



## ICTA-UAB Winter Symposium 2026

### Context and Rationale

The ICTA-UAB Winter Symposium is a longstanding annual gathering that brings together the institute's community to reflect on ongoing research, foster interdisciplinary dialogue, and strengthen collective identity. The 2026 edition takes place in a moment of profound global uncertainty and transformation, marked by overlapping geopolitical, ecological, and social crises that directly intersect with the institute's core research agendas.

Against this backdrop, the ICTA-UAB Winter Symposium 2026 aims to create a shared space for critical reflection, scientific exchange, and institutional dialogue, combining outward-looking debates on global challenges with inward-looking moments that celebrate and project ICTA-UAB's scientific contributions and values.

### Audience and Format

The Winter Symposium 2026 is open to all members of the ICTA-UAB community, including faculty, senior researchers, postdoctoral fellows, PhD candidates, technicians, visiting scholars and administrative staff. The event will be held in a hybrid-friendly (Zoom details below), interactive format, combining structured sessions with time for discussion and exchange. A coffee break and a potluck lunch will provide additional opportunities for social interaction and community building.

## **Programme**

### **1. Opening remarks by ICTA-UAB Director**

Umberto Lombardo

10:00 – 10:10

### **2. An overview of three inter-related institutional initiatives on care, gender and well-being**

Panagiota Kotsila

10:10 – 10:25

A short dedicated session will introduce three interrelated ICTA-UAB initiatives focused on care, wellbeing, and gender equity. First, it will present the upcoming ICTA-UAB prizes recognizing research that meaningfully integrates feminist perspectives or a gender lens, and gives visibility to research from female researchers, launching the period when PIs can nominate candidates from their respective groups. Second, the session will brief ICTA colleagues on the first draft results of the institute-wide wellbeing survey, and explaining its objectives, design, and role in informing evidence-based actions to improve working conditions and care practices at ICTA-UAB. Finally, the session will briefly present the forthcoming training sessions on care and wellbeing, highlighting their aims and how they connect to both the survey and the prize initiative as part of a coherent strategy to foster a more caring, inclusive, and sustainable research environment.



### **3. Keynote talk: On Thin Ice: Arctic Extractivism, Geopolitics, and the Making of Greenland's Future**

Ksenija Hanaček

10:25 – 11:00

The Arctic is rapidly becoming a central arena of geopolitical competition, resource extraction, and contested futures. Drawing on seven years of research, this keynote talk by Dr. Ksenija Hanaček examines how extractivism, infrastructure expansion, and new geopolitical projects, such as emerging Arctic trade routes, are reshaping Greenland and the wider Arctic region. The talk situates these dynamics within longer histories of colonialism and environmental injustice, highlighting their impacts on Indigenous Peoples' lands, livelihoods, and governance.

### **4. ICTA-UAB Coffee Break**

Organized by ICTA-UAB Management Team

11:00 – 11:30

### **5. Scientific Highlights of 2025 | Showcasing ICTA-UAB's research excellence**

Chaired by Álvaro Fernández-Llamazares

11:30 – 12:20

This session will provide a concise and dynamic overview of some of the most influential scientific outputs produced by ICTA-UAB researchers in 2025. Selected papers will be briefly presented and contextualized, offering insights into emerging research directions, methodological innovations, and societal relevance. Designed as a series of ten five-minute presentations, the session seeks to encourage cross-disciplinary dialogue and to make scientific excellence visible across the institute.

These 10 papers were selected because they represent ICTA-UAB research that has travelled furthest, both within academia and beyond it. They combine publications in top-tier international journals with work that has sparked substantial media visibility, social media interest and public debate, making them particularly suitable for a collective reflection on scientific impact and relevance. Two papers were selected per each of the 5 ICTA-UAB Challenges. The presenter for each paper is underlined.

#### Presentations

OCEANS (11:30 – 11:40)

Pallacks, S., Ziveri, P., Jannke, H. A., Lin, C.-H., Subhas, A. V., Galbraith, E., Kaboth-Bahr, S., Friedrich, O., Bahr, A., Koutsodendris, A., Pross, J., & Norris, R. D. (2025) Ocean deoxygenation linked to ancient mesopelagic fish decline. *Communications Earth & Environment*, 6, 596. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s43247-025-02568-8>

Ziveri, P., Langer, G., Chaabane, S., de Vries, J., Gray, W. R., Keul, N., Hatton, I. A., Manno, C., Norris, R. D., Pallacks, S., Young, J. R., Schiebel, R., Zarkogiannis, S., Anglada-Ortiz, G., Bianco, S., de Garidel-Thoron, T., Grelaud, M., Lucas, A., Probert, I., & Mortyn, P. G. (2025) Calcifying plankton: From biomineralization to global change. *Science*. 390(6771), eadq8520. <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.adq8520>

LAND (11:40 – 11:50)

Beigel, F., Brockington, D., Crosetto, P., et al. (2025) The drain of scientific publishing. *arXiv*. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2511.04820>

Lombardo, U., Hilbert, L., Bentley, M., Ramsey, C.K., Dudgeon, K., et al. (2025) Maize monoculture supported pre-Columbian urbanism in southwestern Amazonia. *Nature*, 639, 119–123. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-024-08473-y>

CITIES (11:50 – 12:00)

Anguelovski, I., Kotsila, P., Lees, L., Triguero-Mas, M., & Calderón-Argelich, A. (2025) From heat racism and heat gentrification to urban heat justice in the USA and Europe. *Nature Cities*, 2(1), 8–16. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s44284-024-00179-6>

Maiza, M. V., Muñoz Liesa, J., Petit-Boix, A., Arcas Pilz, V., & Gabarrell, X. (2024) Urine luck: Environmental assessment of yellow water management in buildings for urban agriculture. *Resources, Conservation & Recycling*, 212, 107985. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.resconrec.2024.107985>

CONSUMPTION (12:00 – 12:10)

Kallis, G., Hickel, J., O'Neill, D. W., Jackson, T., Victor, P. A., Raworth, K., Schor, J. B., & Steinberger, J. K. (2025) Post-growth: The science of wellbeing within planetary boundaries. *The Lancet Planetary Health*, 9(1), E62–E78. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196\(24\)00310-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196(24)00310-3)

Llavero-Pasquina, M., & Bontempi, A. (2025) Oil and gas industry's marginal share of global renewable energy. *Nature Sustainability*, 8, 1254–1258. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-025-01647-0>

POLICIES (12:10 – 12:20)

Marquet, O., Anguelovski, I., Nello-Deakin, S., & Honey-Rosés, J. (2025) Decoding the 15-minute city debate: Conspiracies, backlash, and dissent in planning for proximity. *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 91(1), 117–125. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01944363.2024.2346596>

Savin, I., King, L. C., & van den Bergh, J. C. J. M. (2025) Analysing content of Paris climate pledges with computational linguistics. *Nature Sustainability*, 8, 297–306. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-024-01504-6>

**6. General update about Mdm-3**

Maria Pastor

12:20 – 12:35

This session will provide a brief update on the current status of the María de Maeztu Unit of Excellence programme. It will present an overview of key developments since the previous meeting, outline forthcoming milestones, and address other organizational issues of relevance to participants.



## **7. Research Speed Dating | Match your buddy**

Chaired by Isabel Lopera and Álvaro Fernández-Llamazares

12:35 – 13:20

A fast-paced session to help researchers connect, share interests, and identify concrete collaboration opportunities. Short, structured conversations in pairs (or occasional trios), following a speed-dating rotation. Each exchange focuses on what participants do, what they are looking for, and what they can offer. Participants identify 1–3 potential collaborators, quickly detect shared interests, and lay the groundwork for follow-up discussions during breaks or subsequent meetings.

## **8. Concluding remarks**

Umberto Lombardo

13:20 – 13:30

## **9. Potluck lunch**

13:30 – 14:45h

### Practical Information

- Date: Wednesday, February 4th, 2026
- Time: 10:00 – 13:30
- Venue: Sala Montseny – Rooms Z/022 and Z/023 (ICTA-UAB)
- Details for joining remotely:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88970570360?pwd=biEkjobl3XLezhtu9dM4c0h7r8M3CS.1>

Meeting ID: 889 7057 0360

Password: 858312