Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Annual report for the 2024-2025 academic year



UAB Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Annual Report for the 2024–2025 Academic Year

Edited by
Secretaria General
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Coordination
Gabinet del Rectorat
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Design
Mètode Design

Photographs
Àrea de Comunicació i de Promoció
Àrea de Relacions Internacionals
Fundació Autònoma Solidària
Parc de Recerca UAB

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Campus de Bellaterra
08193 Bellaterra (Cerdanyola del Vallès)
www.uab.cat/memoria

The data in this report for the 2024-2025 academic year is accurate as of June 2025.

This report also has versions in Catalan and Spanish, which can be downloaded from the version of the UAB Annual Report webpage (www.uab.cat/memoria) in these languages.

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Presentation



The UAB's 2024-2025 Annual Report reflects the dynamism, impact and strong commitment of our institution to scientific progress and to general progress and well-being in society.

This publication includes the main actions and the most significant results that have contributed to strengthening the university community over the past year, promoting innovation and generating a positive and transformative impact on our social, economic and cultural environment. It also highlights the values of sustainability, equity and excellence that underpin the University's activity.

This academic year has been marked by the consolidation of key projects in teaching, research and knowledge transfer, as well as by the promotion of new initiatives aimed at responding to global challenges. The UAB continues to be committed to comprehensive and quality learning, research with an international impact and a close relationship with the area and with society

In the academic field, teaching equipment has been improved, progress has been made in the implementation of the challenge-based learning methodology, and the first micro-credentials have been launched. With regards to employability and entrepreneurship, it is worth noting an increase in job fairs and the consolidation of the mentoring programme.

The impact and projection of the activity of the UAB's research groups has resulted in raising 126 million euros in resources for research, 23 of which are for international projects. On the other hand, support for transfer, innovation and entrepreneurship has continued, and the role of Innovation Week as the benchmark event to showcase the UAB's innovation ecosystem and bring the technologies and knowledge generated on campus closer to society is key.

The improvement of present and future results has been based on actions aimed at increasing and stabilising the teaching and research staff (PDI), as well as actions aimed at retaining and attracting talent, and measures to improve the organisation and the streamlining of technical, managerial, administrative and service staff.

The deployment of solidarity and volunteer activities and socio-educational programmes has had an obvious social impact and different university groups have actively participated in the cultural and social awareness activities organised on campus.

Based on the slogans "Let's reduce the use of fossil fuels!" and "Enjoy the biodiversity of a unique campus!", this year's institutional campaign has made clear the UAB's commitment to climate neutrality and environmental protection. An awareness campaign that has been reflected in practice with various actions in the fields of energy and mobility, as part of the implementation of the UAB Climate Policy approved last year.

This is the year in which the new UAB Statutes came into force, and we also commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Bellaterra Manifesto, a document that arose from a participatory process and that calls for an autonomous, democratic, Catalan and socially responsible university. This spirit lives on in our University and is a cornerstone of our calling as a public service.

In short, the Annual Report is an exercise in transparency and accountability that highlights the collective work of the entire university community in the deployment of our institutional mission. This work allows us to continue moving forward with determination and to strengthen our commitment to society and to the construction of a fairer, more inclusive and more sustainable future.

As I underlined in my inaugural speech as rector, after the elections held this year, I have full confidence in the talent, dedication and cooperative spirit of our university community. Together we will be able to overcome all challenges and move towards building an even stronger and more cutting-edge university.

Javier Lafuente
Rector of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

01

Most significant data for the 2024-2025 academic year

Study programmes	Total
Bachelor's degrees	109
University master's degrees	144
Doctoral programmes	68
Lifelong Learning Programmes (2023-2024)	427
UAB-specific Faculties and Schools	15
Affiliated University Schools	10

Teaching	Women	Men	Total
New undergraduate students	4,358	2,754	7,112
Total undergraduate students	16,878	10,698	27,576
Bachelor's degree graduates (2023-2024)	3,271	1,945	5,216
University master's degree students	1,983	1,157	3,140
University master's degree graduates (2023-2024)	1,393	797	2,190
Newly admitted bachelor's degree students in affiliated centres	889	635	1,524
Total bachelor's degree students in affiliated centres	3,239	2,221	5,460
Bachelor's degree graduates in affiliated centres (2023-2024)	667	361	1,028
Master's degree students in affiliated centres	463	263	726
University master's degree graduates in affiliated centres (2023-2024)	314	178	492
Lifelong learning students (2023-2024)	4,076	2,077	6,153

Research (2024)	Women	Men	Total
Research groups recognised by the Government of Catalonia			179
Departments			57
Study and research centres			19
UAB-specific research institutes			9
Related research centres			39
Doctoral students	2,741	2,166	4,907
Doctoral theses read (2023-2024)	378	278	656
Articles published in indexed journals (Scopus, Elsevier)			5,251
Priority patents applied for			12
Resources allocated to research (in millions of euros)			126.2

Internationalisation	Women	Men	Total
Undergraduate students from abroad	904	535	1,439
Official master's degree students from abroad	654	406	1,060
Foreign students of the Lifelong Learning Master's Degree (2023-2024)	530	269	799
Doctoral students from abroad	1,075	849	1,924
Students participating in IN mobility programmes	978	403	1,381
Students participating in OUT mobility programmes	1,123	504	1,627
International students on the Study Abroad programmes			3,900
Academic staff from abroad	198	210	408

Human resources (2024)	Women	Men	Total
Academic staff	1,261	2,398	4,461
Trainee research staff	282	279	561
Technical, management and administrative staff and services	1,429	815	2,244

Budget (2024)	Total
Settled budget of expenditure (in millions of euros)	404.6

Notes:

- The data for the 2024-2025 academic year is from June 2025.
- The number of full-time equivalent undergraduate students is 26,061.
- The number of students does not include students on interuniversity programmes who do not register directly at the UAB.
- The academic staff includes teaching and research staff (4,123) and postdoctoral research staff (338).
- The number of full-time equivalent academic staff is 2,894.

Governance and institutional activity



On 21 November, **Javier Lafuente**, Professor of Chemical Engineering, took office as rector of the UAB in a ceremony that was also attended by Núria Montserrat, the Minister for Research and Universities; Tania Nadal, President of the Board of Trustees of the UAB, and Esther Zapater, Secretary General of the UAB. Lafuente was elected by the university community, in the second round, in the elections for rector that took place on 6 and 7 November, via electronic vote.

Activity of the governing bodies

During this academic year, the activity of the university's governing bodies has continued.

The University Senate has met twice: on 24 December 2024, and 22 May 2025. In the first of these sessions, the first after the re-election of rector Lafuente, the priority lines of action of the Governing Team for 2025 were presented and the annual report of the UAB Institutional Integrity System was also presented. In the May 2025 session, the annual reports by the Catalan Ombuds Officer for Grievances & Resolution and the UAB Protocol to prevent and act against sexual harassment, harassment based on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, and gender violence were presented, and information was provided from the follow-up committee for the Senate statement on the situation in Gaza.

The Board of Trustees met eight times: on 25 September and 11 December 2024, and on 6 February, 20 March, 5 May (in an extraordinary session), 5 June, 10 June (in an extraordinary session) and 10 July 2025. 92 agreements were made and points of information, debate and approval were discussed. The following should be highlighted:

- Approval of the call for elections for rector, which were carried out using an electronic voting system. The elections took place, in the first round, on 29 and 30 October 2024 and, in the second round, on 6 and 7 November 2024.
- Approval and submission to the Board of Trustees of the basic criteria for the preparation of the UAB Budget for 2025; the UAB's draft budget for the 2025 financial year, and the report on the economic statement, balance sheet, income statement and settlement of the UAB budget for the 2024 financial year.
- Approval of regulations and plans for the general scope of the UAB in the following matters: Regulations of the Equality and Diversity Service; Regulations of the Language Service; the 5th UAB Action Plan for Gender Equality (2024-2030), and the UAB Human Rights Policy.
- Award of an honorary doctorate to Dr Koen Lenaerts from the UAB.
- Declaration issued by the UAB Senate on the situation in Gaza approved on 30 May 2024 in view of the worsening situation in Palestine due to the systematic violence exercised by the Israeli army against the civilian population.

The new UAB statutes come into force

On 13 March 2025, the *Official Gazette of the Government of Catalonia* (DOGC) published the UAB's new statutes, which govern all the university's institutional activity. The new statutes were approved by the Senate on 20 June 2024.



The sculptor Jaume Plensa, who was awarded an honorary doctorate by the UAB in 2018, donated the piece appearing on the cover of the new statutes to the university.

50th anniversary of the Bellaterra Manifesto

On 12 March, the UAB commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Bellaterra Manifesto. The event, chaired by the rector Javier Lafuente with participation from the Secretary General, Esther Zapater, included a talk on "The Bellaterra Manifesto: building democracy in the university", by Jordi Sancho, a researcher from the Research Group on Dictatorships and Democracies.



The event also featured a panel discussion on the historical context and impact of the Manifesto, with participation from former rector Margarita Arboix, a retired professor of Veterinary Pharmacology; Pilar Benejam, a retired professor of Language and Literature and Social Science Teaching, and José Luis Martín Ramos and Borja de Riquer, retired professors of Contemporary History. The session was moderated by Enric Marín, Emeritus Professor of Communication Sciences.

02



The UAB inaugurates the 2024-2025 academic year with a talk by lecturer Kevin Anderson

On 14 October, the auditorium in the Rectorat building hosted the opening ceremony for the 2024-2025 academic year. Kevin Anderson, a professor from the University of Manchester, gave a talk on the "Pessimism of the Intellect, Optimism of the Will: from Paris to the EU without the denial", which kicked off the UAB's institutional campaign to raise awareness of the need to minimise the consumption of fossil fuels. The event featured speeches by Esther Zapater, Secretary General of the UAB; Tania Nadal, President of the Board of Trustees; Carlos Cordón, Mayor of Cerdanyola del Vallès; Javier Lafuente, Rector of the UAB, and Núria Montserrat, Catalan Government Minister for Research and Universities.

Board of Trustees

The 2024-2025 academic year was marked by the development of the new powers that the new LOSU legislation assigns to Boards of Trustees. In this regard, as a result of joint work with the UAB's Executive Governing Body, the Plenary Session of the Board of Trustees approved the **Three-Year Plan for 2025-2028**, which defines the shared strategies to promote interrelations and cooperation between the university, graduates and the cultural, professional, scientific, business, social and territorial environment, as well as the institutional development of the university. With regard to the new competence, which is to promote the collection of resources, the Board of Trustees has continued to support the university by strengthening channels of communication with agents in the surrounding area.

On the other hand, this academic year the strategic area of action of the University, Society and Business Committee focused on the Participatory Experimentation and Demonstration Campus (UAB-ExD) project as a cross-disciplinary area and brand line.

The Board of Trustees has supported innovation and knowledge transfer projects and has continued to promote sports and equality.

In addition to all the actions carried out as part of the University, Society and Business programme (see the chapter on "Social and environmental commitment"), the Board of Trustees has also developed the powers attributed to it by law in the areas of the university community, programming and management and the economy. Specifically, a total of twenty-three committee meetings and eight plenary sessions were held, and 266 agreements were made.

Recognition of UAB teaching staff

This academic year, **Amparo Moreno**, a professor from the Department of Journalism and Communication Sciences at the UAB, was awarded an *honorary doctorate* by the University of La Laguna.



The Government of Catalonia awarded the Creu de Sant Jordi (Saint George's Cross) to Professor **Isidre Molas**, Professor of Constitutional Law at the UAB, who was formerly Dean of the Faculty of Law and one of the instigators of the Faculty of Political Science and Sociology, as well as the Institute of Political and Social Sciences (ICPS).

Xavier Tolsa, ICREA research professor from the Department of Mathematics, was awarded the National Research Award, awarded by the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities, for his recognised international research career.

Pere Lluís Font, a philosopher, theologian and translator, as well as a retired UAB lecturer, was awarded the Honourable Prize for Catalan Literature.

Fàtima Bosch, a professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the UAB, received this year's Medal of Honour from the Vives Network of Universities.

Highlight



Enzo Traverso, awarded an honorary doctorate by the UAB

On 26 November, the historian **Enzo Traverso** vawas awarded an honorary doctorate by the UAB and was put forward for this award by the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Pere Ysàs and Francisco Morente, professors of Contemporary History at the UAB, were his sponsors.



The UAB awards Ingrid E. Lundberg with an honorary doctorate

Rheumatologist **Ingrid E. Lundberg** was awarded an honorary doctorate by the UAB on 24 March and was put forward for this award by the Faculty of Medicine. Albert Selva O'Callaghan, a professor of Medicine at the UAB, was the sponsor.



Koen Lenaerts, awarded an honorary doctorate by the UAB

On 4 July, the jurist and President of the Court of Justice of the European Union, **Koen Lenaerts**, was awarded an honorary doctorate by the UAB, after being nominated by the Faculty of Law. Gregori Garzón, emeritus and honorary professor at the UAB and professor of Public International Law, was his sponsor.

Teaching



The Hospital de Mataró has become a UAB university hospital

The Hospital de Mataró, headquarters of the Maresme Health Consortium (CSdM), has been officially designated a university hospital through an agreement signed by the CSdM, the Department of Health and the UAB. This agreement formalises cooperation that has existed since 2000 in the fields of academic learning and research in biomedicine and health sciences and will allow undergraduate students to carry out their academic and practical training at the Hospital and in the CSdM affiliated centres. Master's and doctoral degree programmes are already being taught at the CSdM in conjunction with the UAB and allow CSdM research staff to access the UAB campus to carry out their projects.

The UAB's wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate courses attracts thousands of students each year due to the teaching quality and the opportunity to enjoy and be part of a unique campus.

During the 2024-2025 academic year, teaching facilities have been improved, and innovative methodologies and new resources have been made available to students.

The **Hospital de Mataró** has joined the UAB network of university hospitals. This agreement consolidates a relationship that will benefit students from the Faculty of Medicine and various degree programmes from the faculties of Psychology and Bioscience. In the field of health sciences, an **agreement with the University of Barcelona** to cooperate in training future professionals in the health sector has also been renewed.

The UAB has set up new thematic campuses throughout the country that facilitate work placements for students and at the same time encourage heritage research and knowledge in this area. Specifically, this year the **Artistic Heritage Campus** was created, an initiative that ensures ongoing cooperation between the university and the institutions that manage art and cultural heritage in Catalonia; and **the cova del Pasteral**, in La Cellera de Ter, is now the special headquarters of the **UAB Archaeology and Palaeontology Campus**. The **Social and Educational Innovation Campus has also been launched** to address social challenges in this area.

Progress has continued in the implementation of **challenge-based learning methodology** through the involvement of both teachers and schools.

In the field of lifelong learning, this year the first **micro-credential courses have been launched** in cooperation with companies, institutions and entities in the area, and a wide range of them have been set up for the following academic year.

In line with the plans set up for **employability and entrepreneurship**, activities have been carried out to improve the employability of UAB students and graduates and to stimulate their creativity and entrepreneurial mentality. There has been an increase in job fairs in the centres, and the **Mentoring** programme has been consolidated. This is an **UAB Alumni** initiative through which university graduates guide and advise students who are completing their studies and joining the professional world.

In the field of teaching quality and innovation, **teaching studies** have been created to undertake an in-depth analysis of the factors that influence learning processes within the university. On the other hand, the new **Training and Support Plan for the Professional Development of Teaching Staff** has set out three different levels of teaching development and has created mandatory training content for initiation into teaching for assistant lecturers.

Bachelor's degree studies

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the number of bachelor's degrees offered by the UAB has remained stable: 109, of which 91 were taught in its own centres and 18 in affiliated centres. The course catalogue includes 14 double degrees and 5 interuniversity degrees. In addition, there are 12-degree programmes that are offered entirely or mostly in English or that have an English track.

A new feature of the **Bachelor's Degree in Business and Technology** this academic year, taught in the Faculty of Economics and Business on the UAB's Sabadell campus, is the opportunity to obtain a **dual specialisation**, which consists of students undertaking part of their studies in a company or institution. Specifically, the plan is for the dual specialisation to take place during fourth year and for students who take part in it to complete their final degree project during their placement. In addition, the learning programme alternates with a paid work placement. It should also be noted that the interuniversity degree in **Bioinformatics** (UAB-UB-UPC-UPF) is now offered at a public price. As part of the process of reworking the UAB's bachelor's degrees to adapt them to progressive social and technological changes and increase the employability of graduates, the updated Bachelor's **Degree in Social and Cultural Anthropology** is now available.

The number of new students in the 2024-2025 academic year is not significantly different to last year, with an increase of less than 1%. Specifically, 7,112 students joined the university's own centres (7,064 in the 2023-2024 academic year), while the number of new students has remained above 1,500 (1,524) in affiliated centres.

03

New undergraduate students, 2024-2025 academic year

Type of centre	Registered students				
	Women		Men		Total
UAB centres	4,358	61.3 %	2,754	38.7 %	**7,112**
Affiliated centres	889	58.3 %	635	41.7 %	**1,524**
Total	**5,247**	**60.8 %**	**3,389**	**39.2 %**	**8,636**

Bachelor's degree students registered in UAB centres, 2024-2025 academic year

Centre	Registered students				
	Women		Men		Total
School of Engineering	615	22.4 %	2,125	77.6 %	**2,740**
Faculty of Economics and Business Studies	1,308	44.8 %	1,610	55.2 %	**2,918**
Faculty of Biosciences	1,270	68.1 %	595	31.9 %	**1,865**
Faculty of Science	956	39.0 %	1,497	61.0 %	**2,453**
Faculty of Education	1,870	84.9 %	332	15.1 %	**2,202**
Faculty of Communication Studies	1,152	65.0 %	620	35.0 %	**1,772**
Faculty of Political Science and Sociology	678	60.6 %	441	39.4 %	**1,119**
Faculty of Law	1,381	70.8 %	570	29.2 %	**1,951**
Faculty of Arts and Humanities	2,202	61.2 %	1,398	38.8 %	**3,600**
Faculty of Medicine	2,234	74.0 %	783	26.0 %	**3,017**
Faculty of Psychology and Speech Therapy	1,482	83.1 %	301	16.9 %	**1,783**
Faculty of Translation and Interpreting	1,014	81.1 %	237	18.9 %	**1,251**
Faculty of Veterinary Sciences	716	79.1 %	189	20.9 %	**905**
Total	**16,878**	**61.2 %**	**10,698**	**38.8 %**	**27,576**

Bachelor's degree students registered in affiliated centres, 2024-2025 academic year

Centre	Registered students				
	Women		Men		Total
Eina, University School of Design and Art of Barcelona	336	72.9 %	125	27.1 %	**461**
FUAB Training School	463	49.3 %	477	50.7 %	**940**
Escola Massana, Municipal Art and Design Centre	238	81.8 %	53	18.2 %	**291**
Gimbernat University Schools	1,012	58.8 %	708	41.2 %	**1,720**
Sant Pau University School of Nursing	307	87.5 %	44	12.5 %	**351**
EUIT Centre for University Studies	783	85.7 %	131	14.3 %	**914**
Salesian University School of Sarrià	100	12.8 %	683	87.2 %	**783**
Total	**3,239**	**59.3 %**	**2,221**	**40.7 %**	**5,460**

Highlight



New chemistry teaching laboratories

The new laboratories to teach chemistry on the different degree programmes in the faculties of Science and Biosciences began operation on 3 March. These teaching laboratories have been completely renovated, in terms of both infrastructure and equipment, and will allow the students' practical sessions to be optimised.



The UAB, recognised as a pioneering university in the field of biotechnology

The Spanish Society of Biotechnology presented a plaque to the UAB in recognition of its pioneering work in the implementation of Biotechnology studies in Spain, during the nineteenth congress of this society (BIOTEC 2025), which took place in the Faculty of Biosciences from 15 to 18 July. María José Hernáiz, President of the organisation, presented the plaque to the Dean of the Faculty, Isidre Gibert. The UAB's Bachelor's Degree in Biotechnology was launched in the 1998-1999 academic year.

The UAB creates an Artistic Heritage Campus

On 28 January, the new Artistic Heritage Campus was presented, in an event held in Cerdanyola Art Museum. This new campus is a tool to transfer university resources to the local area, mainly its museums and towns, to promote knowledge of tangible and intangible artistic heritage and cooperate both in research and in the fields of teaching, management and dissemination. It includes 17 museums and institutions, which may increase in the future. Different departments of the university also participate in this campus, including the bachelor's degrees in Art History, Musicology and Humanities and three master's degrees, meaning that students are able to carry out their final project in various research groups, centres and institutes.

University master's degree programmes and students, 2024-2025 academic year

	Programmes	Women		Men		Total
University master's degrees in UAB centres	117	1,983	63,2 %	1,157	**36.8 %**	**3,140**
University master's degrees in affiliated centres	27	463	63,8 %	263	**36.2 %**	**726**
TOTAL	**144**	**2,446**	**63,3 %**	**1,420**	**36.7 %**	**3,866**

Lifelong learning programmes and students, 2023-2024 academic year

	Programmes	Women		Men		Total
Lifelong Learning Master's Degrees	127	1,369	70.3 %	578	**29.7 %**	**1,947**
Lifelong Learning Diplomas	66	676	72.2 %	260	**27.8 %**	**936**
Specialisation courses and others	234	2,031	62.1 %	1239	**37.9 %**	**3,270**
TOTAL	**427**	**4,076**	**66.2 %**	**2,077**	**33.8 %**	**6,153**

Total registration numbers in 2024-2025 in UAB-specific centres has also been very similar to that of last year: 27,576 students have enrolled, 0.6% more than in 2023-2024 (27,414). In affiliated centres, the increase has been more noticeable, 3% in comparison to last year: from 5,301 to 5,460 students.

As for the number of graduates in the 2023-2024 academic year, there has been an increase of more than 3%, coinciding with the end of study programmes for many the 2020-2021 cohort, the first group to graduate after the lockdown due to the Covid pandemic. Specifically, 5,216 people graduated from the UAB's own centres (5,018 in 2022-2023) and 1,028 people from affiliated centres (998 in 2022-2023).

With regard to the course catalogue approved for the 2025-2026 academic year, the new **double degree in Economics and in Computational Mathematics and Data Analytics** stands out. It is taught in the Faculty of Economics and Business Studies and the Faculty of Science and offers a comprehensive programme that combines knowledge about current economic phenomena with advanced mathematical modelling and programming skills. It focuses on teaching students to become versatile professionals both for traditional sectors, such as consulting and finance, and emerging areas, such as data science, artificial intelligence and advanced economic research. Updated bachelor's degrees in **Tourism and Hotel Management**, taught by the FUAB Training School as an affiliated centre, are also offered.

University master's degree studies

This 2024-2025 academic year, the UAB has maintained a consolidated course catalogue of 144 university master's degrees, covering all areas of knowledge and fields (professional, research and specialisation). 117 master's degrees are offered in the university's own centres and 27 in affiliated centres. This is a highly international course catalogue: 27% of official master's degrees are taught in English and 38% of students are from abroad.

The number of students enrolled on master's degrees in 2024-2025 has fallen slightly in UAB-specific centres and numbered 3,140 students, 2.3% less than in 2023-2024 (3,057), while in affiliated centres the number of students enrolled, 726, was very similar to that of the previous year (720).

This academic year two new official interuniversity master's degrees were launched, each with 60 ECTS credits. One is the **Master's Degree in Semiconductor Engineering and Microelectronic Design**, taught in conjunction with three other Catalan public universities (the UPC (as coordinators), the UB and the URV) and with strategic cooperation from IMB-CNM-CSIC. The aim of this master's degree is to train future professionals in a field the European Union considers to be crucial. On the other hand, the **Master's Degree in Philosophies of Care**, coordinated by the UAB and offered in conjunction with the University of Girona, has also been launched. This is an online master's degree that will train professionals to become capable of applying a care perspective to different professional fields and fields of knowledge.

Lifelong learning programmes

In the field of **lifelong learning**, during the 2023-2024 academic year, the UAB offered a total of 427 programmes, which facilitated extended and updated knowledge for more than 6,153 professionals. The courses offered included 127 lifelong learning master's degrees across all areas of knowledge.

As for new features in the 2024-2025 academic year, it should be noted that a **Master's Degree in Artificial Intelligence and Digital Law** has been launched, with the aim of preparing professionals to lead complex projects involving artificial intelligence and law, and to train them to offer innovative and ethical solutions in an area where rapid technological evolution is being experienced.

This academic year, the first **micro-credential courses have been launched** and a wide range of them have been set up for the following academic year. At the UAB, micro-credential courses have become a very important tool to promote the valorisation of knowledge strategy and respond to the learning challenges of many actors in the local area, such as third sector organisations, city councils and chambers of commerce. The implementation of this new learning model, promoted by the European Commission, has been carried out within the framework of the MicroCredCAT plan, with co-funding managed by the Department of Research and Universities of the Government of Catalonia.

In relation to the MOOC courses available on the Coursera platform, 84 courses have been offered this year, of which 10 were new. Participation has grown significantly: 203,594 registrations were made for the courses and in 47,902 cases the course was completed.



International students tackle real challenges at the UAB

From 4 to 8 November, a group of 30 students from several European universities in the ECIU University consortium met at the UAB to work on solutions to two real-life challenges. For the "Climate Change and Migratory Movements" challenge, the 15 participating students had to respond to the population movements that people are forced into due to climate change. At the same time, 15 more students faced the challenge of "Tackling The Housing Crisis: Strategies for Lowering Rent in Urban Communities", which sought solutions so that the Terrassa City Council could address high rental prices to guarantee access to housing and stability for residents.

Challenge-based learning

The Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona has continued to make progress towards the strategic objective of progressively implementing the innovative methodology of **challenge-based learning (CBL)** in all centres and degree programmes. This methodology, which has been explored in recent years in the extracurricular field within the framework of ECIU University, is also beginning to become consolidated in the curricular field. This academic year, the initiative has taken an important step forward and has begun to be applied in all university centres. Specifically, around 35 teachers from different centres have begun to incorporate CBL in subjects, bachelor's degree final projects (TFGs) and master's degree final projects (TFMs), with support from the UAB Challenges Office. These new participants have joined the teachers who were already working using this approach in previous years.

The UAB Challenges Office offers tailored support to teachers who request it. Several on-demand training courses have also been carried out aimed at teaching and research staff or as part of the training plan for the UAB Training Unit. In all these activities, participation has been high, with an average attendance of twenty people per session.

With regard to the relationship with the local area, this year a process of coordination with the service-learning (ApS) programme has begun, with the aim of improving its efficiency and jointly promoting innovative methodologies aimed at social and territorial transformation. Within this context, 90 organisations, city councils and civic organisations have been contacted, who then sent proposals to address the real needs and challenges faced by the university's teaching staff.

On the other hand, ECIU University has continued to extend the courses it offers on challenges using the CBL methodology and micromodules for the university community of the member universities, called ECIU Learning Opportunities (ELO). Specifically, during the 2024-2025 academic year, the UAB led **4 of** the 60 proposed challenges, which included a mobility week at the UAB through the Erasmus+ BIP programme. Terrassa City Council, Ecologists in Action and the Nexe Foundation, as well as the Federation of Neighbourhood Associations of Barcelona provided the challenges.

As for the **micromodules**, the UAB taught 6 of the 147 micromodules offered by ECIU University. Among the micromodules on offer, was the first edition of the micromodule called Exploring Catalonia: An Introduction to Its Language and Culture and the second edition of Fortress Europe: Human Rights Violations against Migrants and Refugees at Europe's Borders, organised in conjunction with the FAS.

Highlight



2nd Challenge-Based Learning Event

On 17 June, the Faculty of Education hosted the UAB's 2nd Challenge-Based Learning Event. The Event, which brought together nearly eighty people, featured presentations by Stefano Turrini, coordinator of the implementation of CBL at the University of Trento, Teresa Sordé, professor of Sociology at the UAB, and Òscar Redondo, challenges coordinator at the UAB. In addition, practical experiences of CBL were presented at a round table moderated by Silvia Blanch, Vice-Dean for Internships and secretary of the Faculty of Education. The Event closed with two parallel classrooms focused on real challenges, presented by Cerdanyola del Vallès City Council and the Nexe Foundation.

The Social and Educational Innovation Campus is launched

On 7 February, the periodicals room in the Humanities Library hosted the presentation of the new UAB Social and Educational Innovation Campus, an initiative that seeks to generate innovation in the local area through teamwork between the university, companies, city councils and civic associations. The event was attended by Javier Lafuente, rector of the UAB, and Oriol Lozano, mayor of Palau-Solità i Plegamans, the first city council to support this initiative. This year, up to 11 final degree projects will be completed using the Service-Learning methodology in the local area.

6th Service-Learning Event

On 26 May, the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine hosted the 6th UAB Service-Learning Event, organised by the ApS Office, which is managed by the Fundació Autònoma Solidària. The Event included a session on "International models of university service learning", moderated by the Vice-Rector for Studies and Quality, Ramón Vilanova, in which international speakers shared ideas and experiences from their respective countries. Also, prizes were awarded for the best Bachelor's Degree Final Projects (TFG) using the SL methodology, as well as an activity to promote participation, and a community fair.



New university job fair

On 2 and 3 April, the new **Talent(o) Global job** fair took place, organised by the Faculty of Translation and Interpreting. This event focused on career opportunities in the areas of translation, interpreting, multilingual communication and international positions. It included meeting points to meet with companies and institutions, as well as activities with hybrid formats to facilitate participation.

On 6 and 7 May, the Faculty of Biosciences hosted the first edition of **BioHub**, an innovative forum that connects students with the professional world of biotechnology, biomedicine and life sciences. This event combined stands for participating organisations with spaces for direct interaction to facilitate contact between students and professionals.

Employability and entrepreneurship

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the **UAB's Employability Service** has continued to carry out its activity based on the overarching theme of **employability**, bringing together career guidance, internships and work placements, international mobility and the promotion of an entrepreneurial spirit, with the aim of promoting the professional development of students and recent graduates. This activity was reinforced through the strategic framework of the Employability Plan, which guides and coordinates initiatives aimed at improving professional opportunities for the university community.

In the area of career guidance, the increase in group activities has been consolidated, both in volume and participation. Throughout the academic year, 121 career guidance activities have been carried out, with 4,380 attendees. The activities were carried out in conjunction with schools and Barcelona Activa and have addressed key aspects such as self-knowledge, the development of cross-disciplinary skills, increased employability using artificial intelligence, preparing your CV and knowledge of the labour market. At the same time, independent learning resources have been improved on the Virtual Campus and tracks with credit recognition have continued to be offered, such as Projecta't, which allows students to tailor their professional development.

UAB faculties have significantly increased the number of **job fairs and spaces for making business** contacts, with support and participation from the Employability Service. Alongside already consolidated fairs, such as **MEMEnginy** (School of Engineering), **Engega't** (Faculty of Political Science and Sociology), **JOVs** (Faculty of Veterinary Sciences) or **EcoMatch** (Faculty of Economics and Business Studies), new initiatives have been launched this year. The **BioHub** forum, set up by the Faculty of Biosciences, and the **Talent(o) Global fair**, organised by the Faculty of Translation and Interpreting, have been held for the first time, and have extended the scope of these fairs to new academic areas.

Regarding internships in companies and labour insertion, the Employability Service has arranged 1,827 extracurricular internship agreements, with the participation of 1,724 students, and has published 1,664 internships and job offers on the NEXUS platform.

In the field of international professional mobility, the increased uptake in internships abroad has been maintained, with a total of 214 participants in the Erasmus+ Internships and UAB Exchange Programme Traineeship programmes. Likewise, the tenth edition of the Preparation Courses for EU Competitions and International Organisations have been consolidated, have been deemed excellent by students, and are a key tool for people interested in entering a professional career in the international arena.

Finally, with regards to the promotion of **entrepreneurship**, tailored advice has been offered for new projects, as well as training activities, courses with academic recognition and competitions aimed at stimulating students' creativity and capacity for innovation. Initiatives such as the Visionaries and Mentoring programmes and the **Emprèn**, **Pitch** and **Desaf·IA**. competitions have been consolidated. As for the **Virtual Course on Idea Generation and Social Entrepreneurship**, this year there were 40 participants. Overall, it should be noted that synergies between the agents of **Emprèn UAB** have been strengthened and progress has been made towards an increasingly specialised entrepreneurial course catalogue that is aligned with the motivations and interests of students.



Closing ceremony of the 2024-2025 UAB Mentoring Programme

On 8 May, the closing ceremony of the second edition of the UAB Mentoring programme took place. This is an UAB Alumni initiative through which university graduates guide and advise students who are finishing their studies and entering the professional world. As a result of the success of the programme, the programme has been extended, and 132 mentoring pairs participated this year, twice as many as in the previous year. During the closing ceremony, the students presented the action plans drawn up this academic year and received a diploma from the rector, Javier Lafuente, the vice-rector Annabel Galán and the vice-president of the Board of Trustees, Alicia Bosch.

International educational projects

Within the framework of the **Erasmus+** programme, a total of 14 educational projects with participation from the UAB have been selected in 2024, with a total of €905,681 obtained. The UAB also participated in the Key Action 2 - Cooperation Partnerships call, with 12 projects selected, one of which is coordinated by the UAB. The latter is the **InclusiVRity** project, led by Estel·la Oncins, a lecturer from the Department of Translation and Interpreting and East Asian Studies and member of the TransMedia Catalonia group. This project aims to train secondary school teachers using virtual reality technologies to foster a more inclusive environment for neurodivergent students.

In addition, the UAB has been selected as a **Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence in European Global Policies (EUGLOB)** based on a project led by Ana Mar Fernández Pasarín, a lecturer from the Department of Political Science and Public Law, which has an initial duration of three years (renewable) and funding of 100,000 euros. Within the Jean Monnet programme, the project "Feminist Cultures in Europe: History, Values, and Social Transformation" (FemE) has also been selected. It is led by Carme Font Paz, a lecturer from the Department of English and German Studies and has received funding of €35,000 to cover the next 3 years.

With regard to the Erasmus Mundus programmes, the **Erasmus Mundus Master's Degree in International Vaccine Education (LIVE)**, offered by the UAB in conjunction with four other European universities (Claude Bernard University of Lyon 1 is the coordinating institution), was renewed for the second time in 2024. The LIVE master's programme, worth 120 ECTS credits, offers multidisciplinary training in international vaccinology and is supported by 7 higher education institutions, as well as more than 60 partner institutions from 23 countries, all involved in vaccine research, development and manufacturing.

Erasmus+

Highlight



The AI Challenge Competition is now consolidated

On 19 March, the second edition of **Desaf·IA**, the collective entrepreneurship and social innovation competition organised by Emprèn UAB that challenges students and alumni to create solutions for real social and environmental challenges using design thinking methodology and the use of artificial intelligence tools was held. This year's proposal focused on the Sustainable Development Goals linked to responsible consumption, health and well-being. Given the high quality of the proposals presented, the jury took the exceptional decision to award all seven participating teams.



International meeting of the Erasmus + SustainEd project

From 26 to 29 May 2025, the UAB hosted a series of learning, teaching and training sessions as part of the Erasmus+ SustainEd project, which aims to improve the skills of university students and doctoral students in the field of sustainability and the circular economy. The meeting, organised by the Community Oriented to Strategic Challenges (CORE) in Smart and Sustainable Cities, the CORE for Education and Employability and the UAB's Open Innovation Labs, brought together around twenty researchers from European universities in six participating countries.



Presentation of the 7th UAB Award for Teaching Excellence

On 7 May, the 7th Teaching Excellence Award ceremony took place, which this year was awarded to **Dolors Márquez**, a Professor from the Faculty of Economics and Business. This year , a second prize was also awarded to Professor Alfonso Rodríguez, from the Faculty of Medicine. The jury highlighted the versatility demonstrated by Professor Márquez in her teaching and her constant innovation in teaching of the subjects taught, introducing methodological and evaluation-related changes, particularly in the disciplines of mathematics and statistics. In the case of Professor **Alfonso Rodríguez**, the jury highlighted his innovative and leadership capacity at the head of the dissection room in the Faculty of Medicine in particular, which has achieved great prestige in the field of human anatomy both nationally and internationally.

Teaching quality

Following the quality requirements established by the European Standards and Guidelines (ESG) for quality assurance in higher education, and after having obtained a favourable evaluation for the certification of the implementation of the UAB's transversal internal quality assurance system (IQAS) in 2019, work has continued in 2024 on the deployment, review and support of the centres' management systems. The School for Doctoral Studies and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine have been evaluated with regards to the implementation of their IQAS and have received specific support for the preparation of institutional accreditation, which they obtained during this 2024-2025 academic year.

In application of the internal quality assurance system and within the framework of the process of verification, monitoring, modification and accreditation (VSMA) of official degree programmes, management and advisory tasks have been carried out in the creation of 12 new degree programmes (two bachelor's degrees and ten master's degrees). A total of 92 modifications corresponding to bachelor's degrees, university master's degrees and doctoral programmes have been undertaken, as well as the process of closing down one bachelor's degree and seven master's degree programmes. In relation to the accreditation process, three self-reports were written up, and visits were carried out by the external review committees, which culminated in final reports that were favourable in the cases of one bachelor's degree and two official master's degrees.

With regard to the process of collecting student satisfaction data, during the 2024-2025 academic year, six-monthly surveys have been programmed and managed to assess the teaching performance of teaching staff and university bachelor's and master's degree subjects, with the participation of more than 11,000 students per semester and a response rate of 44%. The satisfaction surveys for graduates of the 2023-2024 academic year have also been managed, with participation from 1,408 bachelor's and master's degree graduates and 175 doctoral graduates. With regard to the surveys aimed at teaching staff, the satisfaction surveys for the supervisors of doctoral theses defended during the 2023-2024 academic year has been carried out, with participation from 219 people.

In relation to the evaluation process for the teaching activity corresponding to the 2024 call, 321 sections have been evaluated, of which 90% obtained a favourable resolution.

With regard to training quality, throughout 2024 training activities have been carried out aimed at people from our own and affiliated centres with responsibilities for quality, covering a total of 32 hours, complemented by meetings and periodic information sessions.

Finally, with regards to participation in quality projects and conferences, it is worth mentioning the organisation of the **4th Conference on Teaching Quality at the UAB** and participation in various conferences, congresses and seminars at national and international levels related to university quality.

Teacher training and innovation

In December 2024, the new **Training and Support Plan for the Professional Development of UAB Teaching Staff** was approved, which categorises three levels of training: initial, expert and improvement and transformation. For the first level, **an introductory training programme for university teaching (FIDU) has been established**, which is mandatory for tenure-track teaching staff and was launched in 2025. In 2024, 116 training activities aimed at teaching and research staff have been carried out, with 2,090 participants.

As for the **calls for teaching innovation projects**, in 2024 two modalities have been announced, an annual one aimed at initiatives to directly improve teaching and learning processes in official bachelor's degree studies and a bi-annual one with the aim of supporting the development of interdisciplinary and transversal proposals that have an impact on student learning and are transferable to the university community. Overall, a total of 62 projects have been submitted, of which 24 have received funding.

On 7 May, the **7th Conference on Teaching Innovation** took place, which included the conference "Academic development and evaluation of teaching activity: an explosive pairing", by Idoia Fernández, a Senior Lecturer from the University of the Basque Country; a conversation on the following question "ChatGPT has entered the classroom: what do we do now?", and three parallel sessions in which good teaching practices were presented. In addition, during the Conference the **7th Award for Teaching Excellence was presented**.



The UAB recognised at the 25th anniversary of CIDUI

The Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona was one of the institutions honoured at the 25th anniversary of the International Congress of University Teaching and Innovation (CIDUI), held on July 9. The UAB was distinguished for its ongoing contribution to CIDUI through the Institute of Education Sciences (ICE), the Training Unit and the Office of the Vice-Rector for Teacher Training and Innovation at the university, which have played an important role in the promotion of teaching quality and educational transformation

ICT tools for teaching

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the **Virtual Campus** established itself as an essential infrastructure for teaching, with peaks of more than 30,000 single users daily and a coverage of 80% of the subjects. The qualitative increase in use should particularly be underlined: 83% of active classrooms include activities, while merely informative spaces have dropped to 16%. This evolution is associated with a more intensive use of continuous assessment and monitoring of progress, the extension of teacher-student interaction practices and the combination of synchronous and asynchronous learning activities that favour participation and feedback.

Technical improvements aimed at efficiency and usability have been implemented: version updates, mass duplication of content, integrated configuration of activities and resources, gradual entry into questionnaires and optimisations of the question bank and gradebook. In terms of multimedia, a new Kaltura player with interactive transcription and a form to collect functional demands have also been acquired.

In the field of training, courses have been offered on the advanced use of Moodle, the design of attractive classrooms, video integration, active methodologies and applications of AI in teaching, accompanied by tailored guidance.

At the same time, 800 computers have been replaced in the computer classrooms and Microsoft Intune has been deployed, which allows for faster, safer and more centralised team management.

Language learning

During the 2024-2025 academic year, 7,026 students participated in UAB Language courses: 3,326 on campus and 3,692 in Barcelona. On campus, courses in Catalan, English, Spanish, French, German, Italian and other languages have been offered. In Barcelona, the Spanish, English and Catalan courses stand out, which include In Company classes, Study Abroad courses and courses for mature students.

In terms of certification, 1,935 people have taken level exams, mainly in Catalan (801) and English (723). There were 3,060 participants in the level test for new students, 40% of whom were placed at level B2.2 in English.

In addition, the Language Service managed 1,307 translation and proofreading assignments, and has offered services such as subtitling, voice-overs and AI guidance. In the field of language promotion, it participated in activities such as the Comunitària UAB and Welcome Days.

As part of the UAB Language Plan, financial aid to promote language learning and the use of English as a working language has been planned. 108 grants have also been awarded for language courses, including summer courses.

Highlight



Orientation and promotion activities

Once again, this year, UABers and the campus itself have been the stars of the UAB's promotional campaigns, both in the advertising and in the promotion and guidance activities aimed at future students and their families, in which they actively participated, alongside teaching staff and PTGAS staff members.

With regard to the degree programme, the commitment to combine face-to-face and virtual sessions has been maintained, with face-to-face and online open days, participation in the Saló de l'Ensenyament Academic Fair with digital material, visits to the campus, a Family Day and an extended number of visits available to individuals, as well as the launch of the institutional channel on TikTok. As for postgraduate courses, the virtual fair for master's, postgraduate and doctoral degrees has become consolidated, with three annual editions held, which facilitate direct contact with programme coordinators.

The promotional activities were carried out alongside two institutional campaigns, focused on sustainability: "Let's reduce the use of fossil fuels" and "Enjoy the biodiversity of a unique campus", which highlighted the university's commitment to a healthier and more sustainable campus.

More than 85,000 people have taken an interest in the UAB's activities and in the courses and services offered, a figure that demonstrates the university's ability to attract interest.

Research and transfer of knowledge and technology



During the 2024-2025 academic year, the impact of the UAB's research activity has been decisive in attracting talent, resources and projects, strengthening the university's positioning and projection as a source of interdisciplinary research and consolidating the campus as a space for experimentation, co-creation and demonstration, which provides a response to global challenges.

To strengthen its positioning, actions aimed at retaining and attracting research talent and increasing participation in competitive calls have been increased. The implementation of the programme for attracting and retaining research talent at the UAB has continued and a second call for contracts for research staff in training has been launched.

In 2024, the UAB attracted €126 million in research resources, 23 million of which will be for international projects. It should be noted that, during the 2024-2025 academic year, the UAB participated in all three Horizon Europe programmes , and European Research Council (ERC) calls, which represented most of the funding obtained, with nine grants obtained.

As part of the European COFUND Action programme, the UAB will coordinate the PHYNEST project, which will train future specialists in advanced materials, a strategic area that has great potential on campus.

With regard to the transfer of technology and knowledge to society and the productive sector, 12 unique priority patents have been applied for in 2024 and, with the aim of accelerating the transfer of research results, the UAB has set up a new call for applications for the Proof-of-Concept programme. In addition, it should be noted that this year two Proof of Concept grants have been obtained from the European Research Council.

The UAB Research Park has continued to support transfer, innovation and entrepreneurship, and Innovation Week has established itself as the benchmark event to showcase the UAB's innovation ecosystem and bring the technologies and knowledge generated on campus to the attention of the general public.

As part of the Emprèn UAB initiative, workshops and programmes have been organised to promote entrepreneurship and, for the third year, the UAB participated with its own stand at the 4 Years From Now Fair, as part of the Mobile World Congress.

The B30 Hub has consolidated its position as a territorial laboratory for open innovation and has become an environment for cooperation and co-creation between the actors from within the ecosystem of the B30 Hub itself.

With the launch of the open science thermometer, the UAB now has a new tool to visualise progress towards open knowledge and the deployment of citizen science projects. It is an exercise in transparency and commitment to society, an objective that has also been the driving force behind scientific dissemination campaigns, such as the Vagó de la Ciència or the Veus dissemination talks.

Research evaluation

This academic year, the UAB received a grant from the **CoARA** Boost call, within the framework of the European initiative CoARA (Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment), to implement an action plan to promote reflection among the university's research community on new approaches to and models for research evaluation. The title is "Piloting New Approaches and Metrics for Research Assessment: A First Step for a Real Transformation", and the main objective of the project is to identify new approaches and criteria for research evaluation with the involvement of the university community. It also aims to contribute to the improvement of training processes for research staff, both in their research tasks and in their work as evaluators, with the aim of acquiring knowledge on the effective use of new metrics and applying them to an internal pilot call. Specifically, the course discussion groups were set up with representatives of research staff at different stages of their professional careers and from different fields of knowledge to promote a debate.

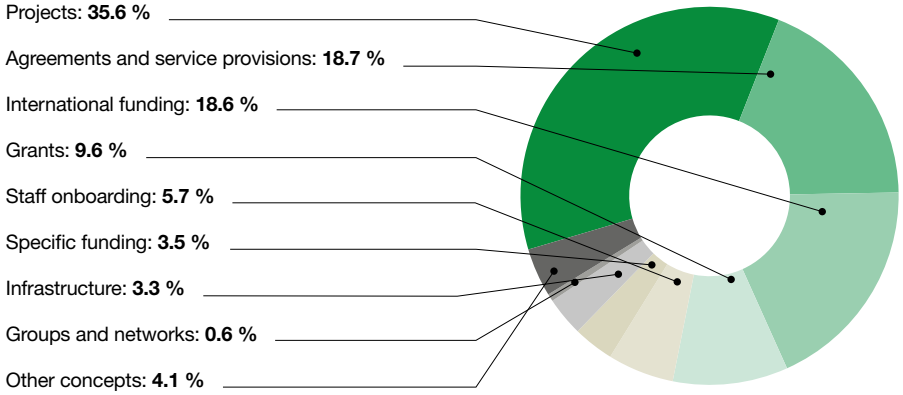
On 4 April the UAB organised a talk on "The reform of research assessment: how does it affect you?" with the aim of presenting the changes that will affect the research assessment system, as part of this project. The session was attended by Pilar Paneque, director of ANECA; Jaume Valls, director of AQU Catalunya, and Ismael Ràfols, a researcher from the INGENIO institute.

04

126.2

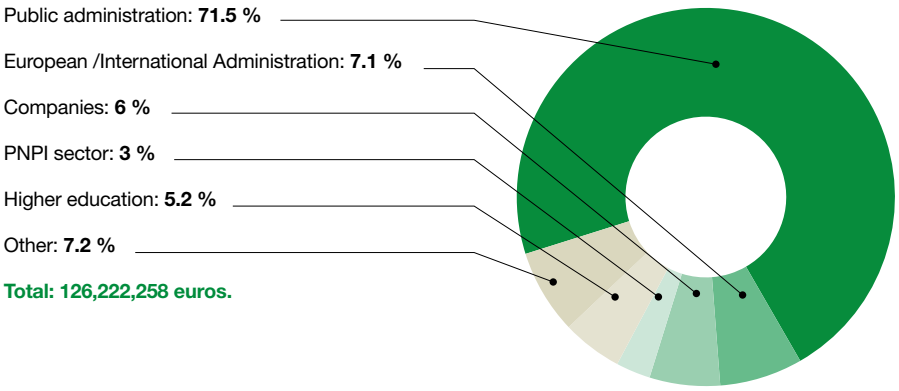
million in resources raised for research (2024)

Research funding by large chapters, 2024



Total: 126,222,258 euros.

Research funding by type of organisation, 2024



Total: 126,222,258 euros.

Highlight

Joshua Batts receives a Starting Grant from the ERC

Joshua Batts, a postdoctoral researcher from the Department of Translation and Interpreting and East Asian Studies at the UAB, received a Starting Grant from the European Research Council (ERC) to set up a project on political, commercial and social transformations in early modern Japan through the study of the mines in the archipelago between 1520 and 1720.

Medieval literature researcher **Emanuele Arioli** joined the Department of Catalan Philology with a Starting Grant from the ERC to carry out a project entitled "Carolus Magnus's Oral Legends: Unravelling and Safeguarding".

Two ERC Proof of Concept grants for UAB research staff

Jordi Sort, an ICREA lecturer in the Department of Physics at the UAB, received a Proof-of-Concept grant from the European Research Council (ERC) to fund the first phases of commercialisation of the project "Magneto-Ionic Data-Security Device Integrated on Flexible Substrates" (SECURE-FLEXIMAG), which aims to strengthen data security and promote technology transfer.

Antoni Verger, a professor from the Department of Sociology and IGOP researcher, obtained a Proof-of-Concept grant from the ERC to carry out a project called "Towards Shared Accountability: Rethinking the Locus and Scale of Assessment and Improvement in Education" (ACCOUNTED), which proposes new methods of school governance.

Two ERC Advanced Grants for UAB researchers

Roberto Risch, full professor in the Department of Prehistory, has received an Advanced Grant to carry out the project "Economies and Macrolithic Technologies in the Euro-Mediterranean Bronze Age", using which he will study the rise and fall of the first state-owned societies in Europe in the early Bronze Age (3000-1500 BCE).

Marco Armiero, an ICREA research professor at the Institute for the History of Science (IHC), has been awarded an Advanced Grant to undertake a project called "The Catholic Church and the Environment" to create the first environmental history project on the Catholic Church and learn about its impact on environmental perspectives, policies and realities.



The **Computer Vision Centre (CVC)**, a CERCA centre founded by the Government of Catalonia and the UAB, has celebrated its 30th anniversary as an international benchmark research centre in the field of computer vision and artificial intelligence (AI), at an event that took place on 17 July at the UAB's Casa Convalescència building. The event was attended by the Minister for Research and Universities, Núria Montserrat, the rector of the UAB, Javier Lafuente, and the director of the CVC, Josep Lladós, and brought together professionals from the field of research and innovation in AI, as well as institutional representatives, companies and institutions that have been working with the CVC over the past three decades.

Research centres

The **Institute of Environmental Science and Technology (ICTA-UAB)** has been accredited, for the third time, as a María de Maeztu Unit of Excellence by the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities. This distinction recognises the scientific leadership, quality and international impact of the centre's research activity. This accreditation will contribute to the development of a strategic research programme that will strengthen the centre's global networks, sustain research excellence and attract talent, strengthen knowledge transfer and scientific co-production capacities, and expand ICTA's social impact. Within the same call, the Severo Ochoa distinction was awarded to two centres affiliated with the UAB: the **Barcelona School of Economics (BSE)** and the **Institute of High Energy Physics (IFAE)**.

This year a new building for the **Vall d'Hebron Research Institute (VHIR)**, a research institute affiliated with the UAB, has been inaugurated. The new facilities will allow research staff to continue carrying out cutting-edge and disruptive research to improve people's quality of life.



30th anniversary of the MELiSSA Pilot Plant

On 6 June, the 30th anniversary celebration of the MELiSSA laboratory took place at the facilities of the MELiSSA Pilot Plant and in the graduation hall of the School of Engineering. The event brought together more than a hundred attendees linked to the project and was attended by the Minister of Research and Universities, Núria Montserrat, the director of the MELiSSA project at the European Space Agency (ESA), Chloé Audas, the rector of the UAB, Javier Lafuente, and the director of the MELiSSA Pilot Plant, Francesc Gòdia, professor from the Department of Chemical Biological and Environmental Engineering.

MELiSSA, an acronym for Micro-Ecological Life Support System Alternative, is an innovative project of the European Space Agency (ESA), which was initiated as part of a research programme on life support technologies to make long-duration manned missions in space possible. This Pilot Plant is the only laboratory in Europe where closed-cycle life support systems can be demonstrated.

Research chairs

This academic year, the UAB and the Cruïlla Festival, with participation from the CVC, set up a **UAB-Cruïlla Chair in Artificial Intelligence in Music and the Arts**, which will support research and experimentation with artificial intelligence solutions and promote their transfer to the cultural industries ecosystem. It is a pioneering project involving cooperation between the university, the world of research and the cultural sector. The chair includes researchers from the UAB, the CVC and the Institute for Research in Artificial Intelligence (IIIA-CSIC), who work together with the Barcelona Events Musicals team, the festival organisers.

This academic year the UAB and the Hospital Foundation presented the first **UAB - Hospital Foundation Chair of Geriatric Psychiatry**, which was created to respond to the mental health challenges of older people. Promoted by the Department of Psychiatry and Legal Medicine in the UAB and the Catalan centres from the Hospitalàries Foundation, the Chair aims to generate expert knowledge in geriatric psychiatry, by promoting research, training, scientific cooperation, development and dissemination activities in this scientific field.

Finally, as part of the international colloquium on "José Bergamín and the magical art of flight", organised by the Literary Exile Study Group (GEXEL-CEDID), the **UAB's Republican Literary Exile Chair**, the first chair in Spain on this subject, was presented.



On 13 and 14 May, the UAB's Department of Physics organised the UAB Campus Advanced Materials R&I Days, an exhibition of the research and innovation potential in advanced materials offered by the UAB campus ecosystem. The conference, which brought together more than fifty specialists, was attended by representatives of the European Commission and the Centre for Technological Development and Innovation (CDTI) and presented the lines of research developed in the field of advanced materials in different departments and research centres on campus.

Doctoral studies

This academic year, the **School for Doctoral Studies** has obtained certification for its internal quality assurance system (IQAS) and institutional accreditation. The certification of the School's IQAS demonstrates an adequate implementation of the system that allows for improvement of the programmes offered. On the other hand, the institutional accreditation seal, which is valid for six years, also allows the centre to automatically renew accreditation for the programmes offered.

With regard to activities during the 2024-2025 academic year, it should be noted that the doctoral training in excellence programme **TOUCH** ("Towards the next generation of excellent young doctoral researchers on mental health by developing an intersectoral and transdisciplinary approach"), awarded within the Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MSCA COFUND) 2022 call, has opened a second call, with 11 places, to include doctoral students from one of the university's strategic areas: mental health and well-being.

With regard to institutional activity, it should be noted that on 15 November and 16 May, ceremonies for the award of doctoral degrees and extraordinary doctoral awards were held. Xavier Gabarrell, vice-rector for Campus and Sustainability at the UAB, and Armand Sánchez, emeritus professor from the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, were the sponsors. On September 17, the School for Doctoral Studies hosted the annual meeting of the Catalan Association of Schools for Doctoral Studies (ACED).

The UAB will coordinate a project of excellence in advanced materials, energy and sustainability

The UAB has received funding from the European Union to launch the **PHYNEST** project ("Physics for a greener world: fostering the next generation of talented young researchers in novel materials, innovative strategies and energy solutions"). This project, conceived of and set up by the UAB Department of Physics, has been selected in the 2024 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) call and will receive co-funding to hire 25 doctoral students over four years. PHYNEST, coordinated by Eva Pellicer, a full professor from the Department of Physics, aims to train future leaders in advanced materials, innovative strategies and key solutions to facilitate the transition to a new energy paradigm and promote environmental sustainability. The 25 doctoral students will be co-supervised by the UAB and six other organisations from the university's scientific hub.

4,907

doctoral students, enrolled on 68 programmess

656

theses read (2023-2024), of which 22% were awarded an international doctoral research component

Highlight

The UAB participates in an ERC Synergy Grant project for humanities

Fatma Sinem Eryilmaz, associate professor from the Department of Modern and Contemporary History, and **Alexander Fidora**, an ICREA researcher from the Department of Ancient and Middle Ages Science, will participate in the MOSAIC project ("Mapping Occult Sciences Across Islamicate Cultures"), one of the three Synergy Grant projects in the field of humanities recognised in the 2024 ERC call. UAB researchers will work on the intellectual and social networks that flourished in Anatolia and the Mediterranean, the relationship between epistemology and political history, and their reflections in literature and art.

Two researchers from the UAB Sphere will participate in two projects funded by the Synergy Grant call. **Diego Blas**, ICREA researcher at IFAE, will take part in the GravNet project, and **Kostas Kostarelos**, ICREA research professor and Severo Ochoa distinguished professor at the Catalan Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (ICN2), will co-manage the SKIN2DTRONICS project.



"Thesis in 4 minutes" competition

Laura Pons Martínez, a student from the doctoral programme in Surgery and Morphology, won first prize at the "Thesis in 4 minutes" competition with a presentation called *Would you go through chemo if you knew it wouldn't work?*



Conference on the challenges faced by UAB university hospitals

On 22 January, more than a hundred professionals from the field of health took part in a conference on the challenges faced by UAB university hospitals, organised by the UAB, the Parc Taulí Research and Innovation Institute (I3PT), the Vall d'Hebron Research Institute (VHIR), the Germans Trias i Pujol Research Institute (IGTP) and the Sant Pau Research Institute (IR Sant Pau). It was organised by the UAB Research Park with the aim of creating a space to exchange knowledge and share challenges and objectives to increase their impact at both a scientific and healthcare level.

Research and transfer support services

Regarding Scientific and Technical Services, this academic year the **UAB Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Service (SeRMN)** has achieved a total of 3.13 million euros in the call for the acquisition of scientific and technical equipment in 2024 (EQC2024) to modernise its scientific MRI and NMR equipment.

The **Industrial Biotechnology Platform and Pilot Fermentation Plant (ENG4BIO-PBI&PPF)** and the **Veterinary Service of Molecular Genetics (SVGM)** at the UAB have obtained TECNIO accreditation this year for the period 2025-2028. This accreditation, which is awarded by the Government of Catalonia through ACCIÓ, identifies them as research groups with differential technological capabilities and experience carrying out R+D projects in conjunction with companies.

The ENG4BIO group, led by Pau Ferrer, a full professor from the Department of Chemical, Biological and Environmental Engineering, develops intensified and optimised sustainable biotechnological processes to obtain products of interest for the chemical, pharmaceutical, medical, food and health industries and to offer real-time analytical monitoring to improve the quality of products and processes.

The SVGM, led by Olga Francino, a lecturer from the Department of Animal and Food Science, is a laboratory that offers knowledge and the most advanced technology in animal genomics to develop new tools for the analysis and diagnosis of genes of interest for the biohealth and animal production sectors.

After the accreditation of these two groups, the UAB now has six centres that have received the TECNIO seal of excellence.

30th anniversary of the UAB Research Ethics Committee

On 19 and 20 September, the 30th anniversary of the UAB's Research Ethics Committee (CERec) was commemorated with two conferences, one for reflection and debate and one for recognition of the work carried out by the people who have worked with the Committee since it was created.

As part of the celebration, the UAB Publications Service published the book *L'ètica en la recerca a la UAB. Els primers trenta anys*, edited by José Luis Molina, full professor of Social and Cultural Anthropology and director of CERec, and anthropologist Sílvia Villagrasa Krasnobayeva.

CERec was founded in 1994 as a cutting-edge initiative in Spain, with the aim of guaranteeing rigour, honesty and responsibility in the research carried out at the university. Over thirty years, CERec has advised more than 6,000 research projects on the ethical side and has disseminated the values of good research practices.

Libraries

This academic year, the **Library Service** has approved the **2025-2030 Action Plan for UAB libraries**. Entitled *Compromís amb el coneixement i la comunitat* (Commitment to knowledge and to the community) this plan is aligned with the UAB's Horizon 2030 Plan and establishes the strategic lines to consolidate libraries' commitment to the university community, open knowledge, innovation, inclusion and sustainability. This academic year training courses have been increased so that the university community is now better versed in digital skills and open access publishing, numerous activities have been carried out to promote and disseminate science and culture, and the usability and accessibility of the Service's technological applications have been improved.

The libraries' web portal has been updated, a far-reaching action that has increased the visibility of the resources, services and activities they carry out and that has led to a 50% increase in the number of visits to their webpage. This year the entrance and lobby of the Social Sciences Library have been renovated and the project to renovate the media library in the Communication Library and General Newspaper Archive has begun.

During 2024, UAB libraries attended more than 2,000,000 users.



Serra Hunter Talent Recognition

On 9 April, five members of the UAB's teaching and research staff received awards at the first Serra Húnter Talent Recognition Ceremony: **Maria Montserrat Rifà**, from the Department of Didactics of Musical, Plastic and Corporal Expression, in the category of teaching excellence; **Xavier Jordana**, from the Department of Animal Biology, Plant Biology and Ecology, in the category of research excellence; **Marc Furió**, from the Department of Geology, in the category of scientific, humanistic or artistic dissemination; **Salvador Ventura**, from the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, in the category of knowledge transfer, and **Miquel Torregrossa**, from the Department of Basic, Evolutionary and Educational Psychology, in the category of trajectory of excellence.

ECIU University: research

In the field of research, ECIU University has continued to promote the exchange of knowledge between member universities, through two main initiatives: the ECIU **Researchers Mobility Fund (RMF)** and the ECIU Seed Programme.

The **ECIU Researchers Mobility Fund (RMF)** call aims to promote international cooperation between research staff from all ECIU University member institutions, facilitating the development of joint projects and access to funding programmes. During this edition, support was awarded to two UAB researchers.

The **ECIU Seed Programme** offers funding to initiate new research cooperation or strengthen existing ones in five research fields: citizen science, energy and sustainability, the circular economy, transport and mobility, and resilient communities. In the programme's first call, after the SMART-ER project, two proposals have been funded with participation from the UAB: the **Y-MOVE project**, coordinated by the UAB, with participation from the Polytechnic University of Lodz (TUL), the University of Tampere (TAU) and the University of Aveiro; and the **CSSIAI project**, coordinated by Dublin City University (DCU), with participation from the Technical University of Liberec and the UAB.

Within the ECIU framework, joint project initiatives with participation from the UAB have continued to be promoted, including the CEETNOVA and BREATH projects.

CEETNOVA (Connecting European Innovation and Entrepreneurship Ecosystems through Knowledge Valorisation Ambassadors) is an initiative funded by the European Union, through the Erasmus+ programme, which aims to promote the transformation of research results into tangible value for society. Through a training programme for knowledge valorisation ambassadors, this initiative trains staff from several European universities to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and the application of research results to society and the European innovation ecosystem.

The **BREATH** ('Empowering Research Talent: Building R&I Talent Ecosystems to Advance Careers in Health Innovation') project aims to establish a structured and sustainable talent ecosystem in health innovation (SI) in three key regions of Europe: Catalonia, Flanders and Lithuania. As part of this project, talent managers from academic and non-academic institutions work together to drive institutional change and implement initiatives that strengthen research careers, promote talent retention and support mobility.

Highlight

The UAB receives twelve ICREA Academy grants

The Catalan Institution for Research and Advanced Studies (ICREA) has awarded twelve ICREA Academia grants to the UAB. Specifically, in the 2024 edition of the programme, the following teaching staff members have been distinguished: **María José Vega Ramos**, from the Department of Spanish Philology; **Rafael Micó Pérez**, from the Department of Prehistory; **Joaquim Matias Espona**, from the Department of Physics; **Melinda Dooly Owenby**, from the Department of Didactics of Language and Literature and Social Sciences; **Albert Guisasola Canudas**, from the Department of Chemical, Biological and Environmental Engineering; **Miquel-Àngel Garcia López**, from the Department of Applied Economics; **Ferran Martín Antolín**, from the Department of Electronic Engineering; **Carol Galais Gonzalez**, from the Department of Political Science and Public Law; **José Luis Molina González**, from the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology; **Fàtima Bosch Tubert**, from the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; **Antoni Verger Planells**, from the Department of Sociology, and **Gonzalo Seco Granados**, from the Department of Telecommunications and Systems Engineering.



New international network to promote research on work and employment

Thirty research centres from 19 countries, including the UAB's Centre for Sociological Studies on Everyday Life and Work (QUIT), have launched the Work-Net International network with the aim of cooperating on interdisciplinary research on work and employment and increasing the impact of their studies on public policies at a global scale.



The UAB participates in the 4YFN congress

From 3 to 6 March, the UAB and the UAB Research Park participated, with their own stand, in the 4 Years From Now (4YFN) Fair, which is being held as part of the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona (MWC). The stand provided visibility to three spin-offs, seven start-ups created by alumni members and nine entrepreneurial projects. Also, 20 research groups from the School of Engineering, the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, the Faculty of Psychology and the Institute of Biotechnology and Biomedicine presented projects and technologies in the digital sector, and the AccessCat Network, led by the UAB, also participated.

The UAB Research Park

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the Research Park has established itself as a space for innovation and connection between the university, companies and society. Through collaborative projects and initiatives, the Park has strengthened its key role as a driver of transformation and development and has promoted the creation of synergies and new opportunities for research staff, entrepreneurs and companies.

With regard to supporting the challenges of the environment, the UAB Research Park has cooperated with local councils and organisations to boost participatory and co-creation processes with the aim of detecting challenges, generating joint projects and promoting innovation at a local level. Specifically, this academic year three processes have been promoted, including participation in the Innovation Day: Talent Solutions programme, promoted jointly with the Molins de Rei City Council, which aims to connect companies looking for innovative solutions to challenges in the fields of 4.0 technologies and the circular economy, with university students who can work to provide solutions to these challenges. In this first edition, seven SMEs participated: Carpel Min, AdecGlobal, Grupo ADTEL, Rohu, Menshen Iber, Qksol and Instavi.

The UAB Research Park has also worked to increase the University's interaction with companies and promote cooperation between the different areas of knowledge, promote interdisciplinarity and promote the transfer of knowledge to society. In this area, the Research Park worked with the Open Innovation Challenge, business meetings organised by ACCIÓ that aim to bring together companies and public organisation looking for innovative solutions with others that offer technology. These are networking events, organised within the framework of the major international congresses held in Catalonia. Specifically, the Park participated in Alimentaria, the Mobile World Congress, the Advanced Factories and the Health Revolution Congress.

The UAB's membership of new business clusters, such as SECPHO, CataloniaBio & HealthTech, Kid's Cluster, Secartys and the Automotive Industry Cluster of Catalonia (CIAC), has also been promoted, with the aim of generating cooperation between research groups and participating companies.

For the second consecutive year, the UAB Research Park has organised **UAB Innovation Week**, an event that has once again demonstrated the University's commitment to innovation and its commitment to cooperating with the business and social sectors.

Finally, the UAB Research Park has cooperated in advising the University's research staff in the preparation of innovation projects with companies for the Horizon Europe calls and national calls.

As for the field of entrepreneurship, this year the Research Park has organised different programmes to help research staff devise and validate their entrepreneurial ideas based on research results. Thus, a new edition of the **AI4ALL** - Artificial Intelligence Applied to Industry programme; the **Science to the Market programme**, a joint project with all Catalan public universities; the **Advanced Visionaries programme**, to validate entrepreneurial projects, and the **Consolida't** programme were all organised, aimed at small businesses and the self-employed. Through these programmes, 45 entrepreneurial projects have been promoted, and 4 companies have been created because of the training programmes.

Within the framework of Emprèn UAB, the UAB Research Park has organised workshops and programmes to promote entrepreneurship and bring out the talent and creativity of the UAB community. In addition, activities have been organised to boost the ecosystem of entrepreneurs, such as the Entrepreneur's Corner, with Distinkt and AllRead, and the Connecta conference, to bring students and alumni into contact with early-stage entrepreneurs who are looking for people to work with.

CSIC IRTA UAB Parc de Recerca UAB



The Archimedes Accelerator

On 10 December, Emprèn UAB organised the **Archimedes Networking Cocktail Event** at Casa Convalescència, an event that brought together UAB spin-off companies, entrepreneurs, organisations and investors. The aim of this event was to strengthen the entrepreneurial ecosystem, share knowledge and hold a debate on the latest trends in business models.

Entrepreneurship

Within the framework of **Emprèn UAB**, during the 2024-2025 academic year, programmes and projects have been launched and consolidated to promote entrepreneurship and the presence of UAB spin-off companies in networks and at fairs has continued to be promoted.

Through the new **Advanced Visionaries programme**, new tools and resources have been offered to participants with the aim of perfecting their entrepreneurial skills, developing project prototypes, validating market opportunities and redefining and promoting business models. The Advanced Visionaries programme is an initiative set up by Emprèn UAB, promoted by the UAB Research Park and the Terrassa Chamber of Commerce, and is co-financed by the European Social Fund. In the first edition of the programme, four entrepreneurial projects were professionalised.

The **Arquimedes Accelerator** has continued its support and mentoring work for spin-off companies and technology-based companies at the UAB, and this year it has organised the first Archimedes Networking Cocktail Event at the UAB - Casa Convalescència.

With regard to the visibility and projection of companies derived from the university and entrepreneurial projects, the UAB participated in the 4YFN Fair, within the framework of the Mobile World Congress, and in the Barcelona Deep Tech Summit, within the Smart City Expo Fair. Likewise, the UAB's presence in entrepreneurial networks has been strengthened. It should be noted that the UAB spin-off **AEInnova** has been awarded as the best deep tech start-up of 2024 at the Barcelona Deep Tech Summit and received the Innovation Radar award from the European Commission, in the sustainable technology category.

UAB Proof of Concept Call

Three projects have been selected in the 2024 edition of the UAB's Proof of Concept call, an instrument for the university to accelerate knowledge transfer through studies that allow progress towards the maturation of projects. Specifically, projects led by professors **Gonzalo Guirado López** (Department of Chemistry), **Rubèn López Vales** (Department of Cell Biology, Physiology and Immunology and Institute of Neurosciences) and **Jordi Bonache Albacete** (Department of Electronic Engineering) were selected.

Each selected project received €50,000 to carry out pre-commercial activities to valorise research results.

Research valorisation

In 2024, 42 new valorisation and transfer projects by UAB research groups were initiated. These new projects (invention disclosures) accounted for approximately 0.15 inventions per million euros invested in research in 2023. By sectoral area, most of the inventions were in the fields of biomedicine and chemistry.

In 2024 the UAB applied for twelve new single priority patents and signed two transfer agreements with national and international companies.

In the 2025 edition of the CYD Ranking, the UAB was the top Spanish university for knowledge transfer.

Highlight



The UAB has signed an agreement to continue developing the Research Chair in Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation

On 19 November, the UAB signed an agreement with the city councils of Vallès Occidental and Vallès Oriental and with the city councils of Cerdanyola del Vallès, Mollet del Vallès and Montornès del Vallès, to develop, over the next few years, the Research Chair in Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation. Among other activities, the Chair, which is also affiliated with Barcelona Provincial Government Council and is attached to the Centre for Studies and Research in Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation (CREIS) at the UAB, awards the Eines awards every year, to distinguish activities that fall within the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



The 3rd Conference for Knowledge Transfer Offices in Catalan Universities

On 3 June, more than 150 professionals from the Catalan university system participated in the 3rd Conference for Knowledge Transfer Offices at Catalan Universities held in the UAB auditorium. For the third consecutive year, the knowledge transfer offices in Catalan universities met to reflect on the connection between research and society and to generate a space for debate, exchange and learning among professionals who promote cooperation with the socio-economic environment from within institutions.





Open science and citizen science

This academic year, the UAB launched the **Open Science Thermometer**, a new institutional transparency tool that allows us to visualise and monitor progress in the field of open knowledge. The **UAB Citizen Science Hub** also organised a training course on citizen science aimed at trainee researchers, and a course on citizen science and sustainability aimed at primary and secondary school teachers this year.

Innovation Week

From 14 to 18 October, the UAB organised the second edition of Innovation Week, an event that aims to bring the innovative technologies and knowledge generated on campus closer to the public and the productive sector. To this end, more than 700 professionals including researchers, businesspeople and entrepreneurs participated in the different planned activities.

During the Week, activities, talks, debates and workshops were organised open to the entire campus as well as local companies and organisations. More than 300 meetings were held between different institutional, business and academic actors with the aim of creating synergies and exploring ways of working together.

The Innovation Fair, organised by the UAB Research Park, showcased innovative technologies and knowledge from 80 research groups and 20 companies that arose through the university.

Based on the slogan “Building paths of social impact”, the Science and Female Entrepreneurship conference received participation from prominent researchers, entrepreneurs and professionals.

The inauguration of the ENIA UAB-Cruïlla Chair in Artificial Intelligence in Music and the Arts was also held, and the 2024 Eines awards were awarded to the best social transformation projects.

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innovative UAB projects recognised through the Knowledge Industry Programme (2024)

Open innovation

The UAB Open Labs network has established itself as a space for innovation, open to the local area, for the promotion of digital social innovation, eco-innovation and business innovation based on social challenges. During the 2024-2025 academic year, ideas and projects have been developed that promote cooperation and knowledge transfer. The Labs also hosted learning proposals aimed at bachelor’s and master’s degree students based on the principles of the circular economy, ecodesign, degrowth and the gender perspective.

The **ULALABS** project (“University Lab of Labs for Transformative Societal Innovation: Articulating Collaborative and Inclusive Learning Communities through Shared R+D+i Agendas among European Regions”), led by the CORE in Smart and Sustainable Cities of the UAB with participation from the UAB Open Labs, this year organised the conference “The Emerging Lab of Labs - Activities, Experiences, and Outcomes of the First Year of the Project”, in which different experiences of urban experimentation spaces have been presented and the first results of the ULALABS project have been announced, which aims to organise a distributed laboratory focused on a learning community focused on sustainable urban transformation.

Finally, it should be noted that this academic year the UAB launched the second edition of the **Open Laboratory Campus programme “Let’s co-create solutions on a smart campus”**, an initiative open to the entire university community to promote projects that respond to previously identified campus challenges, implement solutions and extend them beyond the university itself.

Participatory Experimentation and Demonstration Campus (UAB-ExD)

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the definition of the Participatory Experimentation and Demonstration Campus project has begun, which has a grant from the UAB Board of Trustees.

This initiative proposes the use of information and communication technologies to establish a model for strategic planning, coordination and the management of the campus and its agroforestry space, with the aim of promoting the comfort and safety of users, the efficiency of resources and climate resilience. In the medium term, a digital replica of the campus must be developed, to model new dynamics, processes and services and predict the impact of campus management policies before applying them, while moving towards evidence-based decision-making models. At the same time, the project aims to promote an environment of experimentation (a living laboratory) linked to learning, research and innovation projects, and to find solutions and answers to challenges that can later be transferred and applied both on campus and in other urban environments.



B30 Hub Meeting

On 26 September, the UAB hosted a B30 Hub meeting, which brought together representatives of companies, institutions, public administrations and research centres that are members of the association, to reinforce their commitment to continue promoting projects that contribute to the economic development and social cohesion in the local area, based around the central concept of the B30 Hub.

B30 Hub

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the B30 Hub has consolidated its function as a territorial open innovation laboratory, constituting an environment for cooperation and co-creation between the actors from the ecosystem of the central concept of the B30 Hub. To this end, the actions of the B30 Hub have involved creating an innovative ecosystem to generate and share knowledge, to promote competitiveness and economic development and social cohesion.

Specifically, during the 2024-2025 academic year, the B30 Hub has created several lines of work to support active ageing, promote sustainability and energy communities and a network of open laboratories.

In cooperation with the Government of Catalonia and within the framework of the RIS3CAT initiative, several co-creation sessions have been held to create a shared agenda and work together with local actors, mainly from the Vallès Oriental and Vallès Occidental regions. One of the most advanced initiatives on the agenda has been related to the challenge of improving cities to create urban environments that promote active ageing and the integration of older people into community life, with the aim of improving their quality of life, guaranteeing their autonomy and promoting social inclusion. A group of researchers from different departments of the UAB has worked on this challenge within the European Idea Generation Programme Kaleidos.

In the field of organic waste recovery, a joint initiative has been carried out with 24 entities with the aim of promoting good practices. The working group on energy communities, promoted by the B30 Hub, has organised work and training sessions and has participated in the preparation of a guide for the creation of an energy community.

It should be noted that the B30 Hub coordinates the use of spaces and infrastructures that catalyse open innovation through the creation of the Network of Digital Manufacturing Spaces of the Vallès Occidental, in which several municipalities also participate.

hub b30.

Highlight



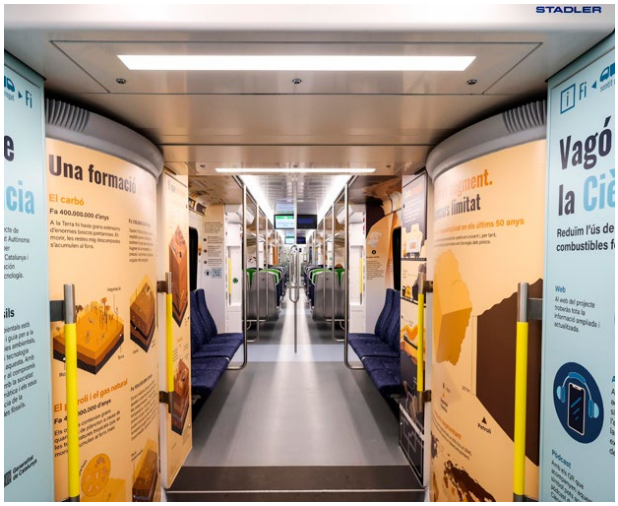
Towns in the Vallès Occidental region agree to strengthen their ties to the UAB

On 5 March, the Vallès Occidental Regional Council met exceptionally at the UAB Rector's Office, with the Rector of the University, Javier Lafuente, and the Minister for Equality and Feminism in the Catalan Government, Eva Menor. The Council of Mayors approved an agreement to strengthen cooperation with the UAB and the promotion of knowledge transfer in the local area.



The UAB and PRUAB join the new Alliance for Innovation in Sant Cugat del Vallès

On 18 September, the UAB and the UAB Research Park took part in the signing ceremony for the creation of the Alliance for Innovation in Sant Cugat del Vallès, an agreement between Sant Cugat City Council and around thirty companies and academic, technological and research institutions that aims to consolidate the town of Sant Cugat del Vallès as a benchmark in innovation and entrepreneurship on both a national and international scale. The Alliance will be known internationally as the Barcelona Innovation Valley Alliance.



Vagó de la Ciència

This academic year, the UAB, in conjunction with the Ferrocarrils de la Generalitat de Catalunya (FGC), launched the second edition of the Vagó de la Ciència, a space for the dissemination of science and innovation inside the train's compartments. This year's edition has been dedicated to the need to reduce the consumption of oil, coal and gas and to increase the use of clean and renewable energies, the theme on which the 2024-2025 academic year also focused. It received participation from thirty researchers from the departments of Animal Biology, Plant Biology and Ecology, Geography and Chemical, Biological and Environmental Engineering, among others, as well as from ICTA-UAB and CREAF. This year, the Vagó de la Ciència has been awarded the **Prismas award for the best singular scientific dissemination project**, awarded by the Scientific Museums of A Coruña.

Research dissemination

During the 2024-2025 academic year, 109 research dissemination campaigns have been carried out. These campaigns resulted in 1,293 impacts in the state media, of which 1,245 were in the written press and 48 on television.

With regard to international dissemination, 70 press releases have been sent to international agencies throughout the academic year, which have received a total of 114,782 visits from international scientific journalists.

In addition, 107 popular science articles have been published in the electronic journal ***Divulga UAB***, which has 2,837 subscribers and has obtained 151,500 visits.

In the **field of bioscience and health sciences**, research has been disseminated on the organisation of DNA in chromosomes, on the treatment of cancer in patients with Fanconi anaemia, on progress in gene therapies for MASH, MLC and SPG52 diseases, and in conventional therapies for Fabry disease, psoriasis and Leigh syndrome; on the effects of Marfan syndrome; on the early detection of Parkinson's disease; on the identification of a protein that improves longevity; on gender differences in the genetic risk of schizophrenia; on the health risks of microplastics; on the impact of pregnancy on the grey matter of the brain; on improvements to the tolerance of prosthetic implants; on nanoparticles that neutralise the COVID-19 virus, and on the discovery of the cause of death of babies buried at home during the Iberian era.

With regard to **the fields of animal science, the environment and ecology**, research has been disseminated on the discovery of a fossil that reveals a new genus and a new species of mole; on the impact on fish of a decrease in oxygen in the oceans; on the forecast for more intense heat waves in Barcelona; on the role to be played by cities in the climate dilemma; on the increase of CO2 emissions in the Arctic; on the stranding of spinetail devil rays on the beaches; on the alteration of eating habits in sardines due to climate change; on the responsibility of multinational corporations in environmental conflict, and on the release of microplastics through the use of tea bags.

In the **field of technology and experimental sciences**, research has been disseminated on the development of fluorescent pixels; on the creation of a new magnetic state, the vortion, which mimics neuronal synapses; on the application of blockchain technology to improve the traceability of wine; on a new method for forming polymers to improve 3D printing; on a new methodology to transform CO_2 into biocomposites for industry; on the activation of photodrugs by remote control, and on new, more reliable bioinformatic tools for the study of proteins.

In the **field of social sciences**, research has been disseminated on citizen science to promote urban sustainability; on the analysis of the effects of AI-generated music generated; on the percentage of income allocated to housing; on children's learning in an environment with facemasks; on the relationship between the difficulties of finding a stable partner and motherhood; on the improvement of citizen involvement in the energy transition; on the transparency of information from administrations; on the design of a network for the urban distribution of goods, and on the vulnerability of a depopulated Spain in the face of climate change.

In the **field of humanities**, studies related to archaeology in the Iberian Peninsula have been disseminated; the discovery of the oldest tools made with whale bones; the discovery of exceptional equipment for Neolithic archers; the questioning of the theory of a violent invasion at the end of prehistory; the strategic management that Neolithic shepherds applied 6,000 years ago to cattle herds, and the identification of the "borders" between the Bronze Age communities of southeastern Iberia. The discovery of a unique drainage and irrigation system that allowed the "Neolithic revolution" in the pre-Columbian Amazon should also be highlighted.

With regard to the **field of innovation and knowledge transfer**, a digital repository has been disseminated to encourage the visibility of women in the historical narrative; didactic material has been created to disseminate archaeology in the classroom; an agreement between the Cruïlla Festival and the CVC has been made to bring artificial intelligence to artistic shows; an agreement has been signed with the Federation of Local Media to grow the Radio Sound Archive in Catalonia; cooperation with Eurecat and the UdL in technology and innovation in the agri-food sector, and the second edition of the University's Innovation Week.



The UAB celebrates European Research Night

On 27 September, the UAB celebrated **European Research Night** with an event full of informative activities to bring research and innovation closer to the public of all ages. Under the slogan "Un firmament d'activitats", a research fair was held in the UAB's Espai Saludable i Sostenible, with workshops, demonstrations and games, and micro-talks with the participation of research staff from the university and the research centres on campus. The evening ended with a telescope observation workshop.

The UAB in university rankings

In this year's edition of the **QS World University Rankings**, the UAB has moved up three places to 172nd in the world, and is now consolidated in the top 12%, corresponding to the best universities worldwide. By indicator, the UAB moved up 53 places in sustainability and reached 61st position in the world, ranked 105th in international research networks, and improved 36 positions in citations per academic and advanced to 170th position in the world.

In the 2025 edition of the **Times Higher Education World University** Rankings, the UAB reached 199th place in the world and improved results in the areas of greatest weight in the ranking: research environment, teaching and research quality. The UAB is ranked 36th in the world in the first edition of the **Interdisciplinary Science Rankings** of the Times Higher Education World University Rankings.

In the classification by area, it should be noted that, in the 2025 edition of the **QS World University Rankings by Subject**, the UAB is placed among the 100 best universities in the world in seven disciplines: veterinary medicine (in position 27), modern languages (in position 72), linguistics and sociology (both in position 81), economics (in position 91), and archaeology and geography (both between positions 51 and 100). In addition, the UAB is among the top 200 universities in the world in 33 of the 49 scientific disciplines classified by QS.

The UAB is ranked 17th in the world in the field of veterinary medicine and 39th in ecology and is among the top 100 universities in the world in mathematics, in the **Global Ranking of Academic Subjects**, in the Shanghai Ranking. It should be noted that, in this ranking, the UAB is positioned among the 200 best universities in the world in 18 disciplines.

In the twelfth edition of the **CYD Ranking**, which evaluates Spanish universities and is created by the CyD Foundation, the UAB is in first position and obtained the largest number of high-performance indicators out of the 82 universities analysed.

QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

172nd

in the QS World University Rankings

Highlight



Third Veus Informative Conference Event

On 14 November, as part of Science Week at the UAB, the third edition of Veus UAB took place, a day of scientific dissemination talks with the aim of sharing transformative and inspiring knowledge generated at the university with the public.

For this edition, the conference featured seven conferences by the following researchers and experts: **Marina Campos**, a food technologist and science communicator; **Irene Subiza**, a psychologist and doctor in Clinical and Health Psychology; José **Vicente Á**vila, an archaeologist with a master's degree in the History of Science and predoctoral researcher in prehistoric textile archaeology; **Martina Arasa**, G**ina Granad**os and **Sara Bordas**, heads of the scientific dissemination channel Bionàrias; **Antoni Palomo**, a researcher in the Department of Prehistory of the UAB; **Raquel Córdoba**, a psychologist with a master's degree in coaching and personal leadership, and **José Antonio Bueno**, biotechnologist, with a master's degree in Molecular Biology Applied to the Biotechnology Company and a predoctoral researcher in Environmental Science and Technology.

Internationalisation



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new international agreements

International institutional activity

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the UAB has received around thirty institutional visits from representatives of academic and diplomatic institutions from different areas around the world. In addition to these visits, there were six virtual meetings held with international delegations. Visits from the ambassadors of Italy, Tunisia and Colombia, as well as a visit from the consuls of Japan and China, and representatives of the French Embassy, should be underlined. Regarding visits by representatives of higher education institutions, the Vice-President for Research at **Macquarie University** (Australia), with the aim of extending cooperation in the field of research, especially with regards to doctoral programmes, and a delegation from **Georgetown** University stand out (United States), who were interested in establishing a direct mobility agreement with the UAB. It is also worth highlighting the large number of representatives of Japanese universities who have visited the UAB and have expressed interest in strengthening and expanding cooperation in the field of academic exchange.

With regard to international travel, the UAB has once again participated in the main international university fairs. Thus, from 17 to 20 September 2024, the UAB actively participated in the 34th edition of the **EAIE (European Association for International Education) conference**. The UAB delegation held nearly one hundred meetings with representatives of institutions from all over the world. These meetings made it possible to strengthen strategic links, explore new alliances and extend the university's international presence.

Within the framework of the annual conference of the **APAIE (Asian-Pacific Association of International Education)**, which took place from 24 to 18 May in New Delhi (India), the UAB delegation met with representatives of 28 universities in the Asia-Pacific region, prioritising meetings with institutions from Singapore, Australia, New Zealand and Japan.

In relation to **New Zealand**, it is worth noting the consolidation of cooperation with the **University of Auckland**, the largest and most important university in the country. This cooperation goes beyond an exchange of students and opens the door to joint projects in the field of research, particularly considering that New Zealand is a country associated with the Horizon Europe programme.

As for **Australia**, relations with the **University of Melbourne** and the **University of Sydney** have been extended to the Summer School and the International Tracks and our future goal is to strengthen research cooperation.

In relation to Singapore, cooperation with **Nanyang Technological University (NTU)** and the **National University of Singapore (NUS)** has been extended to include both student exchanges and participation in the UAB's international student attraction programmes.

On the other hand, discussions have been held with the **University of the Fraser Valley** (Canada) and **Nanzan University** (Japan) on the possibility of undertaking joint projects within the framework of the **COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning) programme**.

The UAB also actively participated in the annual **NAFSA: Association of International Educators conference**, held this year in San Diego, California, from 27 to 30 May. In this edition, the UAB held meetings with 33 universities, mainly from the American continent, with participation from the rector Javier Lafuente.

During NAFSA, the UAB delegation held several meetings with the central office of the **University of California** system, as well as with representatives from UC Davis, UC San Diego and UC Santa Cruz. These meetings served to strengthen cooperation and explore new opportunities in the field of research.

Participation in NAFSA also made it possible to agree on the extension of agreements with the **University of British Columbia** (Canada) and the **National University of San Martín (UNSAM)** (Argentina). In addition, the UAB delegation met with universities from the Philippines, Japan, Ecuador, Mexico, Chile and Lebanon, among others, with the aim of consolidating and extending its network of international collaborations.

As a result of its intense activity in the field of international relations, the UAB has managed more than 70 international agreements during the 2024-2025 academic year, of which 61 have been formalised by signing the agreements.

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A4U mission in South Africa

In October 2024, the UAB participated in the A4U mission to South Africa. The A4U delegation visited six South African universities: the University of Stellenbosch, the University of the Western Cape, the University of Cape Town, the University of the Witwatersrand, the University of Pretoria and the University of the Free State. These meetings explored various forms of cooperation, including academic mobility programmes, joint research projects and the possibility of strengthening alliances in key areas such as sustainability, social justice and artificial intelligence.

Participation in networks and consortia

This academic year, the UAB has carried out intense activity as a member of the **ECIU**. From 12 to 14 March, a large delegation from the UAB, led by the Vice-Rector for International Relations, Oscar Jané, and the Vice-Rector for Studies and Quality, Ramon Vilanova, took part in the activities organised in Brussels by this consortium of universities. Firstly, the UAB attended the meeting of the ECIU Board, which discussed the Consortium's strategy and met with representatives of the European Commission to learn about the most important and recent updates of European policies in the field of competitiveness and higher education, since they are directly related to the alliances of European universities, such as ECIU University, and to the implementation of microcredentials. The UAB also participated in the working meetings of the research and study committees of ECIU University.

In addition, during its stay in Brussels, the UAB presented the study of two impact cases at the From Valorisation to Impact Forum, a summit on innovation that brought together more than one hundred participants.

Throughout this academic year, various activities have continued to be promoted to encourage a feeling of belonging to the ECIU community in the different groups of the member universities. On the one hand, the **Lunch & Learn** online sessions took place, with an average attendance of 40 people per session, from all the member universities, and, on the other hand, the **ECIU University Forum** was held, which took place in June in Trento (Italy) and was attended by more than 300 people.

With regard to the activities carried out at an international level within the framework of the **4 Universities Alliance**, it is worth highlighting first the mission carried out in October 2024 in South Africa with the aim of strengthening academic cooperation and promoting new mobility opportunities for the university community of member institutions. The A4U delegation visited six South African universities. In addition, researchers from the UAB and UC3M participated in a seminar on global health that took place at the University of Pretoria.

Also, in the field of relations with African institutions, on 1 April the A4U organised a conference on "The Spain-Africa strategy for 2025-2028 and its implications for Spanish universities" at the UAM, which brought together representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, EU and Cooperation, the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities, SEPIE, AECID, RAICEX and the Women for Africa Foundation, as well as academics and experts in African studies. On the other hand, it should be noted that this year, for the first time, A4U participated as an alliance in the Asian fair APAIE, in New Delhi (India), with the aim of strengthening the cooperation it undertakes with Indian universities.

Highlight



UAB mission in the United States

At the end of May, a UAB delegation led by the rector Javier Lafuente carried out an institutional mission to the United States, in which the vice-rector for International Relations, the director of UAB Alumni and members of the team from the International Relations Area also participated. The UAB delegation visited several Californian universities, attended the NAFSA international higher education fair and visited the *East Coast* alumni chapter.



The UAB participates in the ECIU University Forum in Trento

On 10 and 11 June, more than 300 people from the thirteen member institutions of the ECIU participated in the 2nd ECIU University Forum, held at the University of Trento (Italy). The UAB delegation, led by the Vice-Rector for Studies and Quality, Ramon Vilanova, consisted of twelve people, including teaching and research staff, PTGAS and students, and offered three of the sessions aimed at attendees.



10th UAB Barcelona Summer School

On 23 June, the welcome ceremony took place for the participants in the first period of the tenth UAB Barcelona Summer School. In this tenth edition, 30 subjects were offered and a total of 524 students from 51 countries participated.

Mobility programmes

The figures for participation in mobility programmes during the 2024-2025 academic year have reached remarkable levels, particularly with regards to visits of UAB students to other universities. The Erasmus+ programme has enabled 1.135 UAB students to study at universities in Europe and abroad (152 in the **Erasmus+** BIP short stay modality) and in turn the UAB has welcomed a total of 884 students. Within the same programme, 65 members of the teaching and research staff and 20 members of the UAB's PTGAS have spent time at other universities, mainly European, and 151 students have undertaken internships in companies, 25% more than last year.

Regarding the **SICUE** state programme, it has facilitated the mobility of 191 students, of which 75 were hosted by the UAB and 116 are from the UAB and spent time at other universities in Spain.

This year, the **UAB Exchange Programme**, its own student mobility programme in non-European countries, has enabled 376 UAB students to study abroad and 386 foreign students to come and study at the UAB. As for the internship modality, 63 UAB students completed internships outside Europe.

Participation in the specific programmes for international students **Study Abroad** has grown to 3,900 students, 30% more than the previous year (3,005). Out of these, 29 participated in the Selected programmes and were able to study at UAB teaching centres; 3,169 took a Pre-Established Programme for a term, and 702 participated in Tailor Made Programmes.

Support and reception from the international community

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the **International Support Service (ISS)** has carried out online welcome sessions through the Microsoft Teams platform. A total of 25 welcome sessions were held for a total of 2,885 international students.

The ISS has supported non-EU students to renew their study permits. Residence and work permits have also been processed. On the other hand, arrangements have been made to support the obtaining of visas with the corresponding consular offices.

It is worth mentioning the specialised support provided on immigration issues and practical information offered to students of the Erasmus Mundus study programmes. This year, the ISS has supported 157 students from eight Erasmus Mundus programmes. In terms of caring for international postgraduate fellows, the ISS has supported a total of 23 China Scholarship Council (CSC) PhD fellows.

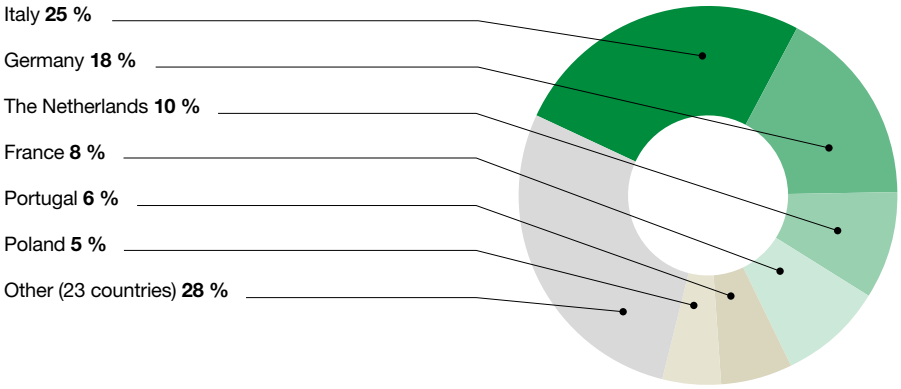
With regard to the activities to raise awareness of the UAB and integrate international students into the academic, social and cultural life of the University, two **Welcome Days called "Become a UABer"** were held, with participation rom a total of 1,175 students. The **Tandem** program, for language-learning pairs, has achieved 85 participants and 40 local students accompanied 160 international students during their stay as part of the **International Mentoring** activity.

Participants in mobility programmes, 2024-2025

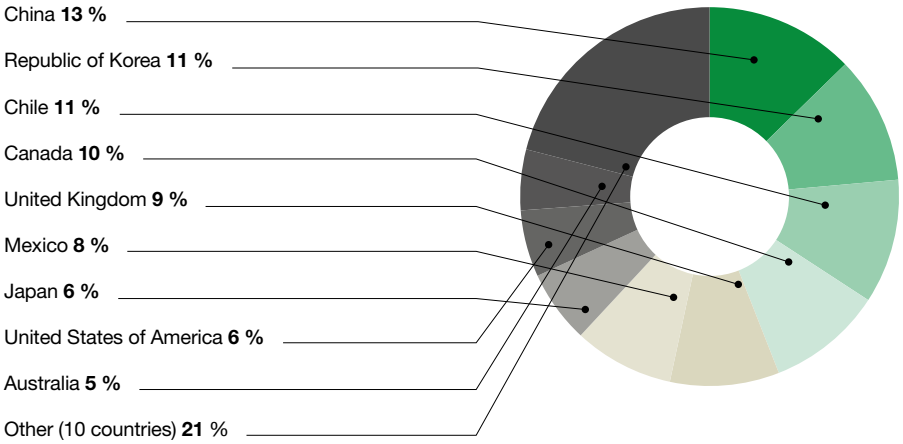
	Mobility to the UAB			Mobility from the UAB		
Programme	**Women**	**Men**	**Total**	**Women**	**Men**	**Total**
Erasmus+ Studies*	639	245	884	783	352	1,135
Erasmus+ Internships				N/D	N/D	151
UAB Exchange Programme	271	115	386	256	120	376
UAB Exchange Programme Internships				n/d	n/d	63
SICUE	50	25	75	84	32	116
STUDY ABROAD	N/D	N/D	3,900			
TOTAL	**960**	**385**	**5,245**	**1,123**	**504**	**1,841**

*Includes short stays for the Erasmus+ BIP programmes.

Countries of origin of Erasmus students completing a stay at the UAB, 2024-2025



Countries of origin of UAB Exchange Programme students completing a stay at the UAB, 2024-2025



Highlight



Closing session of the UAB BIP International Staff Week 2024

On 15 November, the closing institutional session of the UAB BIP International Staff Week 2024 took place at the UAB Casa Convalescència. Over a week, the 28 participants, from 14 countries, shared workshops, group work activities and spaces in which the Erasmus+ programme, internationalisation strategies, international relations management, International Credit Mobility and online services for students and staff were discussed. There was also a discussion on the university mission of ECIU University and on strategic issues such as open science, digital services, digital literacy training and co-creation models.



40 UAB students mentor international students

This academic year, 2024-2025, 40 UAB students have participated in the **International Mentoring** programme and accompanied a total of 160 international students during their stay at the UAB. The aim of International Mentoring is to offer local student support to students from other countries to help them with their integration into the academic, social and cultural environment of the UAB. At the same time, participation in International Mentoring provides a positive experience of cultural exchange and networking to local students.

Social and environmental commitment



Participatory mural for World Refugee Day

On 20 June, World Refugee Day was celebrated through a artistic and participatory activity held in Plaça Cívica. Student volunteers and young refugees collectively created some graffiti art, organised by the Acaudemur collective. The aim of this activity was to use art as a tool for social transformation and to create a shared space to express experiences, and voice their demands and hopes for the future.

University social responsibility

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the UAB has continued to make progress in its commitment to achieving a more ethical, responsible and committed university. The I university Social Responsibility Plan for 2023-2024 has been implemented and the **2nd university Social Responsibility Plan for 2025–2027** has been drawn up and approved, which provides continuity to the I Plan and expands the scope of the actions that have already been initiated.

On 5 June the Governing Council approved the **UAB's Human Rights Policy**, which defines the UAB's firm commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights across the full range of the activities undertaken at the university. On the other hand, the foundations have been laid for the creation of mechanisms that will allow environmental, social and ethical criteria to be incorporated into contracting and procurement processes. This progress has been key to providing the institution with a regulatory and operational framework that ensures the cross-disciplinarity of the values of social responsibility within university management.

Finally, the link between social responsibility and culture has been strengthened, promoting initiatives that combine social awareness and artistic expression. Specifically, for next year the **Week of Culture and Human Rights** and the **Week of Culture and Health** are planned, which, together with the **Inclusive Artistic Week**, aim to increase visibility and awareness of values such as inclusion, mental health and human rights.

Equity and support for students

The UAB offers different types of financial aid in order to promote equity and guarantee equal opportunities for students.

One of the main initiatives in this area is study grants for emergency situations, which have been increased to 39 during the 2024-2025 academic year. 47 grants were awarded for compulsory internships.

On the other hand, 80 students are studying at the UAB via Ithaca salary scholarships, aimed at high school students with excellent academic results who are from disadvantaged socioeconomic contexts. At the same time, the Autonomous Solidarity Foundation, with the support of the UAB Board of Trustees, awarded 8 Impulse scholarships to students with disabilities to make it easier for them to attend the university and complete their higher education.

Through Banco Santander's gender gap supplement (Ayuda Económica), during the 2024-2025 academic year, 16 grants have been awarded to students who receive a general scholarship and who have enrolled on degree programmes in which their gender is in the minority.

In addition, 6 grants have been awarded in the call for students who are victims of gender-based violence, with the aim of compensating for the difficulties they face and preventing them from dropping out of university studies.

The UAB also has grants to cooperate in various areas of the university while the studies are being carried out. In the call for the 2024-2025 academic year, 61 grants have been awarded.

University, Society and Business Programme of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees, as the body for society's participation in the university, set up the University, Society and Business Programme, which, through strategic action, contributes to strengthening the university's links with society and the local area.

With regard to the programme's actions aimed at students carried out during the 2024-2025 academic year, it is worth noting its support for various activities of the UAB Alumni network (the Support and training programme for future leaders, and the UAB Mentoring project) and the labour insertion surveys carried out by AQU Catalunya. Teaching innovation and quality have also been promoted, through participation in the Teaching Excellence Award, which is awarded annually by the UAB and the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees has also cooperated in the deployment of different actions in strategic areas of the university, such as innovation, knowledge transfer and connection with the local area, as part of the initiatives organised by the B30 Hub, with programmes such as the UAB Campus Living Lab 2.0 or the UABot R+D project "Making UAB knowledge accessible to society", and the valorisation of research data using artificial intelligence.

Equality and inclusion initiatives have also been organised (such as Female Movers and Shakers and Female Empowerment in Engineering) and health and emotional wellbeing (Stop Sedentary Lifestyles "Advice to improve the health and wellbeing of UAB students").

06



New edition of Campus Ítaca

In June and July 2025, the 22nd Campus Ítaca took place. As a result of the evaluation carried out for its 20th anniversary, this year improvements were made to the organisation, and new objectives were set out to continue to contribute to a reduction in early school drop-out.

Socio-educational programmes

The UAB has a wide range of socio-educational programmes aimed at strengthening the links between the university and its social and geographical environment. These programmes are carried out both on campus and in schools in nearby areas.

Initiatives such as **Campus Ítaca**, the **Argó Programme** and the **Brúixola project** promote a connection between the university and secondary school students. This year, the UAB has called on the university community to get involved in the Argó and Brúixola programmes. In addition, the range of courses and summer stays at the UAB linked to the Argó programme has been extended.

Campus Ítaca is aimed at secondary school pupils with the aim of encouraging them to continue their education beyond the compulsory stage via on-campus activities. 325 pupils from 66 high schools in 17 different towns/cities participated in this year's edition.

The **Brúixola project** facilitates contact between high school pupils and UAB students so that the latter can offer the former guidance and support when choosing university studies. The **Argó Programme** supports high school pupils and higher-level training cycle participants (CFGS) in the transition to university, through advice on how to undertake research projects, training placements, work placements in companies (FCT) and the Argó Award for baccalaureate final projects and vocational training final projects.

Through the **Prometeus** programme, tailored support and advice is provided to students in order to encourage them to successfully complete their undergraduate studies. This programme is funded by Barcelona City Council. This year, 35 students registered at the UAB participated in this programme.

The aim to bring the university in closer proximity to future students is also manifested through numerous programmes and initiatives promoted or co-organised by the UAB's teaching and research centres, such as scientific olympiads, thematic conferences by discipline and debating competitions.

Another group of socio-educational programmes, which include initiatives such as the **CROMA 2.0 Programme** or **Let's Talk**, offer guidance and support to pupils from primary and secondary schools in the local area who, due to socio-cultural or personal factors, find it difficult to achieve their educational objectives.

Finally, the **Universitat a l'Abast** programme promotes lifelong learning within the framework of active ageing, offering learning opportunities and social participation through three main lines: the Learning on Campus educational plan, its own learning plan for people over 50 years of age and participation in University Extension Classrooms for Mature Students.

Highlight



The Argó Awards for high school research projects and CFGS projects

This year the 22nd Argó Awards was held. At the award ceremony on June 26, the jury awarded 18 awards and 24 honourable distinctions in the category of high school research projects, out of 244 projects presented. At the award ceremony on 10 July, 6 awards and 4 honourable distinctions were granted in the category of vocational training projects.

Sponsorship at the UAB exceeds one million euros in support of research and social action

The UAB's sponsorship programme exceeded the milestone of one million euros raised in favour of research, action and social commitment projects. Since this programme was launched in 2019, the university has led and supported more than fourteen crowdfunding campaigns, through which thousands of people and organisations have been able to participate directly in transformative initiatives. In total, the campaigns received 5,370 donations, which totalled €1,080,000.

The UAB stands in solidarity with the schools affected by the DANA flooding

The UAB has raised €11,226 to help the schools affected by the DANA flooding in Valencia. The funds have been allocated to the purchase of school supplies through a campaign called "One euro, one grain of solidarity". The Fundació Autònoma Solidària managed this campaign and sent €350 Abacus vouchers to a total of 35 schools in 16 towns. 75 computers and other material has also been collected by members of the university community. Several UAB faculties UAB have sent furniture and equipment to affect schools.



The Fundació Autònoma Solidària (FAS) celebrates its 25th anniversary

On 17 June 2025, the FAS celebrated its 25th anniversary at an institutional gathering that brought together the technical team, the Board and the new Advisory Committee, with the aim of jointly reflecting on the challenges of the future. The event, chaired by the rector of the UAB, Javier Lafuente, and the director of the FAS, Jordi Prat, highlighted the Foundation's background as a benchmark of social commitment in universities. The event included a participatory activity, to think about the challenges that the Foundation will face in the coming years, and the screening of a commemorative video.

Social action and volunteering

Most of the UAB university community's commitment to solidarity with society is realised through volunteer programmes in the social and health fields, coordinated by the Fundació Autònoma Solidària.

This academic year, a total of 360 people – including students, technical, managerial, administrative and service staff (PTGAS) and teaching and research staff (PDI) – took part in social volunteering programmes, such as the Justice Programme (undertaken in prisons and juvenile justice centres), various socio-educational initiatives and the Social and Health Programme. Through this work, support has been provided to more than 1,500 people at risk of social exclusion or who are going through complex personal or health-related difficulties. At the same time, more than 5,000 people have participated in training and awareness-raising activities related to asylum, migration, human rights, global justice, migrant youth, the environment and health.

In order to promote a critical university education aimed at social transformation, aimed at both teaching staff and students, particularly in matters of sustainable development and global justice, the UAB is currently developing an educational project on global justice. As part of this initiative, 17 student projects were awarded during the eighth edition of the Arcadi Oliveres Awards for the best bachelor's degree final projects (TFG) in these areas.

Cooperation and development

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the 42nd call for projects of the UAB Solidarity Fund was resolved. With regard to the call for teaching and research staff and PTGAS, eleven projects for inter-university cooperation and education for global justice with countries from the South have been approved, as well as one for raising awareness at the UAB. The twelve projects have a total allocated budget of €90,000 and are led by PTGAS and PDI staff from the UAB in partnership with universities and educational and civil society organisations from Argentina, Colombia, Kenya, Morocco, Mexico, Peru, Tanzania, Uganda and Chile. The proposals are related to the conservation of biodiversity, environmental justice and territorial rights, good living, mental health, the rights of migrants, transformative communication, the fight against hate speech and gender violence, as well as an increase in university capacity.

For the 2024-2025 call, aimed at master's and doctoral students, eight projects focused on international cooperation with a view to global justice have been funded. The proposals presented address key issues such as migration and their narratives, cinema as a tool for advocacy and transformation, resilient alternative economies, as well as historical memory, environmental conservation and the rights of indigenous people.

UAB Refugee Programme

El The UAB Refugee Programme, which has been in operation since 2016, reinforces through comprehensive support a reception model within the university environment aimed at guaranteeing access to higher education for people who are in the process of seeking asylum or who have requested international protection. To contribute to the reconstruction of their life and future plans, the Programme offers them full support covering academic, social and institutional aspects.

During the 2024-2025 academic year, a total of 49 Refugee scholarships have been awarded, which fully cover the cost of tuition and university fees. In addition, an extraordinary call for 9 grants has been approved for students from Palestine who are still residing in the Gaza Strip or the West Bank. At the same time, the UAB has set up other support measures aimed at students in a situation of asylum or forced displacement, such as exceptional grants for young people from Palestine or the Ukraine, as well as study grants aimed at covering the costs of internships, academic materials and transport.

In total, these calls have received an economic endowment of 278,000 euros. Currently, the UAB is among the universities with the most refugees receiving a scholarship.



This academic year, the UAB has made clear its commitment to the objective of climate neutrality and environmental protection through the awareness campaigns "Let's reduce the use of fossil fuels!" and "Enjoy the biodiversity of a unique campus!".

Environmental management

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the sustainability of the UAB campus has continued to be promoted in all aspects involving the consumption of resources and the management of the university's natural heritage, including its landscaped and forest areas.

During the first year of the implementation of the **Climate Policy of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona**, approved by the Governing Council on 24 April 2024, the university has prioritised action in the field of energy and mobility. This included the installation of heat pumps and more efficient equipment, the renovation of windows and insulation, and the implementation of new photovoltaic installations to improve efficiency and reduce resource consumption.

In terms of mobility, the internal bus service has been reorganised to optimise efficiency and reduce emissions, and more sustainable travel habits have continued to be promoted, although there has been a slight increase in emissions from the university's own fleet of vehicles due to an increase in fuel consumption.

In addition, the UAB has continued measures to save and reuse water and has joined international sustainability networks and the Programme of Voluntary Agreements for a reduction in greenhouse gases.

The UAB has been working for years towards a campus with more circular management and a more efficient and sustainable use of resources. In December 2024, the **UAB's Circular Economy Plan "Municipal waste: from waste to a resource"** was approved. The Plan sets out strategic lines, objectives and actions for 2025-2030 in order to move towards a more circular and sustainable management of the non-hazardous municipal waste generated by the university.

Within the framework of the **Healthy and Sustainable Campus Plan 2023-2027**, and in line with the objective of promoting a university that is more resilient to climate change, the UAB has extended the climate shelter located in Plaça del Coneixement this academic year. Specifically, 80 specimens of native Mediterranean tree and shrub species typical of Catalan forest ecosystems have been planted. This initiative was carried out jointly with CREAF and forms part of the actions organised within the Erasmus+ **Uforest** European project.

61st

in the world and first in Spain in sustainability and social impact (QS World University Rankings: Sustainability 2025)

Highlight



The UAB obtains the Environmental Sustainability Award from the CRUE

The UAB has for the first time received the Environmental Sustainability Award from CRUE-Sustainability. It also obtained a specific distinction for mobility.

This award is based on a system of indicators in the fields of organisation, teaching and research, and environmental management, which serve to evaluate and improve university sustainability.

The UAB is the first university to join the food sustainability project "Recooperem"

The UAB has joined the project "Recooperem, cuina per compartir", which is organised and promoted by the Consell Comarcal del Vallès Occidental. At the UAB, a pilot test for the project has already begun in the restaurants in the Faculty of Medicine and the Plaça Cívica, and it will be rolled out to the rest of the restaurants on campus. Through this project, the plan is to redistribute 2,520 leftover meals a year to social organisations and avoid 882 kg of food waste.

The UAB will evaluate the efficiency of biogas capture in forty-four controlled tanks in Catalonia

The Catalan Waste Agency has awarded the contract for technical assistance to the UAB to evaluate the efficiency of biogas capture in all controlled landfills in Catalonia. The project, awarded one million euros from the Climate Fund, will provide the necessary information to be able to apply effective measures to avoid emissions of methane and carbon dioxide, the main gases that cause the greenhouse effect.

University community



20th Institutional Event in Commemoration of the International Working Women's Day

On 10 March, the 20th Institutional Conference in Commemoration of the International Working Women's Day was held. The event paid tribute to the UAB Library Service due to its commitment to women's rights and included a speech from the director of the Service, Núria Casaldàliga, and the presentation of the corresponding award. The event also featured a talk by Núria Ferran Ferrer (UB), who talked about "El rol de les biblioteques, la biblioteconomia i la ciència de la informació en la construcció d'una societat més igualitària, diversa i inclusiva" (The transformative role of libraries, library and information science in the construction of a more egalitarian, diverse and inclusive society).

Equality and diversity

The 2024-2025 academic year has been a transitional and consolidatory year for the **UAB's Equality and Diversity Service (SIDI)**, which is the result of the merge of three units with a long history in the field of inclusion and equality: the Observatory for Equality, the PIUNE (Disability and SEND Care Service) and the Educational Psychology Advisory Unit (UAP).

This year the Service has joined the **Technical Network of Inclusive Universities of Catalonia (UNINCAT)**, led by the Generalitat de Catalunya, and has regularly participated in the university networks for gender equality, inclusion and diversity.

As part of the raising awareness and prevention activities, this year the Service has organised commemorative events for the **International Working Women's Day**, the **International Day against LGBTI-phobic Violence**, the **International Day for People with Disabilities** and the **International Day against Gender Violence**. This last event was complemented by a feminist self-defence workshop to promote practical tools for the empowerment of women, taught by the Biterna collective, as well as a play entitled "Aseja-Ments", by the 2x2IMPRO company. Both activities were funded by the State Pact against Gender Violence.

As part of the actions funded by the State Pact against Gender Violence, two training activities have also been carried out aimed at students, with credit recognition: one on how to identify gender and sexual violence and how to support victims, and the other on the role that boys should play when faced with gender violence.

Finally, talks were held to provide visibility to diversity in learning processes and train volunteers for the Service's student support programme.

5th UAB Action Plan for Gender Equality

On 25 September, the UAB Governing Council approved the UAB's Fifth Action Plan for Gender Equality for 2024-2030, which incorporates the UAB's First Plan for Gender Equality in Labour Matters.

The Plan is the instrument that allows the university's policies for gender and LGBTI+ equality to be realised and reaffirms its commitment to the effective application of the principle of equal opportunities and non-discrimination.

The Plan is divided into different chapters that include the applicable regulations, the evaluation and diagnosis of previous plans and the measures to be applied, distributed by objectives or areas of action. Each measure or action has an execution period and instruments of application, and it indicates the bodies or units in the university that are responsible for executing these actions.

In terms of employment, aspects related to the balance between work, student and family life stand out in order to ensure non-discrimination based on sex, pregnancy or maternity is effective, as well as to comply with the duty of the public authorities to guarantee equal opportunities for both women and men. Another significant element is equal pay, with the plan being to draw up reports on wage distribution, as well as to analyse and correct discrimination.

07



This year's UAB La Comunitària festival focused on reduced fossil fuels and biodiversity

The two latest La Comunitària UAB events included a greater number of stands, activities and performances, as well as a Ganàpies human tower day, since the group was celebrating their 30th anniversary.

Support and guidance for students

This year, individual and group guidance activities have been carried out both for people with specific educational support needs and for victims of gender and LGBTI-phobic violence and other forms of discrimination, in order to ensure and guarantee their full integration into the university.

In terms of advice from an educational psychology perspective, support has been provided to the learning process of students through prevention and intervention in the educational and social fields. Two lines of action have been organised: care (tailored attention) and specific programmes such as the **Bruíxola** (Compass) project involving peer tutorials provided for the transition from high school to university.

Students with disabilities or specific educational needs have continued to benefit from the support provided by the support programme for these students to undertake their studies. The programme also organises an adapted transport service on our Bellaterra campus and a walking support service for people who find orientation difficult.

There are new educational psychology activities and educational and mental health support provided in groups: an educational psychology workshop for students with ADHD and two editions of a workshop called "Mutual Help Group for Emotional Wellbeing". In addition, the Inclusion Meetup Group has once again been active this year, aimed at students with ASD, in cooperation with the Associació Espectre Autista -Asperger Catalunya (Asperger – Autism Spectrum Association Catalonia).

Student participation

The UAB promotes the active participation of students and the strengthening of student representation and associations and, through the Community Involvement Unit, offers support and resources to encourage group activities.

With regard to student representation, this year the census of academic group class representatives contains 776 students from 467 academic groups, and nine training courses have been carried out, with participation from 83 class representatives. Technical support was provided to student councils in nine centres, with regular participation from 305 people, as well as from the UAB Student Council (CEUAB), which held a plenary session attended by 48 members.

The UAB Directory has more than 90 student groups (21 of which are new) in the UAB student group directory, with participation from a total of 3,125 members of the university community.

The UAB Resource Centre for Groups has managed 456 room reservations and 163 requests for material. It also set up four workshops co-organised with active groups, with 110 participants. As for financial support, resources were provided for 108 activities organised by student associations and 17 activities organised by student councils.

Activities to encourage student participation through academic recognition have included the Debating League and the International Mentoring programme, participation in associations, a Student Representation Workshop, a United Nations model, initiation into participation in human towers, initial Events by the Student Council for Medicine and an event on how to organise activities aimed at all student council members.

Highlight



9th awards ceremony for the best bachelor's degree final projects with a gender perspective

On 6 May, the prizes for the best bachelor's degree final projects with a gender perspective were awarded, recognising 30 projects from different faculties. The winners received a diploma and a gift, presented by the Secretary General of the UAB, Esther Zapater, and the director of the Catalan Women's Institute, Sònia Guerra.



Seventh Institutional Event in Commemoration of the International Day of People with Disabilities

On December 3, the Seventh Institutional Conference in Commemoration of the International Day of People with Disabilities took place. The event featured a speech by Esther Zapater, Secretary General of the UAB, and a round table where the regulatory framework of disability was addressed and the Inclusion and Diversity Plan in Catalan universities was presented. There was also an awards ceremony for the Impuls Scholarships, presented by the Vice-Rector for Students and Employability, Anabel Galán.



22nd festive event of the Associació Amics UAB (Friends of the UAB Association)

On 21 November, the annual festivities of the **Associació Amics UAB** took place at Casa Convalescència UAB, in Barcelona. At this event, the Amic dels Amics Award and the Col·lectiu UAB Award were presented. Both awards recognise individuals and organisations for their contribution to the fields of academic research, health, research, communication and the defence of social and cultural values. This event was chaired by Javier Lafuente, rector of the UAB, Susanna Baqué, president of Amics UAB, and Tania Nadal, president of the UAB's Board of Trustees.

Ombuds Office

During 2024, the UAB Ombuds Office has dealt with a total of 205 complaints. The authors of the complaints were undergraduate students (94), official master's degree students (9), doctoral students (17), teaching staff (37), technical, management and administrative and service staff (22) and others (26).

By area, actions were carried out in the academic (112), labour (40), economic (20), administrative management (8) and institutional (17) fields. The area that generated the most complaints was the academic one, specifically in the teaching and research section (55), which includes evaluations and work placement management.

The Ombuds Office's commitment to ensuring respect for the rights and freedoms of university community members has always received support from the different UAB bodies and services, which has made it possible to quickly and effectively respond to the complaints received.

Associació Amics UAB

The Associació Amics UAB, which brings together members and former members of the university community and friends of the UAB, among other activities aimed at the community and its members, organises the Association's festive event every year. It includes an award ceremony and tribute to people who are committed to the UAB and who make the social impact of the activities carried out at the university more visible.

At the twenty-second event, the Amic dels Amics Award was presented to Elena Galea, a researcher from the UAB's Institute of Neuroscience, for her long career in scientific research (posthumously); to Salvador Barberà, honorary professor from the Department of Economics and Economic History of the UAB, for his commitment to humanistic values; to Maite Martín, professor of physiology and former Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the UAB, for her research in the area of health and the promotion of the concept of one health, and to Mònica Terribas for her contribution to the field of journalism and communication.

The Col·lectiu UAB Award was presented to Futbol Club Barcelona, particularly to the women's football team, due to their great achievements in terms of the professionalisation of women's sport. The Amic de les Biblioteques Award (Friend of Libraries Award), awarded by the UAB Library Service, was presented to the Institute of the History of Science (IHC) due to its important contributions to the field of academia.

Alumni UAB

Alumni UAB has strengthened its network of UAB graduates with a range of services based on the promotion of lifelong learning, professional training and the creation of meeting points to encourage get-togethers.

This year, three new alumni networks have been created: Journalism, Earth and Environmental Sciences (CTMA) and Veterinary Medicine, so that there are now eleven networks aimed at encouraging spaces for exchange and contact between professionals.

This academic year there have also been three important **reunions**: the 40th anniversary of the first graduates in Biology (1979-1984), the commemoration of the first ten years of the bachelor's degree in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, and the 45th anniversary of the bachelor's degree in Biochemistry.

In coordination with the Employability Service, individual and group career guidance and has been offered, as well as international career guidance. The **Programa d'Acompanyament cap al Rol Directiu** (Guidance Programme Towards a Managerial Role) and the first edition of the **Programa d'Acompanyament per a Reorientar la Teva Carrera** (Guidance Programme to Refocus Your Career)) also took place.

One of the objectives of Alumni UAB is to highlight and provide visibility to graduate profiles through interviews and recognition of their careers. 14 interviews have been carried out, and more than 100 stories have been published in the media.

This year the first edition of our ***Alumni UAB*** magazine has been published.



Presentation of the 2025 Literary Awards

On 16 May, the 2025 Literary Awards ceremony took place, organised by the UAB and the Cerdanyola del Vallès City Council. In this edition, Francesc Cabiró won the 31st Valldaura Novel Prize - Pere Calders Memorial for the work *Aquell any a Xangxun*; Sergi Félez was awarded the 16th Caterina Albert Prize for Short Fiction for Young People for the text *Indòmit*, and, as for the 30th Miquel Martí i Pol Poetry Prize, David Carreres was awarded for *Allà on t'estime*.

Human resources

With regard to academic staff, in 2024 progress was made in terms of increasing and stabilising the teaching and research staff, through agreements with the Department of Research and Universities and the UAB's own resources, within the framework of the Pla de xoc per al relleu generacional i contra la precarització a les universitats públiques (Action Plan for Generational Change and Against Precarious Jobs in Public Universities).

In 2024, the public employment positions available for teaching and research staff at the UAB rose to 187 permanent teaching positions, of which 18 were reserved for the recruitment of research staff from the Ramón y Cajal programme, or other national or international programmes of excellence, who had obtained an I3 certificate. In addition, 50 positions have been approved for full professors through internal promotion. It should be noted that, within the framework of the Programa d'Atracció i Re¬tenció de Talent Investigador (Programme for the Attraction and Retention of Research Talent) approved during the previous academic year, the UAB plans to provide permanent contracts to some thirty people in the category of distinguished research staff. These places will mainly be for researchers with an ERC project who have been accepted by a department or institute in the UAB. This action strengthens the connection between a research career and the university and attracts research staff from programmes of excellence by reserving a number of places within the staff body, in accordance with the provisions of the Organic Law on the University System (LOSU).

The 2025 Call for Talent was carried out in accordance with the principles of CoARA, an initiative which the UAB joined in 2022.

Among the agreed measures to improve the organisation, replacement and technical development of technical, managerial, administrative and service staff, the first stage of the job assessment agreement has been implemented, and new selection processes have been approved to cover vacancies, substitutions and support staff.

An agreement has also been made between the Office of the Executive Administrator and the UAB trade unions for the recovery of the productivity salary supplement for civil service PTGAS staff with the aim of encouraging performance and efficiency, promoting a culture of improvement, recognising individual and collective effort and involvement, and reinforcing staff motivation, thus contributing to improving the provision of our public service.

The public employment PTGAS staff openings at the UAB for the year 2024 totalled 52 positions, 21 for civil servants and 31 for non civil servants.

As for the **training courses** available, this year 341 training activities aimed at teaching and research staff have been carried out, totalling 49,270 hours of training, with 10,970 participants. For PTGAS staff members, 719 training activities have been carried out, covering more than 72,000 hours of training, in which 8,322 people participated.

Highlight



The first University Correllengua arrives at the UAB

On 20 February, the first University Correllengua flame arrived at the UAB, as part of a tour of different cities around the country. The flame was received with a speech and a traditional Catalan stick dance. After a tour of the university, there a literary aperitif was held, as well as a singing improvisation session, a lunch and a musical bingo game. The day ended with some human towers and the public reading of a manifesto.



Tribute to UAB retirees

On 22 May, the Rector's Office paid tribute to the UAB staff who retired in 2023 and 2024. The event took place in the auditorium of the Rectorat. The event was attended by the Rector, Javier Lafuente, the Secretary General, Esther Zapater, and the Executive Administrator, Jaume Tintoré.

The event was attended by Mercedes García Arán, a retired lecturer, who spoke on behalf of the teaching and research staff, and Antoni Borfo, on behalf of the technical, management, administration and service staff.



1,500 university human tower members at the macro-event for the 30th anniversary of the Ganàpies group

Around 1,500 human tower participants, from the 14 Catalan university student human towers groups, took part in the human tower macro-event on the UAB campus to commemorate the 30th anniversary of Ganàpies, the UAB human tower group. The event, held on 13 March , was characterised by a festive atmosphere and camaraderie, and each group took turns to exhibit their skills.

Cultural activity

During the 2024-2025 academic year, more than 110 activities have been scheduled in different cultural spaces on and off campus, with more than 4,000 participants. It is worth mentioning the programme of 6 exhibitions, 40 screenings, 24 theatre and dance activities and shows and 27 musical performances and concerts. In total, 37 activities have been carried out in the Sala Teatre, 46 in the Sala Cinema and 5 exhibitions were held in the Sala d'Exposicions of the UAB.

Some of the exhibitions we would like to highlight include an exhibition on "30 anys Ganàpies. Els somnis que no espanten no són prou grans" (30 years of Ganàpies. Dreams that don't scare you are not big enough) "Àngel Guimerà, dramaturg universal"(Àngel Guimerà, a universal playwright), curated by CRAE at the UAB, and "Sexualitats i infàncies: construint sabers" (Sexuality and childhood: building knowledge), curated by the AFIN Group in the UAB. As for the UAB's own productions, various activities were organised, including the winter and spring concerts of the UAB Choir and Orchestra and Vivaldi's Gloria organised jointly by the UAB Choir, the UB's Faculty of Pharmacy Choir and the Salvat Ensemble orchestra. New shows were premiered in the Aula de Teatre, including a play called *Entre nosaltres tot va bé*, by Polish playwright Dorota Masłowska, and *Els paparazzi* o *crònica d'una salida de sol abortada*, by Matéi



Vișiniec, and a new choreography created by the Aula de Dansa, *Ten to Ten*, directed by Laia Santanach.



On the other hand, 17 activities that include academic recognition were organised, which had 275 participants. Permanent groups such as the Choir, the Chamber Choir and the Orchestra, the Stable Theatre Group and the Contemporary Dance and Theatre Interpretation workshops stand out.

As for professional theatre, dance and music shows, the play *Caure*. *To Fall* by Helena Tornero, two shows by the UAB WIRE Project, a show called *Clinch* by Àngel Duran Performing Arts, the dance company invited for International Dance Day, and a concert by the Moana Quartet, with a repertoire covering great female composers. In addition, for Inclusive Artistic Week, the choreographic show *Calidoscòpica* by the Sonia Gómez company was organised, with cooperation from the 2024 BoFestival Experiències Artístiques de Proximitat.



A total of 48 academic support activities have been carried out and, in terms of institutional and community support, 32. Highlights include the concert conference *Sonates & Sonates*, by pianist Sergi Sardà, organised in conjunction with the Bachelor's Degree in Musicology, as well as the film series "Cinema essencial" (including screenings of *City Lights* by Charlie Chaplin and Truffaut's *400 Blows*) and " Llindars " (including a screening of Nosferatu by Murnau), both organised by the Department of Audiovisual Communication. The documentaries *Once Upon a Time in a Forest* by Virpi Suutari and *No Other Land* by Yuval Abraham, Basel Adra, Hamdan Ballal and Rachel Szor have also been screened as part of Healthy and Sustainable Week in conjunction with Impacte! Festival de Cinema i Drets Humans de Catalunya, in a session organised in cooperation with the Fundació Autònoma Solidària.



The UAB Marathon in support of the 3Cat Charity Marathon broke previous fundraising records

The 13th UAB charity marathon in support of the 3Cat Marathon broke all previous fundraising records, with 35,579.54 euros raised, which will be used for research into respiratory diseases. This has been made possible by the 1,500 people who participated by running or walking, the more than fifty volunteers who participated and the companies and organisations that sponsored this charity event.

Promoting sport

The UAB boosts and promotes the practice of physical activity and sport among the entire university community, as well as in the immediate local area.



Most physical and sports activities are managed by the Physical Activity Service, which has a monthly average of 9,500 subscribers, generating more than 605,000 annual visits to the UAB's sports facilities.

The Service organises different programmes and activities, such as instructor-led activities, premium activities, sport academies, the sport and healthcare campus, internal campus competitions, representing the UAB in national and international university sports competitions, university races such as UNIRUN, the UAB 7-a-side football Cup and the Stop Sedentary Lifestyles and Women on the Move programmes.

Through the **Tutoresport** programme to support athletes, this academic year 302 students had a tutor from their faculty made available to them to make their studies compatible with training and competitions. This allowed athletes to train within the university's facilities and to participate in various university competitions and championships while representing the UAB.

This year saw the **5th UAB Sports Games**, one of the welcome to the new academic year activities organised for the university community within the framework of our SiS Campus. These games highlight the values of participation, fair play and respect and, this year,



the aim was to support the UAB's institutional campaign promoting the need to minimise the consumption of fossil fuels and action in favour of the rights of people seeking refuge and their reception at our university.

Highlight



Six UAB students received outstanding athlete awards at the CCU Championships

On 5 June, six of the UAB students who won medals at the 2024-2025 Catalan University Championships (CCU) were awarded at the closing ceremony, which awarded the most outstanding universities and athletes. During the ceremony, coordinated by Rovira i Virgili University, the 40th anniversary of Catalan University Sport (ECU) was also commemorated.



The rector receives a delegation of UAB Olympic athletes

On 13 September, the rector of the UAB, Javier Lafuente, received representatives of the twenty UAB athletes who participated in the Paris Olympic Games, consisting of Paralympic swimmers Núria Marquès and Òscar Salguero and swimmer Africa Zamorano. UAB athletes won six medals at the 2024 Games, four individual and two team medals.

A UAB student wins the UNIRUN University Race

On 2 March, UAB Environmental Biology student Clàudia Galceran won the 11th edition of UNIRUN, a race with participation from all 12 Catalan universities, in the female category. In this five-kilometre race through Barcelona, Mathematics student Lluc Serrat was the first UAB student classified, he came 8th out of the more than 6,000 runners who participated.

Resource management and organisation

404.58

million budget (2024 settled expenditure budget)

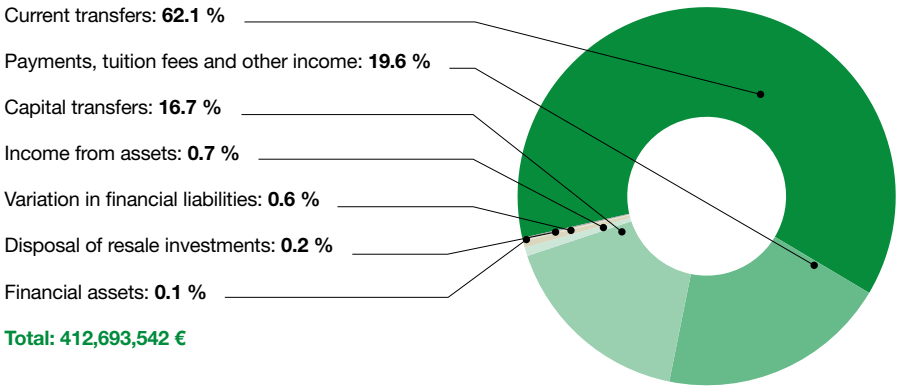
Budget execution

During 2024, the Government of Catalonia did not change the funding structure for public universities, despite the fact that in March 2023 Organic Law 2/2023 on the university system defined a new economic and financial framework for public universities and established the objective of allocating at least 1% of GDP to public university basic education. However, neither the Spanish nor the Catalan governments yet have defined a strategy to allocate this 1% of GDP to public university basic education.

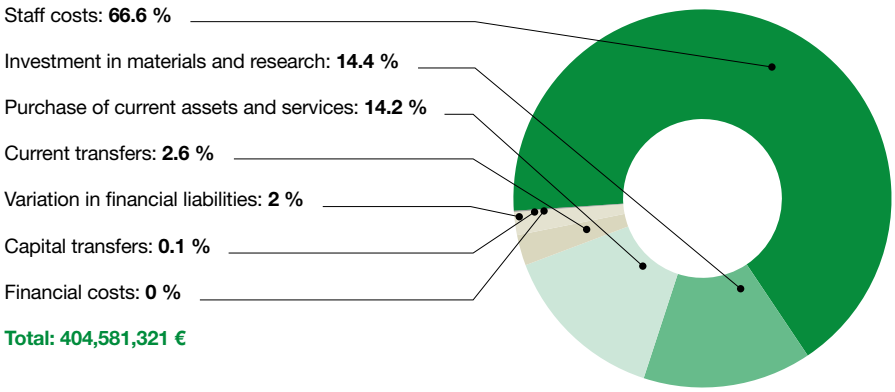
As for the university, the execution of the 2024 budget has been marked by a decrease in funding from the Catalan Government, which has been reduced by 1.2 million euros compared to the previous year. It is worth noting the elimination of compensation for the energy increase that was received in 2023 and an increase in funding for measures to promote generational change and against the precariousness of jobs among PDI staff, as well as for the replacement and technological development of PTGAS staff. As for enrolment for the 2024-2025 academic year, bachelor's degrees and university master's degrees remained at the same price as the previous academic year.

The recovery of lifelong learning activities, along with greater efforts to save on general administration services costs, have made it possible to cope with a decrease in current funding from the Catalan Government and to close the 2024 financial year with a budget balance of 0.2 million euros, which has made it possible to achieve the savings set out in the Budget Stabilisation Plan for 2020-2052.

Settlement of the 2024 revenue budget. Recognised rights



Settlement of the 2024 expenditure budget. Obligations assumed



Note: the difference between rights recognised (€412,693,542) and the obligations assumed (€404,581,321) makes up the budgetary result for the year, which is broken down into the result for the year (€211,995) and the result for the specific activity (€7,900,225).

The treasury for the 2024 financial year did not experience any difficulties and no use was made of the credit policies. Liquid funds at the end of the year were 56.76 million euros, a figure that exceeds the 32.45 million in 2023. This is mainly due to the collection of overdue debt from the Generalitat de Catalunya at the end of 2023. As in the previous year, it was possible to make monthly deposits of excess funds into current accounts.

08



Digital transformation

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the implementation of the digital transformation needs procedure has been carried out, jointly managed by the Area of Information System Planning and the Area of Digital Transformation and Organisation.

This procedure is the mechanism established by the UAB to identify, analyse, define and prioritise projects that respond to the digital transformation needs that will be carried out annually.

In 2024, 181 requests have been received, of which 62 are projects that are already completed, 58 are under development and 61 have been cancelled. For the 2025 financial year, two new calls have been approved, one for the central areas, which received 91 proposals, and another for the faculties and the School, which received 8 proposals. Of these, 49 were considered viable and 35 are planned to be implemented by 2025.

Energy saving and efficiency actions

During the 2024-2025 academic year, energy saving and efficiency actions have focused on reducing energy consumption and demand (electricity and gas),in terms of managing the facilities, as well as on the execution of actions that require an investment as set out in the PIU (University Investment Plan).

In 2024, the solar photovoltaic installation in the School of Engineering came into operation and building work has been tendered and started for the installation of solar photovoltaic panels totalling 850 kWp under a self-consumption regime on the roofs of the Faculty of Medicine and the SAF sports centre.

Also, after approval of the Plan for the rationalisation of water use at the UAB, the university is now committed to a comprehensive strategy focused on intelligent management, diversified sources and the optimisation of the distribution network.

Management and organisation of the UAB Foundation

The UAB Foundation started the 2024-2025 academic year with new academic projects, sustainability and health initiatives, and the celebration of institutional milestones that reinforce its commitment to the university community and its environment.

The UAB Corporation has adhered to the UAB's Climate Policy, whose mission is to set out a strategy for mitigating and adapting to climate change, with specific medium-term objectives and commitments, with the aim of achieving climate neutrality by 2030.

In the field of human resource management and occupational risk prevention, the initiative "Cuenta pasos, ¡haz salud!" (Count your steps, make yourself healthy) has been launched, within the framework of the FUAB Healthy Company project, as part of the programme for the promotion of good health at work.

This year celebrations for the 25th anniversary of the degree in Risk Prevention and Occupational Safety have begun, and the Tourism and Hotel Management programme has also celebrated 25 years. The FUAB Vocational Training Centre has completed the first academic year of the vocational training course in Administration of Networked Computer Systems – Cybersecurity.

Vila Universitària achieved an occupancy rate of 97% in Vila 1, the student residency complex that houses bachelor's degree students, and 95.5% in Vila 2, the residency complex for visiting lecturers, master's degree students and short-term stays.



Campus UAB

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

University Hospitals (Faculty of Medicine teaching units)

4 Unitat Docent Sant Pau (Barcelona)
5 Unitat Docent Vall d'Hebron (Barcelona)
6 Unitat Docent Germans Trias i Pujol (Badalona)
7 Unitat Docent Parc Taulí (Sabadell)

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Campus de Bellaterra
08193 Bellaterra (Cerdanyola del Vallès)

www.uab.cat/en

UAB Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona