INTERNSHIPS		103
SICUE	98	46
STUDY ABROAD	3,129	
TOTAL	4,427	1,162

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF ERASMUS STUDENTS AT THE UAB. 2015-2016



COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF STUDENTS ON THE UAB EXCHANGE PROGRAMME UAB. 2015-2016



SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT

The UAB has launched social, volunteering, environmental and health programmes to interact positively with its surroundings.

A university committed to society and the region

For the UAB it is clear that one of its roles as a public university is to reaffirm its commitment to society and the region. It has done this by setting up social and volunteering programmes and through actions of responsibility towards society and the environment which allow positive interaction with the surrounding and provide an incentive for all of the university community in the different associations, cultural activities and volunteering. The UAB also encourages young people and society in general to get to know the university.

This year in the area of international cooperation, the UAB demonstrated its commitment to the defending the right to asylum and support for the refugees by joining the #UniversitatsRefugi initiative of the Association of Catalan Public Universities.

Actions to achieve a healthy and sustainable campus went beyond the campus itself and were rewarded with different prizes and recognition for policies for respect for the environment and awareness-raising among the university community.

Equality and student support

jointly with the Banco Santander **20 Ítaca-Santander salary grants for young people** with talent were awarded alongside **68 grants to relieve emergency situations** as a result of the application of **active policies to ensure equity and equality** of opportunities. Again this year the Impuls grants, financed by the Board of Trustees, offered personal support to **9 students with a disability**.

Since it was introduced, a total of 438 students have benefitted from the **Emergència programmes** for students with low incomes, destined to relieve situation which make it difficult for them to progress with their university studies.

The UAB also offers a line of collaboration grants and funding which allow students to collaborate in different areas of the university while they are studying. In 2015-2016 a total of 69 grants were allocated.

University-Society programme of the board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees, as the body for the participation of society at the university has launched several strategic actions through University-Society programme to strengthen links with society.

Within this programme the Board supports actions for the interests of people who have, have had or potentially will have links with the UAB, both before their arrival (socio-educational support programmes and programmes for young people at risk of social exclusion), during their time at the UAB (financing of the Impuls grants and support programme for people with special needs) or after they have left the campus (UAB Alumni Network, Impulse Employment programme). The University-Society programme also works on strategic actions such as innovation, entrepreneurship, knowledge transfer and connection with the region, among others.



The 13th year of the **Ítaca Campus**, organised by the **Fundació Autònoma Solidària**, enabled 324 secondary school students to spend two weeks at the UAB to do activities related to the university. This flagship programme aims to provide an incentive to secondary school students to stay on at school after their compulsory education comes to an end.

Socio-educational programmes

In an attempt to bring the university closer to society, the UAB offers different socio-educational programmes aimed at providing an incentive for future students to enter higher education, such as the **Ítaca Campus** and the **Argó** programme, as well as series of programmes aimed at providing a social function in the prevention of school dropout and the risk of social exclusion, such as the **CROMA** programme, the **Unix** programme and the **Shere Rom** projects, which organise activities on the UAB campus.

All together this year more than 5,000 people were able to benefit from the socio-educational programmes at the UAB.

Strengthening the links between the UAB and secondary schools

The UAB carries out a series of programmes and activities which aim to strengthen the link between secondary school students and the university, so that students see the university as a good option for continuing with their studies. The aim of these programmes is to allow school students to get

to know different aspects of the world of knowledge and research, and enable them to participate in the university or research experience beforehand.

The **Ítaca Campus** and the **Argó** programme encourage future students to go onto higher education

Among these programmes the flagship is the **Ítaca Campus**, which allows secondary school students to spend two weeks at the university to discover the campus through organised training and research activities, and the **Argó programme** which offers support to pre-university students through assessment of their school or college work, training sessions, work experience and the **Argó Awards** for final school projects.

HIGHLIGHTS



Ítaca-Santander grants awards

On 5 February 23 **Ítaca-Santander** salary grants were awarded to pre-university students with high academic performance and from disadvantaged backgrounds. Also, from this year with the support of the Board of Trustees the grants also financed official master's degrees for four students who completed their degrees with the support of **Ítaca** grants.



Argó Awards for school and college final projects

Of almost 400 projects presented in the thirteenth year of the **Argó Awards** for school final projects a total of 49 were selected: 21 prizes and 28 special mentions in seven categories and areas. The first prize-winners for each area will have their registration fee waived for the first year of a degree course at the UAB. In October the seven winning projects of the twelfth year of the **Argó Awards** for college final projects were awarded.



On 13 February, the School of Engineering of the UAB hosted the FIRST LEGO League, an international challenge which aims to awaken an interest in science and technology in young people.

The different faculties and research centres of the UAB also organise activities for secondary school students to inform them of their specialisations and giving a sample of the research carried out at the UAB. Some of these activities already have been running for a long time and have attracted many students to the disciplines and centres of the UAB as an option for their university studies. Among these activities are the Interactive Chemistry Days, organised by the Department of Chemistry with the support of the UAB Institute for Education, and the Physics Saturdays, the Law Fridays and the Maths Saturdays, which offer practical experience in the three disciplines. Over the year these activities attracted more than a thousand secondary school students.



The REVIR project

The REVIR project promotes practical work in the experimental sciences in a computerised laboratory of the Faculty of Education at the UAB and offers much experience, having been created in 2003. It is coordinated by the Centre for Research in Science and Mathematics Education and, with the support of La Caixa Social Projects, the Government of Catalonia and private companies,

REVIR offers practical cases and socially and scientifically relevant problems which the secondary school students have to solve with guidance from the teaching staff and researchers and with the experimental and technological resources provided in the laboratory. This project has attracted more than 15,000 students since it was set up.



In 2015-2016, CROMA reached 490 children from 4th, 5th and 6th year of primary schools in seven municipalities of Vallès Occidental. With the participation of almost 100 student volunteers workshops were organised for assisted study so that the children can follow the classes better and have more socio-emotional resources.

HIGHLIGHTS



Support for disabilities

The **Support Service for People with Disabilities (PIUNE)** has attended all requests for support for educational needs arising from a situation of disability, giving support to 208 UAB students in total. The service provides orientation to future students of the UAB, promotes measures of support for students with disabilities during the time they are studying at the UAB and works together with the UAB employment service, Treball Campus and the UAB Impuls programme to help students and graduates find work.

The PIUNE also manages the adapted transport service on the Bellaterra campus and offers service to accompany students with problems of orientation on foot around the campus.

With funding from the Board of Trustees, nine UAB students were given **Impuls grants** this year to help them with their personal needs during their time at the UAB or an exchange university.

This year the PIUNE offered different training sessions for teaching staff at the UAB to improve the acceptance of a diversity of physical and psychological characteristics of the students at the university.

Involvement with society for better learning

To channel the involvement of the UAB with society and highlight its commitment to disadvantaged social areas a series of programmes is included in within the socio-educational programmes which aim to accompany and support students in primary and secondary schools who, as a result of their socio-cultural or personal circumstances, find it difficult to achieve academic objectives.

The programmes are CROMA, UniX and Shere Rom, organised by the Fundació Autònoma Solidària. The aim is to motivate children and young people to continue studying once they have completed their compulsory education. **CROMA** is a volunteer programme in which UAB students offer study workshops in schools for children from 8 to 12 years, while **UniX** works with volunteers to improve mathematical competence and learning for young people in Rubí studying the first and second years of secondary school. The **Shere Rom** project allows undergraduate students to visit schools and social organisations such as gypsy associations or neighbourhood centres to offer support to children and help them to do things they are unable to do alone, stimulate their self-esteem and help them to do group work.

There is also a **mentoring** project offered by the Interuniversity Research Group for **Childhood and Adolescence at Social Risk** and carried out with young people from 16 to 18 who are residents in special educational centres and **UAB students** using a learning methodology that allows aspects of self-esteem, emotional stability and expansion of social networks to be worked on.

The university within your reach

The **Universitat a l'Abast** (university within your reach) programme support lifelong learning inked to active ageing and offers opportunities for training and social involvement through the Learning on Campus programme. Currently, there are 15 classrooms tutored by the UAB through the programme and more than 4,000 members.



The UAB and the Johan Cruyff Institute signed an agreement which includes teaching and research activities in sports management and actions of solidarity aimed at improving sports adapted to special needs and to work towards universal accessibility to sport through the Cruyff Foundation and the Fundació Autònoma Solidària.

Social and volunteer programmes

The Fundació Autònoma Solidària (FAS) works towards making the university more supportive and committed to society by promoting the participation of the university community in volunteer projects. As a result, this year 579 people, including students, teaching and research staff and administration and services staff experienced the rewards of volunteering at the university.

The social volunteer programmes, such as the Justice Programme (in prison centres or juvenile justice centres), the socio-educational programmes and the Socio-Health Programme attended a total of 4,300 people at risk of social exclusion or at a difficult moment in their personal lives or health. Groups of students also took part in awareness-raising campaigns for topics related to the environment, food wastage and healthy habits.



Cooperation for development

The FAS disseminated projects and actions for international cooperation and oversaw the management project to strengthen cooperation and the cooperation links between the UAB and those in third world countries.

In addition, and thanks to the Solidarity Fund, which is managed by the FAS and made up of contributions by members of the university community, seven cooperation for development projects were financed. They are being carried out in universities in Mozambique, Gambia, Uganda, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador and Nicaragua. Three proposals for promoting the inclusion for education for development in UAB courses also received funding. There has been support for different Master's degree and PhD projects to be carried out in Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Nicaragua, Cuba and Thailand.

In the area of training and awareness-raising the **EDSU project** was launched. This is an initiative aimed at promoting education for development in universities to try to strengthen the role of the university in the generation of critical knowledge and in the forming of an active and committed citizenship, prepared to act in situations of social injustice on a local and global scale. EDSU is led by the FAS in collaboration with the Association of Catalan Public Universities and also has the support of Barcelona City Council.



Refugees project

Given the humanitarian crisis of the refugees, the UAB has joined the #UniversitatsRefugi initiative, underlining its commitment to the defence of the right to asylum and with the aim of giving support to refugees. In April it signed an agreement with the Catalan Commission for Help for Refugees (CCAR) which allows the UAB to place the accommodation in the University Village at the disposal of the CCAR and to create the Programa Acollida (intake programme), which is managed by the Fundació Autònoma Solidària to promote the inclusion of people requesting international protection who are resident at the UAB.



From 26 to 30 October the Sustainable and Safe Mobility Week took place at the UAB. The aim of this initiative is to inform people of the benefits of transport that is more sustainable than cars and to that end excursions by bicycle and on foot were organised from neighbouring municipalities to the Bellaterra campus.

Environmental management

The environmental management of the UAB is carried out within the framework of the **Healthy and Sustainable Campus (Campus SiS)** and has as its reference the **Action Plan for Sustainability at the UAB for the period 2013-2017**.

The UAB is committed to managing mobility in a responsible and sustainable manner, promoting collective transport (with the new applications App&Town and Busos UAB), the use of bicycles and a more rational use of private transport. New technology such as smart mobility and the new actions of the Bici UAB project (new bike lanes, locked bike parks, BICI UAB cyclist insurance, bike rental and repair and internal messenger bikes) form the basis of this commitment.

In terms of dissemination and awareness-raising the Sustainable and Safe Mobility and the Healthy and Sustainable Campus weeks were held again along with Bicycle Day and the **Sustainable Transport Guide 2016-2017** was published. The **Midday on the Campus** programme was also launched as an initiative to encourage people to get to know the campus and the local area better.

The efforts that the UAB has made to ensure a sustainable and healthy campus were recognised with one of the awards of the Healthy Enterprise Prize, which is awarded by PYSA, Observatory of Human Resources, and by the improvement of positions in the Greenmetric ranking, which compares efforts made by universities for environmental sustainability and respect. The UAB occupies 1st place in Spain and 14th place in the world.

On 25 February the **3rd Healthy Catalan University Network Seminar**, chaired and coordinated by the UAB, was held. The activities took place on the UAB campus and included talks, a round table and a healthy walk.

in order to promote energy saving the UAB also introduced awareness-raising measures proposed by energy improvement groups (see chapter 08 “management of resources and organisation”).



HIGHLIGHTS



Presentation of the new Busos UAB app

The UAB has developed the new Busos UAB app, aimed at the university community to facilitate movement around the campus by bus. It allows you to see where the stops are, which lines there are and the waiting times. This app was presented during the Sustainable and Safe Mobility Week and was developed within the Smart Campus project.



Agreement between the UAB and Global Basket

The UAB and the Global Basket Sports Club, directed by Oscar Trigo, signed an agreement to promote sports activities and to raise awareness of integrated, healthy and sustainable lifestyles, which helps sports players with disabilities to gain access to higher education with equality of opportunities.

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY



On 19 April the first #TechPartyUAB was held, organised by the students of the Faculty of Engineering. It was a great success with over 150 participants in the computer game competitions and more than 80 in the activities.

Students

In order to encourage participation, especially by students, the UAB offers a whole range of activities to the university community for the creation of networks and internal cohesion. At the same time, the Community Involvement Unit manages resources and equipment to promote the different associations on the campus, the network of delegates from the academic groups and the student council and groups. It also offers them the possibility of organising their own activities and offer them to the community.

This year the election took place for the **Permanent Committee of the Student Council of the UAB (CEUAB)**, elected by members of the Student Council and which will have a mandate of one year which may be extended to two. In the second year of the implementation of the regulatory framework of delegates, it is worth mentioning that 321 students registered in the Census.

The number of student groups registered in the Directory is currently 86, with a total of 2,404 students as members. These groups have had financial and logistical support to organise events and have contributed to consolidating the use of the spaces in the Resource Centre for Student Groups and the Hotel d'Entitats. In the call for applications for student group funding in 2106 there were 61 applications and 57 grants were awarded, for a total value of 10.000 Euros.

Human resources

This year the UAB made progress in its human capital both in terms of new contracts and also in its interest in supporting a new work culture based on confidence, flexibility, initiative and personal responsibility.

There was a new call for applications for trainee researchers (PIF) and postdoctoral research staff, with a total offer of 86 places in different departments. It is forecast that these researchers will join the UAB in 2016-2107.

Also, within the framework of the grant programme for the promotion of youth employment and the introduction of the youth guarantee of the Ministry for Employment and Social Security, the UAB has announced 29 interim positions in different academic and research management areas.

To demonstrate this commitment towards a new work culture at the UAB, in March the fourth call for applications for the homeworking programme for administration and services staff took place. Under this programme the homeworker can spend part of the week at home in order to achieve a better work-life balance and also to encourage objective-based results and management.

In January the 6th collective bargaining agreement for administration and services staff was published in the Official Gazette of the Catalan Government.

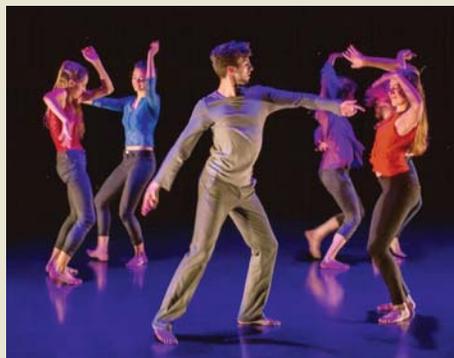
Observatory for equality

The activity of the Observatory for Equality in 2015-2016 concentrated on different aspects of increased visibility, training, research and participation.

The coordination of the process of producing the **Action protocol against harassment for reasons of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona**, which was approved by the Governing Council of the UAB on 10 March 2106.

With regard to the tasks of increasing visibility, the eleventh institutional celebration of International Working Women's Day should be highlighted, which this year paid homage to Professor Fàtima Bosch. There were also several awareness-raising activities such as the "No thirst for sexism" campaign which was launched on the occasion of the UAB annual party.

Activities related to research concentrated on the European **EGERA project: Effective Gender Equality in Research & Academia**. As part of this project the 3rd Gender Perspective in Research Workshop and the 2nd Gender Bias in Governance and Evaluation Seminar took place at the UAB, among other activities.



Cultural activity

This year **Cultura en Viu** (live culture) promoted 200 cultural activities in which more than 14,000 people took part. There were five exhibitions visited by almost 3,000 people, 83 activities in the Cinema with almost 5,500 viewers and 49 activities in the Theatre with more than 2,600

viewers.

Six shows and concerts were organised with more than 30 performances in and outside the UAB, organised by the permanent groups (Choir, Chamber Choir, Orchestra, Dance and Theatre), with 112 members taking part and 16 training activities were taken by 178 participants for which they received academic credit. **Cultura en Viu** also supported the organisation of 91 activities which were the initiatives of different services, bodies, groups and members of the university. Of these the FMUAB programme of music won the Autònoma Actúa Prize, presenting over fifty music and theatre pieces.

Cultura en Viu also organised or supported 71 activities proposed by department and teaching centres or research groups as well as those from external organisations such as Cinemes Verdi, the Capellades International Music Competition

Ombuds Office

The **Ombuds Office** of the UAB took 77 actions during 2015, of which 78% came from undergraduate and postgraduate students and 22% from members of the teaching and research staff and the administration and services staff. The office reported that students had felt very badly affected by the decisions of different governing bodies with regard to continual changes in the syllabuses at all levels of qualification. They also wanted to show that all groups had paid a very high price as a result of the financial crisis which began in 2008 and which is not yet resolved. Increases in university fees, freezing of salaries, whittling down of staff positions, non-replacement of staff and a reduction in research funding were some of the factors that had influenced the requests received by the Ombuds Office in recent years.

Friends of the UAB

The **Association of Friends of the UAB** had a full programme of activities to invigorate university life through a series of debates, conferences and cultural excursions.

In the **Friends Festival**, which took place on 19 November, the Amics de Amics prizes were awarded, in recognition of their professional careers, to Professor Fàtima Bosch of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and director of Centre for Animal Biotechnology; to Teresa Torns, lecturer in the Department of Sociology of the UAB and in the Foodbank Foundation. The Universitat a l'Abast programme also received a prize for UAB Collective. The University-Business and University-Society prizes awarded by the Board of Trustees, went to Josep Lluís Bonet, CEO of the Freixenet Group and the president of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce and to Johan Cruyff, as founder of the Johan Cruyff Institute and the Cruyff Foundation.

HIGHLIGHTS



Homage to Fàtima Bosch in the institutional celebration of International Working Women's Day

On 8 March the eleventh institutional celebration of International Working Women's Day took place, and homage was paid to Professor Fàtima Bosch of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and director of Centre for Animal Biotechnology. Participating in the event was also Teresa Freixes, director of the Observatory for Equality.



Second Alumni meeting in Brussels

On 21 April the European Consortium of Innovative Universities (ECIU) organised the second Alumni meeting with the universities who are members of the Alumni network. During the event in Brussels, which was attended by former students residing in Belgium, the Chapter Alumni UAB proposal was presented.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISATION

The UAB has a balanced budget, despite using a million Euros from the Budget Stabilisation Plan into infrastructure investments and maintenance.

Implementation of the budget

One year more the UAB had a balanced budget for 2105. In the income column it should be mentioned that the Government of Catalonia made contributions especially destined to allow the extra salary payment for 2105 and part of the extra payment for 2012. Other current income was maintained. In the expenditure column the most significant item was the extra salary payment and the increase in specific activities more in the area of research than teaching. Interest costs were lower than in 2014 thanks to the normalization of the State of the treasury.

Investments financed by the Catalan government are at a similar level to 2014 and have included the second part of the additional financing of the refurbishment of the Parc Taulí Teaching Unit and the spaces in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine for the standardisation of qualifications.

In compliance with the reformulation of the Budget Standardisation Plan approved by the Board of Trustees a million Euros of the 2015 provision were destined for investment and maintenance of infrastructures to meet health and safety requirements, energy saving and generally comply with the regulations. 6.6 million Euros of the debt was paid off in accordance with the due dates of loans received, which have increased by 4.8 million Euros as a result of the FEDER funds received,

which will be considered as subsidies once the Ministry of Finance and Competitivity has confirmed their receipt.

In 2015 the UAB benefitted from low interest rates on underwritten credit policies as well as the beneficial effect of the Autonomic Liquidity Fund for the month of December, which meant the payment of the debt due from the Government of Catalonia to the sum of 15 million Euros.

312

million Euro budget (2015 budget after expenditure settlement)



Actions for energy efficiency

During the period 2010-2015 the UAB has reduced its energy consumption by 17%. This decrease is the result of improvements in energy efficiency and, especially, in the improvement of heating installations and more efficient lighting technology.

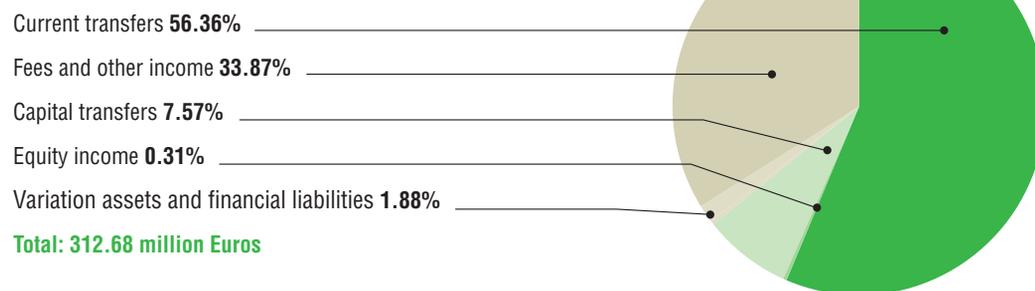
Among the actions taken in the 2015-2016 academic year special mention should be made of the improvement in the heating and air-conditioning Systems, the introduction of LED lights for the outside lighting of the campus and also the ground floors of most of the buildings, and different awareness-raising campaigns carried out by 14 energy improvement groups at the UAB.

There were also actions to improve the contracting conditions meaning that the economic cost has been contained (despite the rise in energy prices in recent years). The purchase of electricity and gas is made by electronic auction through the Consortium of University Services of Catalonia, in which several universities and research centres participate. This System has allowed us to maintain stable prices over the last year and obtain a better price for gas despite the increases in motorway tolls (fixed taxes).

Part of the savings has been reinvested in actions to further reduce energy consumption and which will mean more energy savings in the long term.

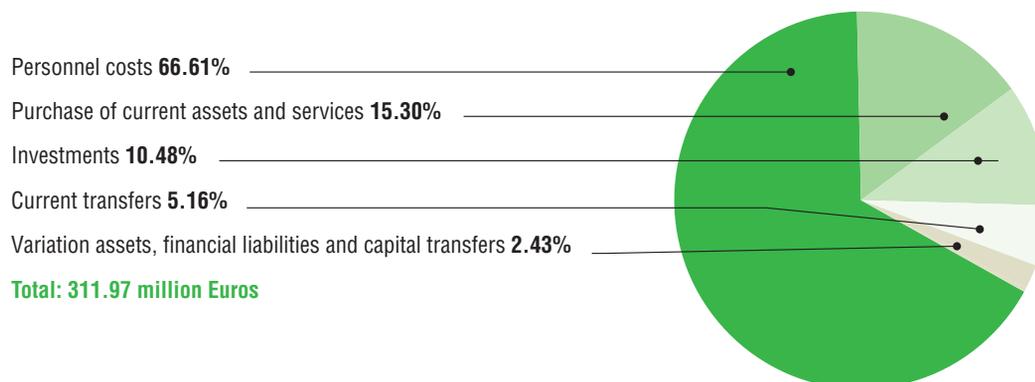


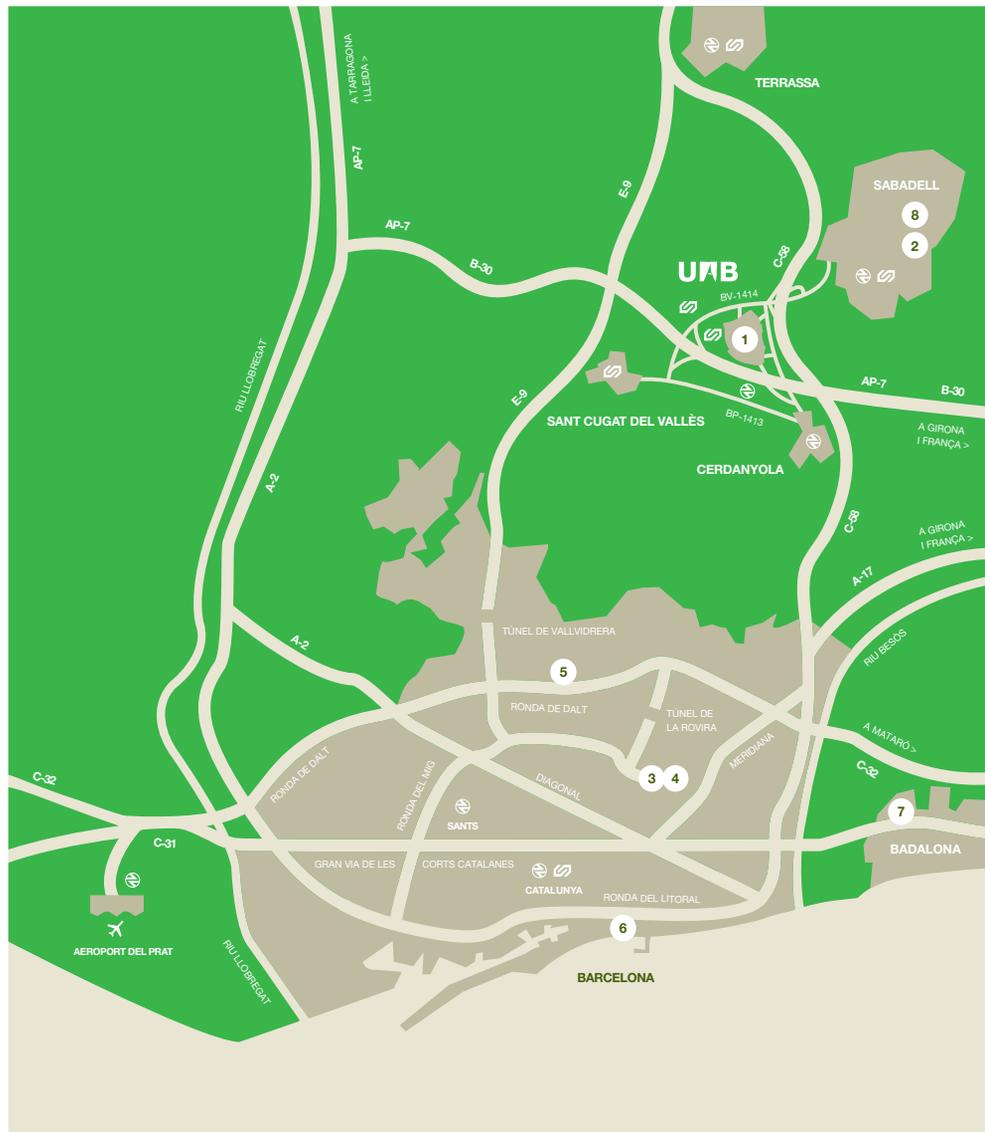
INCOME STATEMENT FOR 2015



Please note: the difference between recognised rights (€312.68m), part of which corresponds to final and/or multi-year income, and recognised liabilities (€311.97m) does not determine the budget deficit or surplus for the year, as some of this income may have come from previous years and may be spent in years following the year for which the statements were drawn up.

EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR 2015





UAB Campus

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

University Hospitals

(Faculty of Medicine teaching units)

- 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)

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Campus de Bellaterra
08193 Bellaterra (Cerdanyola del Vallès)
www.uab.es

UAB
Universitat Autònoma
de Barcelona

UABCEI 
CAMPUS OF INTERNATIONAL
EXCELLENCE