Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

Memòria del curs 1999-2000

Universitat Oberta de Catalunya



Annual Report Academic Year 1999-2000

This is a practical synthesis of the Academic Report 1999-2000 of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC). You will find the full version of it in the CD enclosed and at the address www.uoc.edu/eng/memoria.

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The reading of this report allows the realisation of how, year by year, the UOC goes about achieving the objectives specified in the law that first gave it recognition. The difference between a centre of higher education and a university lies above all in the fact that, as well as transmitting knowledge, the university generates it. While on this ascending path, the UOC has embarked this year on a new undertaking which will emphasise even more clearly its knowledgegenerating facet. I am referring to the creation of the research institute IN3, which is oriented toward investigating the impact of the new technologies on social change and on educational and training processes. This institute will also foment the interdisciplinary Doctoral programme – one which will undoubtedly reinforce and complement education and research in the sphere of the new technologies.

While it is certain that the creation of the research institute IN3 represents an important quality factor, one must also bear in mind, when making an overall evaluation of the activities of the university, the other undertakings described in detail in the report. As Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the FUOC it gives me great pleasure to be able to say that the figures set out in this report are the fruit of work that is well done, innovative, and responsible on the part of the whole UOC university community.

For these reasons, the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya is achieving two important objectives: the fulfilment of the expectations that were generated at the time of its creation, and the contribution to the enrichment and makingdynamic of the whole Catalonian university system.

Andreu Mas-Colell Chairman of the FUOC Board of Trustees

This has been a very productive year for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya. To be able to see that, as if it were the harvest of a good crop, in this report, must be grounds for satisfaction for all those who, in one way or another, (students, teaching staff, administrative personnel), work at the UOC. Behind these results there stands rigorous planning - the Strategic Plan is surely the most efficacious instrument within that planning - and, of course, the co-ordinated and demanding work of all the professionals who, on a daily basis, make the UOC possible.

The results of all this activity are oriented, above all, toward the attainment of improvements in the quality and the quantity of our educational services: the widening of the academic offer, the new Doctoral programme, the growth in the number of postgraduates, and the introduction of the system of progressive obtaining of degrees, seek to make university education at the UOC more accessible and more useful. This is our objective, and it benefits, above all, the education of our students.

Furthermore, conscious of the benefits that this education brings to many people, we have sought to widen our sphere of action: first, within our own territory, with the creation of new centres and points of support; and second, throughout the State and the Latin American community. We are poised at the outset of an expansion whose limits are none other than the educational needs of individuals and peoples.

All of this, in the last analysis, has been made possible by the fact that all of us have been working in accordance with the project in common, and because this has been done with exemplary dedication. I therefore want to offer my congratulations to those involved and, as Rector, also to express my gratitude to them.

Gabriel Ferraté Rector of the UOC

The aim of this Report is to place on record what, throughout last year, the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya achieved. Taken as a whole, the University's activities have been very intensive, and, what is more important, have been going in the right direction. I should like to stress what I consider the two most basic objectives of these activities: the increase in the academic offer, and expansion; in the last analysis, all of this is aimed toward ensuring that the educational benefits of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya will go further and reach more people.

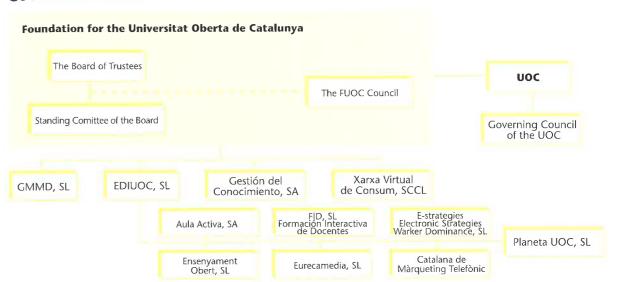
Every year, the number of educational services placed at the disposal of students increases; the number of matriculations rises: and the high degree of satisfaction among our clients is maintained. And, simultaneously, the University gains ground in new territories, which strengthens and makes more useful the academic activity of the UOC. Expansion toward the Latin American market is, without doubt, the most ambitious project of those that have been undertaken, and the one which has most future.

Through these undertakings, the benefits of the activities of the UOC continue to multiply, above all in the social fabric; in professional training, in the education of students, in the prestige of our academic institutions, in the formation of a competent academic staff, in research into the new technologies as applied to education. The WITSA prize is a major acknowledgement of all this work; but the results of the work of an entire year which are stated in this Report are the best recompense.

Josep Vilarasau Chairman of the Council of the **FUOC**

The Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (FUOC)

GOVERNING BODIES



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE FUOC

Andreu Mas-Colell, Commissioner for Universities and Research, Generalitat de Catalunya Chairman

Antoni Serra-Ramoneda, President, Caixa de Catalunva

Vice President

Josep Grifoll, Treasurer, Commission for Universities and Research, Generalitat de Catalunya Vice President

Antoni Giró, Director-General of Universities Member

David Serrat, Director-General of Research Member

Francesc Cabré, President, Chamber of Commerce of Reus Member

Jordi Vilajoana, Director-General, Corporació Catalana de Ràdio i Televisió

Member (until November 1999) Miquel Puig, Director-General,

Corporació Catalana de Ràdio i Televisió Member (from February 2000)

Pere Rifà, Director, Caixa de Sabadell Member

Antoni Negre, President, Chamber of Commerce of Barcelona Member*

Ignasi Farreras, Minister of Employment, Generalitat de Catalunya Member (until November 1999)

Lluís Franco, Minister of Employment, Generalitat de Catalunya Member (from December 1999)

Benet Llebaria, Director, Enciclopèdia Catalana Foundation Member

Gabriel Ferraté, Rector, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya* Xavier Aragay, Director, Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya*

Enrique Alcántara, Secretary, Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya*

*They have no voting rights.

MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD

Antoni Giró, Director-General of Universities President

Francesc Cabré, President, Chamber of Commerce of Reus Member

Jordi Vilajoana, Director-General, Corporació Catalana de Ràdio i Televisió

Member (until November1999)

Miquel Puig, Director-General, Corporació Catalana de Ràdio i Televisió

Member (from February 2000)

Gabriel Ferraté, Rector, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya* Xavier Aragay, Director, Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de

Catalunya*

Enrique Alcántara, Secretary, Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya*

*They have no voting rights.

MEMBERS OF THE FUOC COUNCIL

Ministers-representatives appointed by the Catalonian Parliament: Josep Laporte, Ex-commissioner for Universities and Research Joan Majó, Counsellor of the European Institute for the Media

Counsellors-representatives of Catalonian public universities appointed by the Catalonian Interuniversity Council (Consell Interuniversitari de Catalunya): Antoni Caparrós, Rector, Universitat de Barcelona (UB)
Carles Solà, Rector, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB)
Jaume Pagès, Rector, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC)
Jaume Porta, Rector, Universitat de Lleida, (UdL)

Councillors-representatives appointed by the legally-constituted Employers' Associations of widest scope in Catalonia: Josep A. Díaz Salanova, Vice President, Foment del Treball Lluís Godayol, Representative of PIMEC

Councillors-representatives appointed by the legally-constituted Trade Unions of widest scope in Catalonia:

José L. López Bulla, Representative of Comisiones Obreras (CC.OO.) (until March 1999)

César López Sánchez, Representative of Comisiones Obreras (CC.OO.) (from March 1999)

Jaume Micola, Representative of Unión General de Trabajadores (UGT)

Councillors-representatives appointed by the Board of Trustees of the FUOC:

Josep Vilarasau, President, Caixa d'Estalvis i Pensions de Barcelona Manuel Castellet, President, Institut d'Estudis Catalans

Carmina Virgili, Spanish Senate Lluís Monreal, Director-General, "la Caixa" Foundation

Gabriel Ferraté, Rector, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

Xavier Aragay, Director, Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

Enrique Alcántara, Secretary, Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya*

*Without voting rights.

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UOC

Gabriel Ferraté

Rector

Josep Coll

Vice Rector for Academic Policy

Imma Tubella

Vice Rector for International Relations and Research Francesc Vallverdú

Vice Rector for Educational Methodology and Innovation (from February 2000)

Xavier Aragay

CORPORATE STRATEGY

In this period, the UOC embarked on a profound reflection and strategic orientation which have brought it to formulate and consolidate its **Strategic Plan 2000-2004**.

The consolidation of the UOC's Strategic Plan meant a deeply cooperative internal labour which allowed the setting-out and delimiting of the fundamental strategic bounds of our organisation in order to achieve a proper position for it both in the global market-place and in regard to such central matters as the educational offer, lines of research, services, social activity, technological and pedagogical innovation, and strategic alliances.

At the same time, the putting into effect of the Strategic Plan has

brought about a marked reorientation in the University's organisational structure, in its strategic decision-making bodies and management.

REFLECT IN ORDER TO CONSTRUCT THE FUTURE

In this last academic year, the UOC carried out a process of strategic reflection with the objective of analysing the strategic position of the institution and determining its strategic axes for the period 2000-2003.

This process resulted in the general strategy and in the strategies of each of the departments and management areas, and was developed with the reflection and work in common of the members of the Governing Council, the Academic Commission, and the

Management Commission, together with their respective teams.

The definition of the general strategy and of the departmental and management strategies was an instrument of dialogue and planning for priorities in the work plans of the various teams in the organisation, and aimed to specify, revise, and examine more deeply the Managing by Processes tool.

A NEW CONCEPT OF THE UNIVERSITY FOR NEW TIMES

An analysis was carried out of the major tendencies that will have a profound impact on the new university, some of which are: the globalisation of the economy, technological development, the rapidity of the interchange of information, the necessity of continued education throughout

one's life, the increase in the offer and the complexity of the educational sector, the lack of knowledge of the new markets, the need to attract and keep the most competent professionals, and so on.

The following lines of strategy were drawn up:

Education. To obtain a position in the world for the UOC as one of the main and better-known leaders in the sphere of distance, telematic education.

Research. To be at the forefront of the study of the impact on society of the intensive use of the new information and communications technologies. Services for a Virtual Community. To create and develop services directed toward the people and organisations constituting the UOC virtual

community.

Social Activity. To be active in offering new proposals and suggestions in response to the challenges which society faces today as a result of the impact of the use of the technologies of information.

Educational and Technological Innovation. To promote innovation in those activities which will directly improve the educational model of the UOC and its technological support.

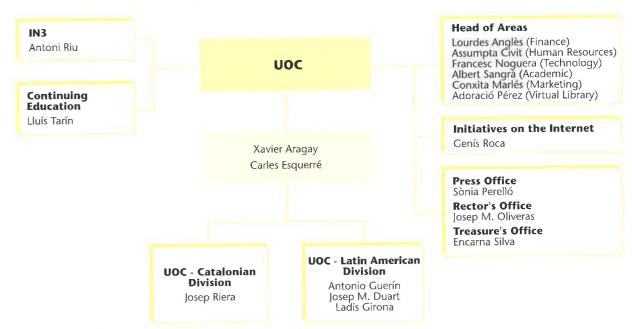
Management and Information Systems. To create, maintain, and

develop the systems of management and information retrieval necessary to the achievement of strategic objectives.

Management of the Professional Team. To ensure the recruitment, development, and maintenance of the best professional, academic, and management team in order to confront strategic challenges.

Alliances. To unfold a policy of strategic alliances with universities, institutions and enterprises which will help to complement the know-how of the UOC for the attainment of its strategic objectives.

Organisational and Managerial Structure.



INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Throughout 1999-2000 we continued to receive numerous personalities from the worlds of politics and culture. Many meetings were held and international trips undertaken in order to make the UOC better known and to explain its role in the world.

A number of activities of an institutional kind are set out as follow:

10th January 1999. Virtual matriculation by means of the Secretary's Virtual Office. This is the first system of university academic management that allows the student to undertake for himself or herself all academic procedures from any computer connected to the Internet. This

programme was developed in collaboration with the company Ibermática.

20th January 1999. Adaptation of the Virtual Campus for the blind. This resulted from an agreement between the Fundació Privada Catalana per a l'Orientació i el Suport Tecnològic del Cec (Catalonian Private Foundation for the Guidance and Technological Support of the Blind), Manuel Caragol, and the

UOC for the integration and more Colombian Minister of Education, complete introduction of the blind into the worlds of work and culture

19th February 1999. Appearance of the Rector, Gabriel Ferraté, before the Senate Internet Commission.

23rd March 1999. The Rector, Gabriel Ferraté, attended the opening of the Virtual Campus of the Universidad Nacional de Quilmes, in Argentina. The methodology, the materials, and the Virtual Campus were supplied by the UOC.

7th April 1999. The UOC Club was opened, this being a virtual communications space among the various groups which have now, or have had, connections with the

21st April 1999. The UOC created 22nd June 2000. The Rector of the IBM/"la Caixa" Research Chair the UOC, Gabriel Ferraté, and the for innovation and development in education via the Internet, by means of applied research and teaching, the spheres of information technology, the Internet and network computing, with the creation of a counsellorintelligent system which combines electronic books and an on-line counsellor.

9th June 1999. The UOC and the Barcelona Chamber of Commerce, 21st July 2000. The students of Industry, and Navigation created a the UOC received their virtual community addressed to small and medium Catalonian enterprises in order to constitute a standard for both those firms and their professional staff.

2nd December 1999. The UOC and the University of Nantes held a congress in Barcelona on learning and virtuality with the objective of seeing the place reserved for distance education in educational institutions and of determining what necessities are generated in distance education and autodidactic learning. 24th February 2000. The Rector. Gabriel Ferraté, opened the Virtual Campus, designed by the UOC, of the Universidad CEIPA in

Colombia. The event took place

in Medellín in the presence of the

Germán Bula.

20th March 2000. The UOC launched the doctoral programme on The Information and Knowledge Society, with an international and interdisciplinary curriculum centred on the analysis of the impact of the new information and communications technologies on the various spheres of society.

25th May 2000. The World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA), which brings together consortia of information technology and services firms from some forty countries, awarded to the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya the prize for the best digital initiative.

CEO of the publishers Grup Planeta, José Manuel Lara, presented the Virtual University in Madrid, this being an initiative in Spanish for Spain and Latin America which has begun with Psychopedagogy and Business Studies, degrees of its own, and other continuing education courses and courses open to those over 25 years of age.

examination results by means of the mobile telephone. These results were re-transmitted using the Short Messaging System

ALLIANCES AND AGREEMENTS

In this academic year agreements were signed with several institutions collaborating in the territorial expansion of the UOC: enterprises, communications media, and Universities, basically within the area of research. All these agreements aspire to offer a better service to the entire community of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya.

Agreements Signed During this Period

- Filmax
- Commission for the Information Society / Catalonian Public Universities / CUR / Catalonian Research Foundation / CESCA / **CBUC**
- Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, LIAR
- Generalitat de Catalunya -Department of Culture - Centre for the Promotion of Popular and Traditional Catalonian Culture / "La Caixa" Savings Bank
- Town Council of l'Alguer -University of Sasser - Omnium Cultural de l'Alguer
- Telefónica Data España, SA
- Generalitat de Catalunya, Department of the Presidency
- General Secretariat of Sports, Generalitat de Catalunya
- Generalitat de Catalunya -Department of Education
- Institut Joan Lluís Vives
- Fundació Jaume Bofill
- Consorci per a la Normalització Lingüística
- Universitat de Barcelona, UB (Fundació Bosch i Gimpera)
- Fundació Jaume Bofill
- La Vanauardia
- Comissió Interdepartamental de
- Recerca i Innovació Tecnològica (CIRIT)
- Col·legi de Mediadors d'Assegurances Titulats de Barcelona
- Consell Comarcal del Solsonès
- Edicions UPC, Fundació Politècnica de Catalunya (FPC)
- Deutsche Bank
- Deutsche Bank Fundació Politècnica de Catalunya (FPC)
- Town Council of Salt
- Generalitat de Catalunya Department of Culture
- Generalitat de Catalunya -Department of Social Welfare Adult Education
- Patronat Català Pro Europa
- Department of Economy, Finance and Planning of the Generalitat de Catalunya
- Town Council of Rubí
- Telefónica Data España, SA
- Fundació ESADE
- Port de Barcelona
- Instituto de Economia da Universidade Federal do Rio de |aneiro
- Consejo General del Poder Judicial / Generalitat de Catalunya / Universitat de Barcelona (UB) / Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB)
- Fundació Politècnica de Catalunya

- Escuela Andaluza de Salud Pública
- Universidad Católica de Valparaíso
- Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC)
- ICEF
- Regional Council of Ripollès
- Commission for Universities and Research (CUR)
- Regional Council of Ribera d'Ebre
- Institut Municipal d'Escoles de Barcelona (IMEB)
- Agencia EFE, SA
- IBM España / Fundació "la Caixa"
- Associació de Mestres Rosa Sensat
- ABACO, SA (Bolivia)
- E-strategies
- Generalitat de Catalunya -Department of Education
- Generalitat de Catalunya -Department of Justice - Centre for Legal Studies and Specialised
- Education - Department of Universities, Research, and the Information
- Society Generalitat de Catalunya - Comenius University, Faculty of
- Natural Science, Bratislava - Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya
- (UPC) - Town Council of l'Hospitalet de Llobregat
- Consorci Universitari del Baix Penedès
- Girona Provincial Council
- Telefónica, SA
- DURSI Public Catalan Universities
- Various financial institutions
- Xarxa Virtual de Consum, SCCL
- Cruz Roja Española
- Infojobs, SL
- Universitat de Perpinyà - Fundació Caixa de Sabadell
- Fundació Privada Institut Ildefons Cerdà
- University of Versailles Saint Quentin-en-Yvelines
- Universitat de les Illes Balears (UIB)
- Escola Universitària Politècnica de Manresa, Fundació Universitària del Bages, Town Council of Manresa
- Institut de Cultura de Barcelona
- Hermes Comunicacions, SA
- Cisco Systems Spain
- Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
- Fundació Aula Ægyptiaca
- Asociación Nacional para la Defensa de la Marca (ANDEMA)
- Town Council of Ribes de Freser

SOCIAL ACTION: CAMPUS FOR PEACE

The UOC is putting into effect the Campus for Peace, an initiative which aspires to contribute to the generating of synergies to improve the living conditions of persons and peoples in a critical situation as a consequence of wars, natural disasters, or poverty.

The Campus for Peace a virtual space of world-wide reference which places the information and communications technologies (ICTs) at the service of cooperation, solidarity, humanitarian aid, and peace in the widest sense of those words.

It is an instrument for dialogue, cooperation, and work at the service of organisations, institutions, and the world university and scientific community, with the aim of having a positive influence on behalf of peoples in situations of grave crisis as a result of armed conflict, natural disasters, or poverty.

ICTs serve as a means of fomenting a culture of peace and solidarity in the new world-wide area.

The mission of the Campus for Peace is set out in the four following basic points:

To observe, and supply information about, conflicts, crises, and natural disasters, locating and describing the characteristics of these; evaluating necessities arising therefrom as well as the possibilities of collaboration; disseminating the activities of NGOs and other humanitarian and developmental aid agencies, and the programmes of action they carry out, and the ways of joining up and collaborating with them. To attract knowledge from the world university and scientific community, by making

disinterested proposals for free, on-line consultancy or training, directed toward crisis zones.

To attract resources and services which will facilitate actions in favour of peace.

- To create a virtual library about peace which will bring together existing documentation currently dispersed throughout the world.
- To provide information about the possibilities of financing on the part of public agencies, foundations, and private enterprise.
- To offer popular health education and maintenance resources and links with virtual medical services as a complement to face-to-face medical activity.
- To provide spaces for debates with personalities from the worlds of opinion and decisionmaking, who may in this way find a virtual space for cooperation and the exertion of influence.

To facilitate networking by means of a virtual platform based on the technology of the Virtual Campus of the UOC, thereby permitting the inter-relationship of actors and resources.

To stimulate collaboration, the co-ordination of humanitarian projects, the taking of decisions, and the mutual involvement of the actors concerned.

Objectives:

• To create an open Web: a virtual space offering the information and resources existing in the world relative to knowledge, solidarity financing, fair commerce, health, universities and schools, libraries, auditoria, communications centres (press, radio, and television), emergency services, childhood, NGOs and co-operation and

humanitarian aid agencies, debates ...

To create the Network of Peace:

 a grouping of intranets (based on the Virtual Campus) of
 NGOs and institutions which,
 as well as having available a closed work and educational space for their own purposes,
 share functions which foster cooperation and collaboration.

The Campus for Peace will be the access-point to this world-wide peace network.

Educational Activity

THE UOC CONTINUES TO GROW

Evolution of matriculations

Evolution of	matriculations
1995-1996	344
1996-1997	2.571
1997-1998	10.107
1998-1999	17.649
1999-2000	24.223

Having been in existence for only six years, the UOC has grown to a notable degree. We have widened the studies offer and have improved the quality of our pedagogical method. Our objective is to forge an educational offer of as wide a scope as possible – one which will provide learning to people throughout their lives – and to adapt ourselves to the working and familial realities of such students. The educational offer of the UOC has, in many regards, a universal vocation.

This year more than 80 Continuing Education courses were given (Master's degrees and postgraduate courses), and we consolidated 11 accredited degrees and one of our own, together with the UPC (Polytechnic University of Catalonia): the Distance Degree in Multimedia Studies. We also offered a madeto-measure response for training in organisations and enterprise. Furthermore, and as a novelty, we began on the international and interdisciplinary doctorate on the Information Society, which establishes us as an institution specialising in the exhaustive knowledge of this field.

Moreover, through Aula Activa, we developed the teaching of languages, and, by means of Ensenyament Obert, the preuniversity training of firms, these two institutions being business initiatives which draw on the expertise and the capital

participation of the UOC. The number of matriculations involved in all this educational activity now reaches 24,000, a figure which we calculate will increase notably in the future thanks to the fact that we have opened up to the Latin American market with university studies accredited in the Spanish language, and to the fact that we have widened the continuing education offer in that same language.

Thus, our vocation is to ensure that the educational activity of the UOC shall be accessible to all, regardless of the geographical area where students may be or the language they may speak. This is the vocation of universal dimension that configures the design of our educational offer, and which we desire to offer to society in order to fulfil the commitment which, as a university, we have to it.

REGULATED STUDIES

ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS STUDIES

Business Studies

1st Semester: 2,580 students 2nd Semester: 3,127 students Total students for the year: 5,707

Profile of Students

University graduates 20.7% Employed 97.6% Men 59.39%

Business Administration and Management

1st Semester: 400 students 2nd Semester: 556 students Total students for the year: 956

Profile of Students

University graduates 98,00% Employed 97,00% Men 54.76%

Teaching Staff of Economics and Business Studies

1 Director of Studies 9 Full-time Lecturers 47 Counsellors 158 Tutors

STUDIES PROGRAMMES

DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS STUDIES

Length: 3 years divided into 6

semesters*
To obtain this degree, 203 credits are

required, of which 155 are compulsory, 24 are optional, and 24 are of free choice/configuration.

* In accordance with the flexible nature of matriculation, each person can adapt the length of the studies to his or her possibilities of dedication.

DEGREE IN BUSINESS

ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT*

Length: 2 years divided into 4 semesters**

To obtain this degree, 150 credits are required, of which 78 are compulsory, 36 are optional, and 36 are of free choice/configuration.

- * Only the second cycle of this degree is taught.
- ** In accordance with the flexible nature of matriculation, each person can adapt the length of the studies to his or her possibilities of dedication.

DIRECTOR OF STUDIES

Jordi Vilaseca Requena Area of specialisation: Applied Economics

THE UOC'S CO-ORDINATING TEACHING STAFF

Inma Rodríguez Ardura

Areas of specialisation: E-Marketing, E-Commerce

Antoni Meseguer Artola

Areas of specialisation: Applied Mathematics, Theory of Games

Pilar Ficapal Cusi

Area of specialisation: Industry

Carlos Cabañero Pisa

Area of specialisation: Corporate Organisation

David Castillo Merino

Areas of specialisation: Economics of Finance, Accountancy

Enric Serradell López

Areas of specialisation: Finance, Corporate Organisation

Elisabet Ruiz Dotras

Area of specialisation: Financial Markets

Joan Torrent Sellens

Area of specialisation: General Economics

Josep Lladós Maslloveras

Area of specialisation: General Economics

M. Mar Sabadell

Bachelor of Law, University of Barcelona

EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY

PSYCHOPEDAGOGY

1st Semester: 1,045 students 2nd Semester: 1,021 students Total students for the year: 2,066

Profile of students

University graduates 95.00% Employed 98.2.% Women 79.88%

Teaching Staff

1 Director of Studies 5 Full-time Lecturers 16 Counsellors

57 Tutors

STUDIES PROGRAMME

DEGREE IN PSYCHOPEDAGOGY

Length: 2 years divided into 4 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 150 credits are required, of which 117 are compulsory, 18 are optional, and 15 are of free choice/configuration. * In accordance with the flexible nature of matriculation, each person can adapt the length of the studies to his or

HEAD OF STUDIES

Carlos Frade Blas

Area of specialisation: Sociology of Education

her possibilities of dedication.

THE UOC'S CO-ORDINATING TEACHING STAFF

Carles Sigalés Conde

Area of specialisation: Educational Policy, Attention to Diversity and Psychopedagogical Intervention

Anna Pagès Santacana

School Organisation

Area of specialisation: The Foundations of Pedagogy

Josep M. Mominó de la Iglesia Area of specialisation: Didactics,

Elena Barberà Gregori

Area of specialisation: Educational Psychology

Adriana Gil Juárez

Area of specialisation: Social Psychology

Montse Vall-llovera Llovet

Area of specialisation: Methodology of Behavioural Sciences

LAW STUDIES

Law

1st Semester: 911 students 2nd Semester: 1,002 students Total students for the year: 1,913

Profile of students

University graduates 37.1% Employed 95.5% Men 59.32%

Teaching Staff

1 Director of Studies 8 Full-time Lecturers 15 Counsellors 76 Tutors

STUDIES PROGRAMME

DEGREE IN LAW

Length: 4 years divided into 8 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 300 credits are required, of which 228 are compulsory, 36 are optional, and 36 are of free choice/configuration.

* In accordance with the flexible nature of matriculation, each person can adapt the length of the studies to his or her possibilities of dedication.

HEAD OF STUDIES

Joaquim Bisbal Méndez

Area of specialisation: Mercantile Law

THE UOC'S CO-ORDINATING TEACHING STAFF

Ramon Casas Vallès

Area of specialisation: Civil Law

Pere Fabra Abat

Area of specialisation: Philosophy of Law

Raquel Xalabarder Plantada

Areas of specialisation: International Law, Intellectual Property

Miquel Peguera Poch

Area of specialisation: Mercantile Law

Óscar Morales García

Area of specialisation: Penal Law

Ioan Barata Mir

Area of specialisation: Administrative Law

Mònica Vilasau Solana Area of specialisation: Civil Law

HUMANITIES AND LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Humanities

1st Semester 1999-2000 964 students 2nd Semester 1999-2000 985 students Total students for the year: 1,949

Profile of students

University graduates 57.1% Employed 95.4% Women 54.9%

Language and Literature

1st Semester 1999-2000 198 students 2nd Semester 1999-2000 210 students Total students for the year: 408

Profile of students

University graduates 44% Employed 92.4% Women 70%

Teaching Staff in Humanities and Language and Literature 1999

1 Director of Studies 15 Full-time Lecturers 21 Counsellors 138 Tutors

STUDIES PROGRAMMES

DEGREE IN HUMANITIES

Length: 4 years divided into 8

semesters*

To obtain this degree, 300 credits are required, of which 222 are compulsory, 48 are optional, and 30 are of free choice/configuration.

* In accordance with the flexible nature of matriculation, each person can adapt the length of the studies to his or her possibilities of dedication.

DEGREE IN CATALAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Length: 4 years divided into 8 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 300 credits

are required, of which 222 are compulsory, 48 are optional, and 30 are of free choice/configuration.

* In accordance with the flexible nature of matriculation, each person can adapt the length of the studies to his or her possibilities of dedication.

HEAD OF STUDIES

Isidor Marí Mayans

Area of specialisation: Research for Multilingualism in Organisations

Miquel Strubell Trueta

Areas of specialisation: Planning of Linguistic Status, Linguistic Policy and Linguistic Minorities in Europe

UOC'S CO-ORDINATING TEACHING STAFF

Glòria Munilla Cabrillana

Areas of specialisation: Mediterranean Proto-history, Heritage

Adela Ros Híjar

Area of specialisation: Sociability in Virtual Technological Environments

Joan Elies Adell Pitarch

Areas of specialisation: Theory of Literature, Contemporary Catalan Literature, Popular Music

Mar Massanell Messalles

Area of specialisation: Linguistic Variation: Dialectology, Sociolinguistics, Pragmatics

Narcís Figueras Capdevila

Areas of specialisation: Humanistic Latin, History of Humanism in the Catalan and Hispanic Region, Languages in the World of Education in the Modern and Contemporary Age

Joan Pujolar Cos

Area of specialisation: Globalisation and Linguistic Contact

Salvador Climent Roca

Areas of specialisation: Language Processing, Semantics

Cèsar Carreras Monfort

Area of specialisation: Archaeology

Joan Campàs Montané

Area of specialisation: Hypertext, Digital Art

Norman Coe

Area of specialisation: Evaluation of Languages

Pauline Ernest

Area of specialisation: Contemporary Literature

Francesc Núñez Mosteo

Area of specialisation: Sociability in Virtual Technological Environments

Jaume Subirana Ortín

Area of specialisation: Contemporary Catalan Literature, Cultural Identity

Elisenda Ardèvol Piera

Area of specialisation: Social Anthropology

Agnès Vayreda Duran

Area of specialisation: Discourse Analysis, Sociability in Virtual Technological Environments

Eduard Aibar Puentes

Area of specialisation: Social Studies in Science and Technology

Laura Borràs Castanyer

Areas of specialisation: Theory of Literature and Comparative Literature, Medieval Romance Literatures

INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Documentation

1st Semester: 657 students 2nd Semester: 689 students Total students for the year: 2,638

Profile of students

University graduates 95.00% Employed 96.1% Women 77.4%

Teaching Staff

1 Director of Studies 2 Full-time Lecturers 13 Counsellors 36 Tutors

STUDIES PROGRAMME

DEGREE IN DOCUMENTATION

Length: 2 years divided into 4 semesters* To obtain this degree, 120 credits are required, of which 85.5 are

compulsory, 22.5 are optional, and 12 are of free choice/configuration. * In accordance with the flexible nature of matriculation, each person can adapt the length of the studies to his or her possibilities of dedication.

HEAD OF STUDIES

Agustí Canals Parera

Area of specialisation: Information Management

THE UOC'S CO-ORDINATING TEACHING

Mario Pérez Rodríguez

Areas of specialisation: Theory of Information and Communication, Management of Learning Toni Roig Telo

Area of specialisation: Information and Audiovisual Communication

Sandra Sanz Martos

Area of specialisation: Information Search and Retrieval

COMPUTER SCIENCE AND MULTIMEDIA

Technical Engineering in Computer Management

1st Semester: 918 students 2nd Semester: 985 students Total students for the year: 1,903

Profile of students

University graduates 19.9% Employed 97.3% Men 80.57%

Technical Engineering in Computer Systems

1st Semester: 1,155 students 2nd Semester: 1,335 students Total students for the year: 2,490

Profile of students

University graduates 16.00% Employed 97.00% Men 91.15%

Teaching Staff of Computer

Science and Multimedia 1 Director of Studies

11 Full-time Lecturers 32 Counsellors

137 Tutors

STUDIES PROGRAMMES

TECHNICAL ENGINEERING IN COMPUTER MANAGEMENT

Length: 3 years divided into 6 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 210 credits are required, of which 162 are compulsory, 24 are optional, and 24 are of free choice/configuration.

* In accordance with the flexible nature of matriculation, each person can adapt the length of the studies to his or her possibilities of dedication.

TECHNICAL ENGINEERING IN COMPUTER
SYSTEMS

Length: 3 years divided into 6 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 210 credits are required, of which 162 are compulsory, 24 are optional, and 24 are of free choice/configuration.

* In accordance with the flexible nature of matriculation, each person can adapt the length of the studies to his or her possibilities of dedication.

HEAD OF STUDIES

Cristina Nogués i Olivé Area of specialisation: E-Business

THE UOC'S CO-ORDINATING TEACHING STAFF

Eugènia Santamaria Pérez Area of specialisation: Signal Treatment and Communications

Ramon Segret i Sala Area of specialisation: Databases and Information Systems

Francesc Vallverdú Bayés Area of specialisation: Theory of Signal and Communications

Teresa Sancho Vinuesa Areas of specialisation: Applied Mathematics, Mathematical Analysis, Design of Didactic Materials

Thanasis Daradoumis Haralabus Area of specialisation: Artificial Intelligence

Enric Mor PeraArea of specialisation: Artificial Intelligence

M. Jesús Marco Galindo Area of specialisation: Information Systems

Josep Prieto Blázquez Area of specialisation: Computer Architecture

Joan Manel Marquès Puig Area of specialisation: Computer Architecture

Jordi Herrera Joancomartí Area of specialisation: Cryptology and

Security

Montse Guitert Catasús

Area of specialisation: Learning in

Virtual and Multimedia Environments

Teresa Romeu Fontanillas Area of specialisation: Multimedia Didactic Materials

Ferran Giménez Pardo Area of specialisation: Multimedia, Learning in Virtual Environments

DOCTORAL STUDIES

The Doctoral Programme on the Information and Knowledge Society of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya develops an interdisciplinary and systematic approach to the impact of Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) on the various social spheres, and on the global transformations that accompany the present emergence of an information and knowledge society.

The doctoral programme, therefore, is organised according to a clearly interdisciplinary perspective integrating various theoretical perspectives and methodological tools of a transverse nature.

The programme is aimed at those university graduates, regardless of their professional or academic environment, keen to go more deeply into the social impact of the information and communications technologies.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME FOR 2000-2002

The Programme has three different periods:

- Teaching Period:* Doctoral students must do 20 credits distributed in three blocks;
- Basic General Courses (6 credits)
- Basic Courses of a Specific Type, Seminars for greater in-depth study
- Methodological Courses (5 credits)

*At the end of the teaching period, doctoral students are awarded an Academic Certificate which is recognised by all Spanish universities.

- Research Period: participation in different research seminars.
- Doctoral Thesis: writing-up of research work, and presentation of the doctoral thesis.

DEGREES OFFERED BY THE UOC

Postgraduate Education 1,056 Students matriculated

Summer Open University 905 Students matriculated

Open Education (Aula Activa) 2,615 Students matriculated

Inter-university qualification of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya

Length: 3 years To obtain this degree, 225 credits are required. The progressive nature of the Degree in Multimedia Studies allows the students to obtain partial university degrees:

An Introduction to Multimedia Interactive Systems: 45 credits Production in Multimedia: + 45 (total 90 credits) Production of Multimedia Interactive Systems: + 45 (total 135 credits) Degree in Multimedia Studies: 225 credits

HEAD OF STUDIES

Ferran Giménez Prado Area of specialisation: Multimedia, Learning in Virtual Environments

THE UOC'S CO-ORDINATING TEACHING STAFF

Carles Caño Valls Area of specialisation: Sculpture

Antoni Marín Amatller Area of specialisation: Interactive Systems (UPC)

CONFERENCES AND DEPART-MENTAL SESSIONS

The Universitat Oberta offered a wide programme of activities this year, not only in terms of their numbers but also of the subject-matter and geographic scope they involved. This was possible thanks to the group effort of those in the various subject-areas and of the support centres and the support points, which put on view the advantages of working in a coordinated manner to reach their objectives.

The open activities of the UOC want to have a greater and greater influence on the changes which the use of the technologies of information and communications are having on the various spheres of our lives. As a university which has opted for these technologies as a basic means of communication, the activities of the UOC want to bring their experience, studies, and research ever closer to the greatest number of people possible.

One of the characteristics which should be stressed of this situation is the high number of entities with which collaboration has been undertaken when organising these activities. The fact of working together with other entities allows resources to be optimised because each participant contributes something which adds real value to the activities. In all cases, this collaboration enriched the entities taking part, and the possibility of renewed collaboration remains open.

The following are the activities that have been carried out during this academic year:

Second Week of debate on the university teaching of Humanities. Information Technologies and Humanities. **UOC and UPF**

Fourth Aranguren Cycle. Twentieth-century Philosophy in Catalonia: a

retrospect. Caixa de Sabadell Foundation, Town Council of Sabadell, UAB, and UOC

Chat on the Year 2000 Effect. **UOC** European Colloquium on Self-learning. **GRAF**, **University of Nantes**, and **UOC**

Book presentation: *Distinguiendo: entre la teoría del derecho y la dogmática constitucional (Distinguishing: between the theory of law and constitutional dogma).* **UOC**Study sessions on ICTs and the

Challenge of 2000. **UOC** and **VITEC**Communications and Gender. A cycle of talks and an exhibition. **UOC**

Enterprise at the Vallès region: the

Masterpieces of the History of the Cinema. Cinema cycle. **UOC and Casa de Cultura Les Bernardes, Salt**

The Information Society. Cycle of conferences. UOC, Rubí
Desenvolupament (Rubí Development), and Associació del Pla Estratègic de Rubí (Rubí Strategic Plan Association)
Musical Creation by Means of the Internet. Thematic cycle. UOC and La Banda Virtual

Study Session on Computer Crime. UOC and Col·legi d'Advocats de Manresa (Manresa Association of Lawyers)

Study Session on Politics on the Internet and Digital Journalism. UOC Pakistani Women and Islam. UOC Study Sessions on Archaeology and Information and Communications Technologies. UOC and UB

Eighth Re-union of Catalonian Providers of Enterprise and Professional Information. **UOC**

Chat on the subject of collective creativity on the Internet. UOC

Round Table Discussion: "Education Is Outrunning Schools". UOC and Town Council of Sabadell

Chat on the subject of the Digital Economy. **UOC**

Study Session on Intellectual Property, Distance Education, and the New Technologies. **UOC**

Study Session on Computer Crimes. UOC and Col·legi d'Advocats de Lleida (Lleida Association of Lawyers)

Chat with the members of the Catalonian expedition to Everest. UOC Exhibition: "From Nature to Knowledge". UOC
Virtual Creation Prizes. UOC

NON-REGULATED STUDIES

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Distance Degree in Multimedia Studies

1st Semester: 393 students 2nd Semester: 473 students Total students for the year: 866

Profile of students University graduates 21.7% Employed 95% Men 76.25%

HEAD OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

Lluís Tarín Martínez Teresa Arbués Visús

Continuing Education at the UOC is developing a line of programmes in various areas of knowledge that are designed for learning to network, for adapting to professional changes, for incorporating innovation into professional practice, for improving competitiveness, and, in short, for staying ahead of the new technological challenges.

The commitment of the programmes and services of Continuing Education in their third edition was clearly to orient themselves toward resolving the educational necessities which the evolution of society imposes on people in general and on professionals and organisations. For this reason, the learning methodology and the systems of participation undergo a process of constant innovation, with the objective of increasing professional competence and favouring the capacity for cooperative work, forming experts on networking and the Internet environment, and promoting the capacity for analysis, comprehension, and relevant contribution of all the persons and virtual learning communities that participate in these educational programmes.

From Continuing Education are offered, on the one hand, Postgraduate Education studies, with Master's degrees, postgraduate courses, courses of specialisation, refresher courses, and the Summer Open University, structured within different areas; and on the other hand, training services for institutions and enterprise.

POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION

In the framework of Continuing Education, postgraduate studies offered in the 1999-2000 period a total of 56 programmes, which represents a qualitative and quantitative leap in respect of the previous offer. The programmes are structured in a variety of subject-areas and, in accordance with the typology, may be Master's degrees, postgraduate courses, courses of specialisation, or refresher courses.

- Enterprise Management
- Economics and Finance
- Marketing
- Multimedia and Publishing
- Information Society
- Computer Science
- Logistics
- Health, Prevention, and Safety
- Quality
- Humanities, Social Sciences, Pedagogy, and Psychology

The offer of programmes is characterised by innovation in the content, which is totally adapted to the necessities of enterprise in the framework of the information society. Programmes range from Design of Multimedia Didactic Materials, a postgraduate course, to a Master's degree in Instruments and Financial Markets, in collaboration with the Barcelona Stock Exchange, or to Environmental Engineering in Enterprise, carried out with the Institut Químic de Sarrià (Sarrià Institute of Chemistry). Within this innovatory trend are to be found the specialisation courses in Computer Studies or the

Marketing for the Internet course. There are others, such as the postgraduate course in Digital Journalism, in collaboration with El Periódico de Cataluña, and the Marketing Management course. Mention should also be made of the Master's degree in Prevention of Workplace Hazards which qualifies students to carry out high-level functions in risk prevention at work, according to RD 39/1997. The Departments of the UOC, the Academic Area, external institutions, teams of experts, and enterprises collaborate with Postgraduate Studies, which boasts an offer of programmes that are prestigious. academically accredited, and professionally useful.

Students undertake the courses by means of the methodology of the UOC, which allows them to learn to network and to use communications technologies.

REGULATED REFRESHER PROGRAMMES

In this academic year regulated refresher programmes were also offered for UOC students of regulated studies, with the objective of proposing solutions so that university students may acceed to particular subjects which have a certain degree of required knowledge.

In this academic year the following courses were given:

- Introduction to Business Mathematics
- Special Mathematics for Computer Engineering
- English 0.1
- English 0.2

Courses were offered on three separate occasions, with the following participation:

Total		701
July	2000	188
February	2000	228
September	1999	285

SUMMER OPEN UNIVERSITY

The Universitat Oberta d'Estiu (UOd'E) (Summer Open University) offers a wide range of courses directed toward persons who may wish to use the summer to obtain training in the use of a virtual environment with multimedia tools. These courses open up new possibilities of professional activity and development, and use the most advanced resources.

Continuing with the trajectory begun on by the Open Summer University, students were able to matriculate by means of the Internet.

Last summer, a total of 52 courses was offered, each one lasting 30 hours and being worth 2 credits recognised as free-choice credits by the departments of the UOC and by the other universities forming part of the summer offer of the Joan Lluís Vives Institute.

This time the number of participants and the number of programmes increased by almost 100%, a fact which permits us to consider the Summer Open University consolidated.

The educational offer for summer 2000 was made within the following areas:

- Area of Economics, Business, and Law: 19 programmes
- Area of Humanities: 10
 programmes
- Area of Sciences of Education and Psychology: 15 programmes
- Area of New Technologies and Internet: 8 programmes

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR INSTITUTIONS AND ENTERPRISE

Made-to-measure training has its starting-point in a non-presential educational model which adapts to the diversity of the necessities of organisations and businesses and of the professionals who work in them. Its objective is to help to give the educational answer most adequate to each situation, one that will favour the development and growth of the organisation and those in it by using a model based on the development of competencies within the context in question.

The educational services which the UOC places at the disposal of businesses and institutions have as their starting-point a knowledge of each entity and of the contextualisation of objectives in each educational process. The development of made-to-measure educational or training projects is characterised by the UOC's putting its know-how in virtual education at the service of organisations.

The following entities and organisations have put their trust in the training services for institutions and business firms in distance training projects:

- Andema
- Barcelona Activa
- Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Navigation of Barcelona
- Centre d'Estudis Jurídics.
 Department of Justice of the Generalitat de Catalunya
- Ceprom, Comisiones Obreras Trade Union
- Consell General del Poder Judicial (General Council of the Judiciary)
- Cooperativa d'Arquitectes Jordi Capell
- Spanish Red Cross
- Ministry of Education, Generalitat de Catalunya
- Directorate-General of Linguistic Policy. Ministry of Culture, Generalitat de Catalunya
- Directorate-General of Employment.
 Ministry of Employment,
 Generalitat de Catalunya
- ENEL, Hydroelectric Italian Corporation
- Escola Catalana de l'Esport
- Escola d'Administració Pública de Catalunya
- Escuela de la Judicatura, Dominican Republic
- Law School of the Consell General del Poder Judicial (General Council of the Judiciary)

 Fundació Catalana de Trasplantaments

- Fundació M. Aurèlia Capmany
- Fundació Pere Tarrés
- Fundació Universitària del Bages
- Ikastolen Elkartea
- La Ley
- La Vanguardia

Number of people who have benefited from the training activities: 2,049

PROGRAMMES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

In the period 1997-98 training programmes were put into effect for public schoolteachers under the auspices of the Department of Education of the Generalitat de Catalunya (Autonomous Government of Catalonia). The aim of these courses was to guarantee an area of specialisation to infant and primary teachers who, as a consequence of modifications in the teacher workforce, had been placed in specialised teaching jobs without possessing the appropriate specialisation.

These training programmes were also addressed to teachers obliged to teach in a specific subject-area not their own as a result of the elimination of their previous teaching post.

The Department of Education accredits and commissions from the UOC the made-to-measure education of these groups of professionals. Furthermore, the UOC itself gives academic recognition to this education. The programmes carried out are the following:

- Specialisation in Childhood Education
- Therapeutic Pedagogy
 Management and Administration of Public Centres of Education

In this third running of this programme, in the 1999-2000

period, there were 70 people matriculated in each course.

OPEN TRAINING

Aula Activa, in accordance with its offer of the university extension educational service of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, open to all, consolidated in the 1999-2000 period its model of flexible education. This characteristic is made concrete in a course structure which allows the following advantages to students:

Courses

Law Applied Tax Law

Economics and Business Studies

Accountancy
Advanced Accountancy
Financial Management
SME Management and Administration
Introduction to Business Studies
Marketing
Marketing on the Internet

Humanities

History, Literature, and Philosophy in Ancient Greece History of Literature History of Music Medieval European History Introduction to the Humanities

Languages

English: Introductory to Intermediate English: Intermediate to Upper Advanced English Catalan Level C

Computer Science

Graphic Design and Modelling by Computer Expertise in Basic Desk-Top Computing Basic Internet Basic Desk-Top Computing Professional Desk-Top Computing

Pedagogy and Psychology
Development and Learning at Schoolattending Age

Basic Psychology

ACCESS COURSE FOR PEOPLE OVER 25 YEARS OF AGE

1,036 Students matriculated 310 Students registered to do the UOC entry examination

HEAD OF STUDIES

Carles Comín Colet

The access course to the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya for those over 25 years of age has as its primary objective the attainment by students of a degree of learning that will allow them to pass the matriculation examinations of the UOC, and, at the same time, to become successfully integrated into this university community.

In the 1999-2000 period three access courses for people over 25 were given: October 1999-2000; March 2000-2001; and May 2000-2001.

The three courses are entirely virtual. Students work from the Campus specific to this programme, and, as well, have three face-to-face encounters: one at the beginning as a welcome; a second for on-going evaluation; and the third and last as a trialrun of the matriculation examinations.

In the 1999-2000 period there were 1,036 students matriculated in all the university specialities offered at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya: Business Science, Technical Engineering in Computer Systems and in Computer Management, Graduate Multimedia, Humanities, Law, Catalan Language and Literature, and Psychology (this last began in May).

Methodology

The educational methodology of the UOC is characterised by certain psychopedagogical options which take into account the particular circumstances of distance teaching and learning and the possibilities arising from the new technologies. The methodological advances in this period are specified in the following points:

DIDACTIC MATERIALS

The UOC has lately increased the development of materials in Web and multimedia support, with the incorporation of audio, video, animation and activities encouraging interaction and promoting learning. At the same time, materials in paper format have never ceased to be printed whenever this format has been thought to be the support best suiting the type of educational target to be attained. The challenge consisted in finding the way to integrate all the elements configuring educational activities, regardless of the format in which they are distributed to students. This issue has been resolved to a considerable extent through the design of work plans, and through elements of connection to the lecture-room. Didactic materials are less and less thought of in an isolated way: we understand that subjects must be planned taking into consideration all the elements that will be involved in the educational process.

VIRTUAL CAMPUS

During the academic year 1999-2000 the UOC's Virtual Campus evolved somewhat. The classroom systems were diversified, and incorporated, among other elements, weekly study guides, forums along conversational lines,

and transverse subject forums. The administration systems were reorganised to obtain improvements in the speed of transactions and the automation of management. Services were incorporated to personalise the system, and the safety method was modified in order to simplify student access.

FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS

Face-to-face meetings through the 1999-2000 academic year sustained attendance percentages similar to those of previous years. This resulted in a greater growth owing also to an increase in the number of activities, not only of those relating to the academic programme (counselling and tutoring sessions), but also of those of a more complementary nature (workshops, cultural activities, recreational activities, and conferences).

From all the complementary activities offered by the face-to-face meetings, we would single out the consolidation of the offer of workshops and activities. In the surveys made, students found the offer of activities and workshops very adequate and wide-ranging. Another matter to be highlighted is the progressive incorporation of the associations' activities into the programming of the meetings.

Some 20 workshops were on offer at each of the various presentation meetings. This implied more than 50 sessions throughout the day. At the synthesis meetings, the number of workshops was around 5, with some 25 sessions. In all, more than 6,000 students participated in the workshops of the four meetings. Students awarded activities an average mark. of 7 out of 10

In all, the meeting is becoming consolidated as the point of

departure and arrival of the semester, while offering an ideal space for the sharing of students' expectations and experience in the face of the challenges implied in distance education.

INSTITUTIONAL EVALUATION

The evaluation of the institution is part of the University's commitment to the constant improvement of the quality of its service. Beyond their value in the launching of new study courses, mechanisms of institutional evaluation have become integrated into the day-to-day dynamics of the University.

This integration makes it possible, through the analysis of academic performance and of the opinions expressed by students, to attain a dialogue involving the quality of the teaching and the services offered.

The assessment made by students of the various elements evaluated at the UOC remains unaltered. Students single out the fact that learning to use the Campus, and the search for information, are both easy or even very easy. As regards the degree of use of the Campus, the use of spaces more related to academic matters – above all, the Secretary's office – is on the increase. However, the use of some communications facilities like the forum or small advertisements is decreasing.

As regards subjects, the materials, the tutors and the counsellors, everything is assessed in terms very similar to those of the previous year, and a high degree of satisfaction is maintained.

Finally, two thirds of the students asked assess the academic year as positive or very positive; three out of four consider the present academic year to be as good as, or

better than, the previous year. More than half of them consider that their initial expectations have been totally accomplished, and a further one in three thinks they have been satisfactorily accomplished.

All these results afford continuity to the positive evaluation made by students.

Teaching Resources

Studying at the UOC implies an initiation into a new educational methodology which goes beyond the didactic resources and materials which we offer to students. Students learn how to use the Internet in an intensive manner in order to locate and use the subject-matter they are most interested in for their studies. This subject-matter then becomes part of the students' personal learning resources.

The UOC is configuring Web spaces which are half way between its own didactic materials and the unlimited resources being generated daily by the Internet. These spaces are generally open to students as well as to any person visiting them. In them they will more readily find resources to manage and obtain the information and knowledge they may be searching for.

These resources constitute a very vital part of the UOC's pedagogical model. They even go beyond this function to become resources for the management of information and knowledge available to the whole university community.

VIRTUAL LIBRARY

Ever since its inauguration, the Library of the UOC has fulfilled its basic aim of acting as a service lending support to study, teaching and research, and has made available to the members of the community information and documentation resources.

The most significant event in the academic year 1999-2000 is the important growth in the number of users of all the services which the Library makes available to the community. Thus, the number of virtual users (173,686) has

increased by 63%, while the number of face-to-face users (45,103) has increased too, this time by 104%. At this stage it is important to stress that there are 141,203 external users of the Library, a figure which represents an increase of 140%. This is also shown by the data provided in visits to the Virtual Library (1,263,476), which have increased by 58%, and the connections made (505,356), which represent an increase of 65%.

It is important to stress the launching of new services, all of which have in common the fact that the user receives the information directly into his or her own mailbox, thus not needing to approach the Virtual Library to obtain it. The News Service should be singled out here. This service allows one to be kept up to date on interesting issues by means of a subscription fee. During the academic year 1999-2000, the services relating directly to University issues were all active, namely, e-commerce, management of knowledge, or virtual organisations, up to a total of 8 different ones. At the same time, a Financial Newspapers Service was launched. This service sends financial news to the user's mailbox every day.

The Virtual Shelves service was also launched in collaboration with the studies section. By it students gain access from the environment of their classrooms to all the complementary materials and information relating to a given specific subject.

New Libraries at the Support Centres

A supporting library was inaugurated during the academic year in Tortosa, at the Baix Ebre centre. It is important to highlight the figure of the 'itinerant librarian' who periodically offers

assistance and training services to these centres.

Internal Projects

Collaboration with the rest of the UOC community was very intense throughout this academic year. Thus, several internal projects were developed, among which we could single out the parametrisation of the Library for various initiatives such as, in particular, 'Ensenyament Obert' and 'Formació de Postgrau'. Likewise, we should also single out the launching of the Virtual Multimedia Library in association with the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, for the degree in Multimedia Studies. Similarly, there is constant collaboration with the various faculties of the UOC.

Research: European Projects

The Library's participation in several R+D projects was very active this year. We should take especial note of the good work carried out for the European projects LAURIN, ELVIL, GALA, and BIBLINK, which are now completed. And COVAX and EQUINOX are still undergoing development.

OBSERVATORY OF THE ECONOMY

Since November 1998 the UOC's Faculty of Economics and Business Studies has been elaborating a monthly report on the current evolution of the economy in Catalonia, in Spain, and in the whole world. These reports, which have been collected in the section *Observatori econòmic* (Observatory of the Economy) on the Faculty's Web pages, are currently available from the UOC's portal (www.uoc.es).

Until only a few years ago, all the information necessary for the

analysis of the financial situation could not be obtained on the Internet. Now things have changed. The abundance of information on the economy of the countries in the Euro region as provided by the different institutes of statistics is a clear example of the high volume of data available on the Internet. Nevertheless, there are very few research institutions and centres which use the potential of the Net to disseminate their reports and studies. Most of them offer them in PDF format, which forces users to make a lineal reading of the content.

In this regard, the Observatory of the Economy is keen to supply financial information in Web format by using the set of possibilities offered by this means of communication (research in databases, hypertextuality, consultations adapted to users, etc.).

The following are the main objectives of this Observatory of the Economy: 1) to analyse and make known through the Web the financial situation, according to different geographic areas: the world, the European Union, Spain, Catalonia; 2) to become a point of reference as regards digital consultations of indicators and of the financial situation; and 3) to use the analysis methodology of the Observatory of the Economy, both as regards content and format, as a point of departure for an analysis of the digital economy.

Finally, we should stress the creation of the Observatory of the New Economy (Observatori de la Nova Economia, ONE), a research group on the new economy and e-business which has been set up as a centre of studies. Its objectives are to observe, research, and disseminate the information society's economy and systems of business organisation. The

Observatory of the Economy is one of ONE's observatories, and is regarded as one of the points of departure for the next observatory on the new economy, in which the main traits of the economic and business effects of the development of the information society will be analysed.

LINGUISTIC SERVICES

The main aim of the Language Unit is to lend support to the linguistic needs of the University, and to make up for the gaps existing in this field. The work is done in basically two spheres, namely, in assessment, and in training.

Projects of Linguistic Services

As regards the elaboration of criteria, the activities of a more noteworthy nature carried out during this academic year were the following: the creation of a space on the Web for linguistic criteria; the digital, extended version of Guia lingüística. Març 1998 (Catalan Linguistic Guide, March 1998) for the publication of didactic materials in the Catalan language; and, finally, the publication of Guía lingüística. Junio 2000 (Spanish Linguistic Guide, June 2000) for the publication of didactic materials in the Spanish language.

The space on the Web can be checked at the UOC's portal (http://www.uoc.es/Serveis lingüístics). It offers a set of orientations regarding some aspects of the language which often present difficulties when one is writing a text. The guides in paper format are aimed above all at language professionals contributing to the publication process of UOC documents, and especially the publication of the didactic materials being prepared for students.

The Agència Efe, SA news agency commissioned the Language Unit to elaborate a set of linguistic criteria edited in Web format which can be seen at http://www.efe.es/catalunya/Català en línia. The aim of this page is to offer to Efe customers, and above all to journalists, a consultation space in which the basic elements of the Catalan language are featured schematically.

As regards the more technical and internal tasks of the Unit, work has been started on computer programs assisting in the work of translation: automatic translation, and computer-assisted translation. These programs speed up the processes involved in linguistic treatment, while offering the possibility of creating translation memory-banks which can be used in second versions of the same projects or in new projects.

The incorporation of these tools has introduced changes in the hitherto-established processes of linguistic treatment of corrections and translations; for this reason, all the linguists working in the Unit have been on introductory and proficiency training sessions aimed at obtaining a deeper understanding of those programs, and at getting the maximum performance from them.

Within the framework of the Xarxa d'Universitats Joan Lluís Vives (a network of the Catalanspeaking universities), the UOC's Language Unit actively participates in the inter-university activities of the Language Committee. The most important project of the year were the sessions devoted to the study of the computer programs assisting the work of translation (Jornades d'Anàlisi dels Programes Informàtics de Suport a la Traducció) in February 2000.

During this academic year, the Language Unit joined the

Comissió Assessora de Llenguatge Administratiu (CALA), the body assessing the Generalitat de Catalunya's Directorate-General on Linguistic Policy, whose task is the study and the issuing of resolutions regarding consultations submitted to it on administrative and juridical language issues and administrative documentation, by the Director-General of Linguistic Policy, or by the different departments of the Generalitat de Catalunya.

Research - IN3

Ever since its beginning, the IN3 (Internet Interdisciplinary Institute) has worked on the mission of concentrating all the research activity carried out at the UOC, and to promote and support new lines of research through the exploitation of the financial resources of the European Union, the Spanish state, the Generalitat de Catalunya, and through agreements with businesses.

A year after its creation, the IN3 is adding the finishing touches to its personality by acknowledging research groups in order to define and consolidate its research focus. It is precisely with the aim of strengthening the groups already existing – and of acknowledging any new ones – that the IN3 convened the first Summons for the Acknowledgment of Research Groups in September last year.

The summons resulted in a scenario which, to a large extent, coincides with - and, consequently, consolidates - the main lines of research already in progress at the UOC. The new map lays down two main areas of research within the framework of the analysis and evaluation of the impact of Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) on the various spheres of society: a first one focussing on e-learning, and a second on the study of other matters such as the new economy, virtual communities, online criminality, communications networks and labour relations, intellectual property and governability in the information society, new technological solutions, digital art, and so on.

In order to organise all this research activity, the IN3 set up a Scientific Committee presided over by Professor Manuel Castells

and which includes several scientific authorities at the international level, which will lay down the main strategic lines for the research. A Research Commission was also set up, constituted in the Heads of Studies and the Co-ordinators of each of the groups. The Commission will be responsible for watching over the coordination of the various groups. Professor Castells is in addition the President of the Assessment Council for the doctoral programme on the Information Society, which the IN3 has been offering since last year.

Research Chairs

- IBM/"la Caixa" Chair Intelligent learning environments applied to business.
- Telefónica Chair Virtual Communities

Projects in the sphere of Law Studies

FALCONE (Organised Computer Crime)

The aim of this project, which is integrated in the FALCONE programme, is the exploration of the new forms of organised crime deriving from the application of the new information technologies, and to put forward strategies to combat and prevent consequences of such

INISI Congress (Institut de Dret i Societat de la Informació) Jointly organised with ESADE Congress on authors' rights and the new technologies Congress on dominion names and the protection of identity on the Internet A lecture delivered by Vinton Cerf

Innovation projects in the sphere of wide band communications and mobile telephones

ADSL ACTEON

A pilot experience in teletraining involving the integration of multimedia content using ADSL as the network of residential access. A project subsidised by Telefónica.

CAMPUS WAP A pilot experience regarding the provision of the Virtual Campus services via WAP (a project subsidised by the UOC).

Innovation projects in the sphere of advanced applications

TELEREGIONS I

The EC's Telematic Applications Programme. A project made up of a set of applications in the sphere of public services. The application proposed by the UOC is the design, execution, and evaluation of new learning environments based on the possibilities offered by ISDN. In this respect, the aim is to build a new user interface for the Virtual Campus which will incorporate technical improvements, as well as those aimed at users, making it into an altogether better-organised environment.

ELVIL 2000 (The European Legislative Virtual Library) Telematic Applications Programme-European Commission Libraries. The general aim of the project is to increase significantly the availability of information regarding European law and politics.

COVAX Contemporary Culture Virtual Archive in XML IST Programme (Information Society Technologies) The aim of COVAX is to analyse and prepare the required technical solutions in order to facilitate access, via the Internet, to descriptions (of homogeneous codification) of documents in archives and of library and museum collections, based on the application of the GML/XML.

CUBER (Personalised Curriculum Builder in the Federated Virtual University of the Europe of the Regions)

IST Programme (Information Society Technologies) The aim of this project is to develop an application which may offer services not only to students, but also to the citizens of the European Union, in order to offer them the chance to obtain information through the Internet. There is a wide offer of distance courses specialising in the new technologies, in accordance with the user's academic or professional profile.

Innovation projects in the sphere of learning strategies and methodologies

ERMES (European Multimedia Educational Software Network) An ESPRIT programme of the European Commission. A network for the promotion of multimedia educational programmes.

REPRESENTATION (Students Representation with regard to the new technologies applied to computer transmission and new computer tools) Educational Multimedia Task Force programme. The development of a cartography of student representation with regard to the new technologies.

ETAI (Enhancing Teachers Ability in Inclusion) A LEONARDO programme. To boost the integrating capacity of teachers in standard schools.

BENVIC (Benchmarking of Virtual Universidad de Valparaíso (Chile) Campuses) A SOCRATES programme. The aim of the project is to establish evaluation criteria to define quality standards for virtual campuses.

Innovation projects in the sphere of educational technology

METACAMPUS An IST programme (Information Society Technologies). The aim of this project is to create a 3G portal to help citizens to select and acquire the resources that most suit their continuing education needs, their preferences, and their personal profiles.

EXE (Extranet Educativa) Educational Multimedia Task Force The object of the project is the development of a series of multimedia applications to train trainers in the use of telematic resources and hypermedia tools in

Projects involving technological transfer and methodology

their educational practice.

Universidad Nacional de Quilmes (Argentina) Consultancy services and licensing of the Virtual Campus

Fundación Universitaria CEIPA (Colombia) Consultancy services and licensing of the Virtual Campus

ÁbacoUAS-Universidad Abierta del Sur (Bolivia) Consultancy services and licensing of the Virtual Campus

Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana de México (UAM) (Mexico) Pilot test experience with the Virtual Campus

Consultancy services

Consejo General del Poder Judicial (Dominican Republic) Consultancy services and licensing of the Virtual Campus and pilot test

Universidade de Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) Consultancy services regarding the pedagogical model

Agència HABE (País Basc) Consultancy services and licensing of the Virtual Campus for the Adult Education Agency of the Autonomous Government of the Basque Country

UAS Bolivia Consultancy services and licensing of the Virtual Campus

Institut Municipal per a l'Educació de Barcelona (IMEB) Consultancy services and licensing of the Virtual Campus

Observatories

ASTROLABI Co-operation with the Jaume **Bofill Foundation** Actions extended to the entire national territory with the support of the Spanish Ministry of Science and Technology (PROFIT)

Nova Economia, the Observatory of the Economy (auto-financed project)

Mirador Tecnològic, a technological observatory (autofinanced project)

A joint observatory of new professions with Infojobs

Projects and International Co-operation Networks

VIRTUAL UNIVERSITY OF THE FOUR MOTORS AND WALES The universities of Baden-Württemberg, Lombardy, RhôneAlps and Catalonia (the regions known as The Four Motors) and Wales, under the direction of the UOC, are promoting the creation of the virtual university of the Four Motors.

IV OPEN CLASSROOM CONFERENCE A contribution to this association (EDEN, European Distance Education Network)

Subsidy of research

Origin and destination of financial resources

	Projects	Infrastructure	Total
Generalitat de Catalunya	9.113.844	36.500.000	45.613.844
Spanish Government	0	0	0
European Comission	66.963.151	0	66.963.151
Agreements/Activities			
with EnterpriseT	142.600.000	2.000.000	144.600.000
Total	218.676.995	38.500.000	257.176.995

Evolution of innovation and research at the UOC

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Subsidies	0	43,355,556	68,105,303	147,590,359	207,003,620	257,176,995
Number of contracts	0	11	26	46	90	48

Services

Starting from the assumption that students are the centre of our educational model, a set of innovating services takes shape for the UOC community. These services, like the various student care services – the UOC Club, for instance – have as their aim the provision to this true metacommunity all that may be necessary for the students' rapid incorporation into the UOC methodology, while offering them all the value-added services available for a balanced development, taking into account the needs and characteristics prevailing, which are quite different from those other university communities.

TERRITORIAL EXPANSION

The territorial network of the UOC is structured around support centres and support points. Support centres are the UOC's own delegation in the territory, and they represent our university before institutions and entities; they offer multiple services and activities for students and for citizens in general: library, study rooms, computers connected to the network, personalised informative attention, extracurricular activities involving cultural and scientific ends as well as objectives concerning progress at the University. At the same time they facilitate the observation of, and attention to, the demands and needs of students and of the general public.

Support points act as a complement to the function carried out by the support centres. They depend on a territorial public institution and are linked to the UOC by way of a collaboration agreement. They

offer specific services to students and informative attention to the general public. Support points are usually located in the framework of a set of services offered by the contributing institution (library, point of information, etc.).

Support Centres

Manresa
Salt
Reus
Barcelona
Lleida
Sant Julià de Lòria
Sabadell
Terrassa
St. Feliu de Llobregat
Tortosa

UOC CLUB: AN OPEN COMMUNITY REACHING BEYOND DEGREE STUDIES

The UOC has made it possible to form a community of people familiar with information technologies and which uses the Internet as its habitual working and communications tool.

This group of people (graduates, students, teaching staff, management personnel, students in Continuing Education courses, students in the university matriculation course, collaborating teaching staff, etc.) all have something in common, namely, their having been through this university and their knowledge of the Virtual Campus.

The UOC Club makes up a virtual space which facilitates communication among all the members of the community and makes it possible for them to find all that favours their professional progress.

Throughout the year, the UOC Club members had access to the various services available: the library, professional spaces,

theme-based forums, spaces for sharing in activities, the professional area – from which access may be had to directories, professional associations and shared spaces for the exchange of experience –, the positions vacant section, the consumers' co-operative, a selection of Internet resources, the noticeboard for small advertisements, plus the services required for restarting courses and for undertaking academic paperwork and making contact with various associations.

In addition, they enjoyed access to the *Advantages* section, in which may be found anything from attractive discounts in theatres and cinemas to other cultural advantages like free tickets for a number of functions, and discounts in all sorts of commercial establishments. There are currently more than 130 of them. You need only show your free UOC Card, which identifies the members of the UOC community.

VIRTUAL CONSUMERS' NETWORK

Xarxa Virtual de consum SCCL is a consumers' co-operative created within the sphere of the Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and placed within the framework of the UOC's services policy, whose aim is to offer solutions to the consumption needs of the community of people currently and formerly linked to the UOC (students, teaching staff, and management staff).

The General Online Assembly was held between the 23rd and 28th March 2000 within the framework of the Virtual Campus. During the Assembly, approval was given to the Chairman's report for 1999, and to the budget for 2000. In

addition, the composition of the Consell Rector (Steering Council) was partially renewed.

During the first meeting of the Consell, Raquel Masnou was reelected President.

ASSOCIATIONS

There are currently 14 registered associations, which are as follow: Associació d'Estudiants de la Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (AEUOC), Associació de les Illes Balears i les Pitiüses (ABIPI), Associació d'Estudiants de Dret de la UOC (AEDU), Associació d'Amics del Cinema i del Teatre de la UOC Associats (ACTUA), Club de Rugbi UOC (CRUOC), Associació de Llicenciades i Llicenciats en Psicopedagogia a la UOC (UOCAP), Oberta al País Valencià (OPV), Associació Professional de Docents Telemàtics de Catalunya - UOC (APDTC-UOC), Coordinadora d'Estudiants de Catalunya - UOC (CEPC-UOC), Plataforma Antiguerra UOC (PAUOC), Red de Comunicación y Recursos en Resolución y Transformación de Conflictos (RC2-UOC), Associació d'Atletisme de la UOC (AtletiUOC), Associació Tossal and Associació PUNTDOC.

The Universitat Oberta de Catalunya offers for all these associations a space in its Virtual Campus, including an exchange mailbox, and the possibility of their introducing their own Web pages.

SPORTS

During the two semesters of the academic year 1999-2000, a total of 33 people took part in the Catalan University Championship, in which three gold medals were obtained: Ferran Pubill Bruña, in crosscountry skiing; Roberto Muñoz

Martínez, in kumite (karate), and Maggie Alonso Hernández, in radial laser (sailing). Two silver medals were also obtained in swimming: Ruth Murio Escriche, in 50 m breaststroke, and Jaume Jiménez Oliver, in 100 m freestyle. Finally, a further four bronze medals were also obtained: Roberto Muñoz Martínez, in the kata modality (karate); Antonio Sala Velázquez, in the under 78 kg category of taekwondo; Jaume Jiménez Oliver, in 100 m butterfly-stroke, and Maria del Mont Llosas Losfeld, in radial laser (sailing).

As regards national competitions, the UOC entered four students to administrative transactions proper compete in the University Championships: Jordi Sala Tusquellas, in chess; Antoni Sala Velázquez, in taekwondo; Roberto Muñoz Martínez, in karate, and Jordi Alcubierre Roca. in winter sports. The latter obtained three gold medals in the three modalities of the Alpine attention granted at the support Skiing Competition held at the Baqueira-Beret ski resort.

ACCESS NETWORKS

Students and teachers have the possibility of using access networks from home in order to connect to the servers of the intranet of the UOC.

- BTN (Basic Telephone Network): the most conventional of the access networks, for which a modem at 33 or 56 kbps is necessary.
- ISDN (Integrated Services Digital Network): this provides a capacity of 64 kbps with the possibility of reaching 128 kbps. It offers two channels which allow the connection with the intranet to be maintained without blocking the telephone line.

- ADSL (Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line): Telefónica has begun commercialising Internet access services using ADSL, up to 2 Mbps and with a permanent connection.

SECRETARY'S VIRTUAL OFFICE

The main aim of the Secretary's Virtual Office at the UOC is to provide students with the necessary information and assessment in those issues that relate to the management of their academic record, and to facilitate for them any of the to a university secretary's office.

ATTENTION TO THE PUBLIC

Attention to the public at the UOC is organised around three separate sections: the personal centres and the reception-desks of UOC buildings; telephone attention at 902; and telematic attention by way of the Website's external mailbox.

During the academic year 1999-2000, the information line 902 141 141 attended nearly 25,000 queries and answered some 2,500 electronic messages received at the addresses informacio@uoc.es and information@uoc.es, and more than 50,000 consultations at the support centres and support points.

As of the year 2000, the firm in charge of telephone attention at the UOC is Catalana de Màrqueting Telefònic (CMT). This has brought about an improvement in telephone attention, and better performance in the telemarketing service.

The latest novelty brought into Customer Care is the CRM

(Customer Relationship Management) tool, which replaces old databases and allows for greater efficiency in the management of customers' information requests arriving via the Web, by telephone, or faceto-face. CRM allows for a more accurate monitoring of customers' interests in order to manage them to commercial ends.

Business Initiatives

Some of the expertise of the UOC is produced and made available in the business and social environment by societies which belong to the UOC Group. The UOC demonstrates, in this way, the great interest it has in being able to transmit to the world of business, and to society in general, the expertise it has acquired in its short but intense life, and it does so by establishing alliances and agreements with numerous institutions and enterprises.

Thus, firms and organisations participate with us in the construction of a new society from the starting-point of a concept based on life-long on-line education and on knowledge management as the nuclei of business organisation.

These are major lines of action and service which are developed through initiatives participated in by the UOC: a multi-level and multi-language educational offer, the UOC consumer co-operative, virtual learning and/or management communities, consultancy in e-business, publication of multimedia didactic materials, and, of course, made-to-measure training for businesses and organisations.

The fact of returning to society the better part of the expertise we have acquired makes us into a virtual university that is very close indeed to the real world.

AULA ACTIVA, SA

Fax 93 211 38 45

(until 20th May 2000)
Foundation Date: February 1998
Capital at 31st Dec. 99: 100,000,000
PTA
Participation: 26% EDIUOC
Address: Diputació, 219
08011 Barcelona
Tel. 902 10 18 10

Director: Francesc de P. de Riera

From September 1999 till
September 2000, two
communications media
campaigns were carried out
(television, general press, and
specialised press) to make known
the university extension
educational offer of the
Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
and the Universidad Complutense
de Madrid.

At the present time the educational service of Aula Activa is structured in courses and programmes, the content of which pertains to the areas of knowledge set out below, together with the percentage of demand in this academic year:

Law	3.18%
Economics and Business	28.83%
Humanities	5.23%
Languages	9.37%
Computer Science	42.64%
Pedagogy and Psychology	10.75%

In this academic year, the offer of courses and programmes in Catalan and Spanish was 28 courses and 2 programmes.

CATALANA DE MÀRQUETING TELEFÒNIC, SL

Manager: Dolors Giménez
Foundation Date: 13th October 1999
Capital at 31/12/99: 20,000,000 PTA
Participation: 10% EDIUOC
Address: Josep Tarradellas, 34, 8a.
planta esq.
08029 Barcelona
Tel. 93 430 35 35
Fax 93 410 94 88

Catalana de Màrqueting Telefònic (CMT) is a collaboration initiative of the UOC with Enciclopèdia Catalana, and was set up to provide solutions and services in telemarketing and cybermarketing.

CMT adapts to the particularities of each service in respect of necessities and timetable flexibility. The UOC has entered as a partner in Catalana de Màrqueting Telefònic (CMT), a company whose major

shareholder is the Enciclopèdia Catalana group, with the objective of taking advantage of the synergies generated by this firm.

EDIUOC, SL

Director: Isaías Taboas
Foundation Date: 18th September
1996
Capital at 31/12/99: 48,015,000 PTA
Participation: 100% FUOC
Address: Aragó, 182, 6a. planta i
sobreàtic
08011 Barcelona
Tel. 93 452 74 20
Fax 93 451 30 16
www.ediuoc.es

In the 1999-2000 financial year, EDIUOC (Edicions de la Universitat Oberta de Catalunya) widened its publishing activities in the area of collections of its own (Manuals) and collections copublished with Enciclopèdia Catalana-Pòrtic, Gestión 2000, Edhasa and Gedisa (Biblioteca Oberta, Empresa Oberta, Llibre Web, and Biblioteca de Noves Tecnologies i Educació), and consolidated its catalogue based on didactic materials of the UOC with the Biblioteca Lectus Universitària collection in CD-ROM support.

Likewise, with the aim of opening new lines of publishing based on the modules of the didactic materials of the UOC, but on matters which are of interest to the public in general, a new collection for Internet was designed, called "Llibre digital" (Digital Book), which is characterised by its availability for purchase on the Web at a very reduced price, and which deals with a large number of matters. This collection can also be acquired in paper support.

From the point of view of business alliances, EDIUOC has consolidated its participation in Ensenyament Obert. It has also maintained its participation in Formación Interactiva de Docentes (FID) and in Aula Activa. Furthermore, it constituted the society called Electronic Strategies for Marketing Dominance (estrategies), as a consultant on the development of strategic and business Internet initiatives, and the Planeta UOC society through a strategic alliance with Ediciones Deusto of Grup Planeta, in order to process the degrees of the UOC accredited in Spanish, and undertook other initiatives within the non-presential educational offer.

Within the field of service provision, EDIUOC consolidated with Eurecamedia the services which the latter provided to the UOC in the form of didactic materials created in all supports, physical or digital, and it also defined the processes and made homogeneous the circuits in the creation of the didactic materials in the offer of regulated studies and Continuing Education. As of September, services have been widened to include the offer of Planeta UOC and of the Degree in Multimedia Studies.

ENSENYAMENT OBERT, SL

Director: Eugeni Sender Foundation Date: July 1998 Capital at 31/12/99: 80,000,000 PTA Participation: 50% EDIUOC Address: Diputació, 250 08007 Barcelona Tel. 93 412 60 63 Fax 93 412 38 51 www.obert.com

In the period September 1999 to July 2000, Ensenyament Obert made possible the widening of the educational offer.

• Access course to the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

The number of course startingdates was increased to three (October, March, and May). The number of specialities was also increased with those specific to a degree in Psychology; consequently, the offer of specialities for access to studies is the following:

- Business Studies
- Law
- Humanities
- Technical Engineering in Computer Management and Systems
- Catalan Language and LiteraturePsychology
- Higher Degree Courses

In October 1999 the higher degree courses began to be offered, with two course starting-dates (October and March).

The courses which were given were:

- C.F.S. Secretarial Studies (1,300 h)
- C.F.S. Commercial and Marketing Management (1,400 h)
- C.F.S. Computer Systems Administration (2,000 h)
- Access course to higher degree courses for persons over 20 years of age

In November 1999 the course that gives preparation for access to higher degree courses for persons over 20 was begun, with a single annual course starting-date.

The specialities in which we offer courses are:

- Secretarial Studies
- Commercial and Marketing Management
- Computer Systems Administration
- Open English

In March 2000 Ensenyament Obert launched Open English, which involves the semipresential learning of English. The levels which we offer are:

- Elementary
- Pre-intermediate
- Intermediate
- Upper Intermediate
- Advanced

ELECTRONIC STRATEGIES FOR MARKETING DOMINANCE, SL

Director: Diego Torres
Foundation Date: January 2000
Capital: 2,500,781 PTA
Participation: 60% EDIUOC
Address: Passeig Torreblanca, 16
08190 Sant Cugat del Vallès
Tel. 93 544 21 13
Fax 93 544 21 14
www.e-strategies.org

E-strategies is a consultancy specialised in designing Internet business strategies.

The customers of E-strategies are enterprises and institutions which want to attain leadership in their fields of action and create value for their clients, users, and shareholders.

E-strategies gets strategic reflection under way, constitutes a plan of action, investigates the necessities and the habits of the market, designs communication plans, calculates financial necessities, identifies partners, and supervises the project and the various professionals, who collaborate in the development of a *killing* digital *application*.

In this first year of its life it has collaborated in a number of projects for the following institutions:

- Barcelona Chamber of Commerce
- Town Council of Vilafranca del Penedès
- Department of Social Welfare,
 Catalonian Council of the Associations of Diploma-holders in Nursing
- Espacio Pyme
- Universitat Oberta de Catalunya Foundation
- 'la Caixa' Savings Bank
- Union of Insurance Companies
- Abacus
- Resmundi
- COPCA

EURECAMEDIA, SL

Director-general: Isaías Taboas
Foundation Date: 29th October 1999
Capital at 31/12/99: 5,000,000 PTA
Participation: 70% EDIUOC
Address: Aragó, 182, 6a. planta
08011 Barcelona
Tel. 93 452 74 90
Fax 93 451 30 16
www.eurecamedia.com

The step into the information society and the rapid development of the new technologies demand competitive solutions that are adjusted to the needs of each client.

Eurecamedia is an initiative that wants to give an innovative answer to all organisations dedicated to designing or commercialising educational or reference materials.

On the basis of the needs of each client, and of the provision of material in paper or multimedia support, or simply of an idea, Eurecamedia offers the following services:

- Digitalisation of various formats to the outcome format required.
- Creation of a new made-to-measure global design of multimedia materials: new pedagogical technology, new structuring, new browsing, more development, and more multimedia characteristics.
- Elaboration of the graphic and multimedia and graphic conceptual design of educational and reference materials.
- Publishing of specific educational or reference materials in the most appropriate format (paper, CD-ROM, Web, DVD-ROM).

Its clients are:

- The Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
- Ensenyament Obert
- Aula Activa
- Consorci Hospitalari de Catalunya
- Barcelona Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Navigation
- Consejo General del Poder Judicial (General Council of the Judiciary)
- Catalonia School of Sport
- Sarrià Institute of Chemistry
- Distance Degree in Multimedia
 Studies
- Instituto de Empresa

FORMACIÓN INTERACTIVA DE DOCENTES, SL

Director: Ignacio Manrique de Lara Foundation Date:14th September 1999 Capital at 31/12/99: 40,000,000 PTA Participation: 35% EDIUOC Address: Torrelaguna, 60 28043 Madrid Tel. 91 744 91 74 Fax 91 744 92 07

In the last financial year,
Formación Interactiva de
Docentes (FID) (Interactive
Training of Educators) did not
manage to satisfy the expectations
that had been aroused.

In spite of that, thanks to the marketing effort made (numerous visits were made to virtually every one of the Educational Councils of the autonomous communities, and a great deal of business done in them) and to the pilot projects undertaken in Latin American countries such as Bolivia, it has been shown that the orientation which the major partner (Editorial Santillana) gave to the society - an orientation based exclusively on institutional sales and with a very limited product catalogue – was not viable at the present time.

Furthermore, the evolution of the major partner toward being able to make an offer of its own in distance education, and the alliance of the UOC with the **Grup Planeta**, have made it advisable to put an end to this initiative.

For these reasons, the partners have decided, by common agreement, to begin on a process of disinvestment which, in the medium term, will signify the exit of EDIUOC from among the shareholders of FID.

GESTIÓN DEL CONOCIMIENTO, SA

Director: Pedro Acebillo Marín Foundation Date: 31st January 1997 Capital at 31/12/99: 22,800,000 PTA Participation: 66% FUOC Address: Pellaires, 30-38 08019 Barcelona Tel. 93 394 12 00 Fax 93 394 12 01

Gestión del Conocimiento, SA (GECSA) (Knowledge Management) is an initiative of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya Foundation and of Telefónica de España which offers a wide range of services within the following spheres:

- Non-formal learning of a virtual type directed toward business and organisations
- Design and creation of virtual communities
- Communications systems and knowledge management in organisations

The activities carried out in the 1999-2000 academic year range from the design of learning and telematic communications environments to the implementation of the final turnkey product, day-to-day management, and after-sales service. All of that on the basis of the use of the latest information and communications technologies, in an especially friendly users' environment adaptable to the specific needs of the client.

GECSA has carried out a number of projects involving the implantation of telematic support services in learning and communications initiatives in virtual environments, and has based these on the use of telematic platforms and specifically adapted intranets. Experience has allowed us to personalise virtual environments in accordance with the necessities of clients and to contribute creative solutions which add final value to the product.

On of the most outstanding projects begun on in 1999 was Educ@lia, the result of collaboration between the "la Caixa" Foundation, Telefónica, the Generalitat de Catalunya (Autonomous Government of Catalonia), IBM, and the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya. This is a virtual community for parents, teaching staff, and students of infant and primary education, for which some 500,000 users were foreseen during its operating phase. In this virtual space the common interest is non-formal education on the basis of games and activities of cooperation and discussion.

Throughout 2000 the project came to be implanted in all Catalonia.

It is foreseen that between 2001 and 2002 the project will be extended throughout the Spanish territory and will be developed in a number of phases differing in accordance with the autonomous community in which it may be undertaken.

Another project of great scope effected by GEC is Solidària, a virtual communications space for collaboration in and management of knowledge by means of intranets among NGOs, financed by the Fundación Telefónica. A consultancy has been set up together with the design and content for humanitarian management and for co-operation with non-profit organisations in Spain and Latin America. The centres are in Argentina, Chile, Peru, and Brazil, and in general in the entire Latin American territory.

Club Estrella, inaugurated in 1999, is a project carried out by GECSA and promoted by the "la Caixa" Foundation. It consists of a virtual community which groups together the more elderly users of the Internet. During its operating

phase it is foreseen that it will have close to 70,000 users. This environment is based on three points:

- To adapt to the characteristics of the object public, such an adaptation being clearly on view in certain subject-matter which bears in mind the interests of the elderly, a clear and elegant design, and simple and intuitive browsing system.
- To lay stress on the participation of users, with the objective of integrating their experience into the subjectmatter offered, thereby fostering the sense of community.
- To give priority to dynamism and novelty by constructing a changing environment capable of obtaining the loyalty of its public without jeopardising the subject-matter being offered.

GECSA has developed a number of systems made to the measure of large financial companies, insurance companies, postal communications, pharmaceutics, and so on, for their internal knowledge-management.

For several autonomous communities such as the Autonomous Government of the Canary Islands and the Generalitat de Catalunya, GECSA has developed a series of projects based on the design of a telematic intranet for the training of enterprising young people. The objective is to give support to cultural change in organisations by means of the creation of virtual communities and to train workers and promote systems of quality control in administrations.

In the middle of 2000 the development was begun of e-Cifo, a project for the Conselleria de Treball de Catalunya (Department of Employment of the Catalan Autonomous Government) which consists in the design and creation of platforms, services,

and subject-matter to foment a culture of enterprise. It includes processes of knowledge management and a number of virtual training seminars for SME, and SME creation projects.

This project will be developed throughout 2001, and may continue until 2003. Another of the projects worked on throughout 2000, as a continuation of the work commenced in 1999, is the Virtual Caixa (Virtual Savings-Bank). It involves a virtual community of users within the environment of "la Caixa". The objective of this virtual space is internal training and knowledge management, and it is directed toward all the employees of "la Caixa".

GECSA has designed and constructed intranets in order to improve the competitiveness of some clusters of SMEs, especially in regard to the better placement of the traditional commerce sector vis à vis large department store and supermarket chains, and the rural tourism sector.

GRADUADO MULTIMEDIA A DISTANCIA. SL

Manager: Ladislau Girona Foundation Date: 23rd December

Capital at 31/12/99: 500,156 PTA. Participation: 50% FUOC Address: Av. Tibidabo, 39-43 08035 Barcelona Tel. 93 253 23 00 Fax 93 417 64 95 www.gmmd.net

Graduado Multimedia a Distancia, SL is a joint initiative of the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya and the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya which, organises the offer of its own degree in Multimedia Studies. These studies are worth 225 teaching credits and are offered at the state level in Spanish.

The Degree in Multimedia Studies is the first degree proper to the UOC and has as its objective the training of professionals capable of managing multimedia projects in an integral manner. The studies involved follow the system of progressive obtaining of degrees in the specialities of design and creation of content, technology, and management.

PLANETA UOC, SL

Director-general: Antonio Guerín Foundation Date: July 2000 Foundation Capital foundation capital + reserves: 1,000,000,000 PTA Address: World Trade Centre Barcelona 08039 Barcelona Tel. 93 508 89 00 Fax 93 508 89 10

This is an initiative of the Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and of Grupo Planeta which foments and organises the Latin American division of the UOC in order to offer distance degrees accredited in Spanish for Spain and Latin America.

Throughout the year 2000 Planeta UOC has organised accredited degrees in the pilot phase to more than 300 students of Business Studies and Psychopedagogy residing outside Catalonia.

The division takes advantage of the teaching experience possesses a complete professional team with wide experience, and has prepared everything necessary to being able to offer, within a short time, new distance degrees accredited in Spain and Latin America. It is also preparing the terrain to be able to offer degrees jointly with a number of Latin American countries.

To achieve this objective, Planeta UOC is taking advantage of the teaching experience of the UOC and planning educational activity

for outside the limits of Catalonia. For this purpose it has been necessary to translate materials, make a new virtual campus, and re-design the educational activity management and accounting programmes. It has therefore been a far-reaching process jointly managed through the commercial experience of both partners.

All this is based on the use of the most recent information and communications technologies, in an especially user-friendly environment that is adaptable to the specific necessities of new clients.

In this period, centres were set up in Madrid, Seville, and Valencia, with professional staff capable of offering the maximum support for the tasks which depend specifically on its members. At the same time, teaching staff working exclusively or in a collaborative capacity were chosen, and this task was meticulously organised in order to offer quality at the highest professional level. From the commercial perspective the first promotion campaign was organised with the experience of the UOC and the support of Editorial Planeta.

Finally, within a few months, and with the support of two major institutions, an operation of considerable scope – one that was both efficacious and dynamic – was prepared; and it was able to offer quality and professionality.

XARXA VIRTUAL DE CONSUM, SCCL

Manager: Carles Soler
Foundation Date: 25th November
1996
Capital at 31/12/99: 10,695,000 PTA
Participation: 2.13% FUOC
Members at 31/07/2000: 13,489
Address: Diputació, 219
08011 Barcelona
Tel. 93 253 24 27
Fax 93 453 94 84
www.lavirtual.es

La Virtual (Virtual Consumers'
Network) offers users specificallydesigned solutions for the UOC
study point at the Webtiga, a shop
on the Internet where users can
find computer products and
services, the recommended
bibliographies for UOC courses of
study, and materials proper to the

The Webtiga is part of a larger commercial initiative, the Virtual Gallery (www.lavirtual.com), the first university virtual commerce centre. It is a space managed by *La Virtual* and where business ventures that might be interested can contact the UOC community directly. Thanks to this electronic commerce space, a wider range of products and services is made available to Virtual Campus users.

During this academic year, 1,200 orders made by 900 clients were processed from the Webtiga, and the income earned in this manner was 112,000,000 pesetas.

Financial Report

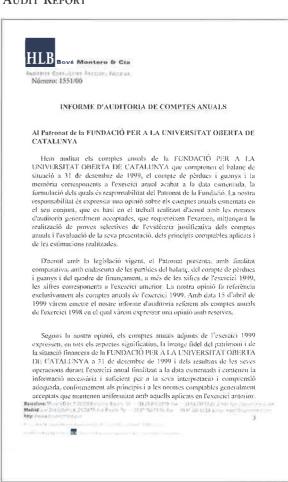
In the section that follows we are detailing the financial data of the Open University of Catalonia Foundation corresponding to the fiscal year 1999.

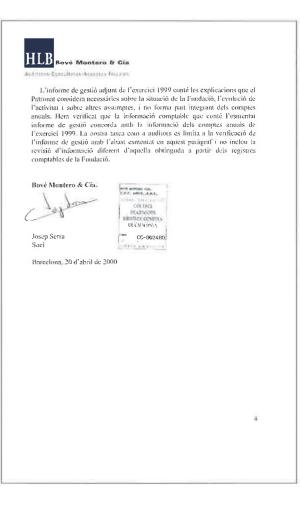
As in previous years, the firm Bové Montero i Cia. audited the Foundation's yearly accounts and presented the relevant positive report to the Foundation's Board of Trustees, which approved the report in the session of 21st June 2000.

After detailed analysis, we are singling out the most relevant aspects of the financial data as follows:

- The monitoring of the profit and loss sheet, and the investment sheet, for the fiscal year 1999 has been done separately for regulated studies (contract programme) and for other training activities.
- In accordance with the forecasts, the ordinary budget for the fiscal year 1999 increased with respect to that of the previous fiscal year by 36%, in order to cover the increase in activities. The result of the fiscal year has been 66,243,975 PTA, destined to fund a reserve for the financing of investment.
- Investments totalled 754,878,011 PTA. The most important item was destined to teaching modules, which represented 42% of total investment for the fiscal year.
- The aim of the UOC was to attain resources of its own which would allow the financing of part of the University and of certain investments.
- The cash flow generated was 75,699,524 PTA, which was destined in its integrity to the financing of investments without specific funding.

AUDIT REPORT





DETAILS OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT DATA

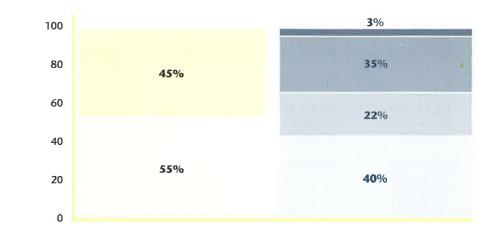
BUDGET

Туре	1997 (1)	1998 (1)	1999 (1)	2000 (2)
Ordinary	1,733,254,692	2,615,317,326	3,567,372,462	3,716,827,725
Investments	598,805,708	831,499,606	754,878,011	758,965,465

⁽¹⁾ Settled budgets

Balance Sheet on 31st Dec. 1999

Assets	in PTA
Establishment expenses Immaterial assets Material fixed assets Financial assets	113,054 1,999,851,201 1,192,792,657 72,087,922
Total fixed assets Accumulated depreciation	3,264,844,834 -1,297,882,062
Net fixed assets	1,966,962,772
Immaterial fixed assets in process	175,535,116
Expenses to be distributed over various fiscal years	29,471,092
Inventory Receivable Temporal financial investments Cash Prepaid expenses	30,649,878 2,104,260,050 251,111,335 231,223,455 55,303,764
Current assets	2,672,548,482
Total Assets	4,844,517,462
Liabilities	in PTA
Share capital Voluntary reserves Net Income	31,412,536 35,105,484 66,243,975
Own funds	132,761,995
Capital grant	1,683,493,230
Revenue to be distributed over various fiscal years	1,683,493,230
Long-term debt	1,086,425,211
Long-term liabilities	1,086,425,211
Short-term debt Debt with companies of the group Debt with associated companies Suppliers Other non-commercial debt Deferred Income	520,404,070 194,832,081 70,905,742 704,073,300 193,374,591 258,247,242
Current liabilities	1,941,837,026
Total liabilities	4,844,517,462



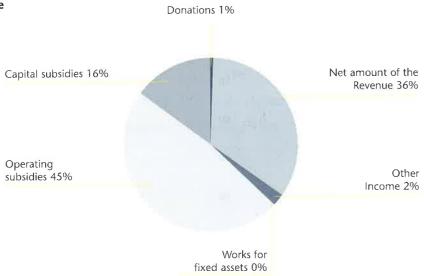
Profit and Loss Statement 1999

Net fixed assets

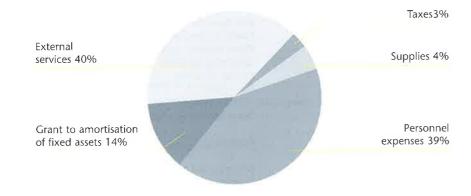
Revenue	Regulated studies (contract programme)	Other training activities	Total FUOC
Net Revenue Works for fixed assets Other Income Operating subsidies Capital subsidies Donations	921,774,810 3,206,139 92,000 1,619,744,296 583,299,431 19,500,000 5,336,875	361,366,190 1,970,055 67,768,748 5,000,000 16,700,000	1,283,141,000 5,176,194 67,860,748 1,624,744,296 583,299,431 36,200,000 5,336,875
Total operating revenue	3,152,953,551	452,804,993	3,605,758,544
Expenses			
Monetary aid and others Suppliers Labour Expenses Amortisation Inventory provision External services Taxes	79,593,642 1,287,570,306 474,561,658 3,583,948 1,230,624,676 69,516,576	230,885 47,538,390 89,457,996 7,851,228 4,154,533 189,111,591 19,160,235	230,885 127,132,032 1,377,028,302 482,412,886 7,738,481 1,419,736,267 88,676,811
Total operating expenses	3,145,450,806	357,504,858	3,502,955,664
Operating results	7,502,745	95,300,135	102,802,880
Financial Income Financial expenses	6,161,906 42,365,772	1,909,074	6,161,906 44,274,846
Result	-28,701,121	93,391,061	64,689,940
Extraordinary Income Extraordinary expenses FUOC's contributions to UOC as per contract programme	10,232,088 14,750,841 34,000,000	16,640,093 10,196,832 -34,000,000	26,872,181 24,947,673
Pre-tax results	780,126	65,834,322	66,614,448
Tax on profits	370,473	,,.	370,473
Net Income	409,653	65,834,322	66,243,975

⁽²⁾ Approved budget, excluding amortisations

Distribution of elements in the operating revenue 1999



Distribution of elements in the operating expenses 1999



Distribution of the result of the fiscal year

Concept	Regulated studies	Other training activities	Total
Investment financed through own resources	8,246,147	66,546,492	74,792,639
Cash flow	2,013,974	73,685,550	75,699,524
Net Income	409,653	65,834,322	66,243,975
Result applied to a reserve for the financing of investm	ents		66,243,975

Investment Details 1999 Investments 1999 (without financial assets)

a) Investments made

	regulated studies	Buys non-reg. studies	Buys Investments 1999
	. egameea stadies	eg, staales	investments 1777
Establishment expenses	0	0	0
Licences, brands and similar	272,568		272,568
Computer applications	155,454,298	3,317,977	158,772,275
Didactic modules	256,516,130	61,442,579	317,958,709
Other immaterial assets	21,142,464	1,785,936	22,928,400
Total immaterial assets	433,385,460	66,546,492	499,931,952
Building work	57,316,198		57,316,198
Other facilities and furniture	63,714,328		63,714,328
Machinery and other material assets	125,287,557		125,287,557
Total material assets	246,318,083	0	246,318,083
Total fixed assets (without amortisation fund)	679,703,543	66,546,492	746,250,035
Expenses to be distributed over various years	8,627,976	0	8,627,976
Total	688,331,519	66,546,492	754,878,011
b) Investment finance	Regulated studies	Non-reg. studies	Financing 1999
Credits for financing of investments (as per contract programme signed with			
DURSI) Investment subsidies from Generalitat	605,000,000	0	605,000,000
(Autonomous Govt.) Investment subsidies from Diputació	21,000,000	0	21,000,000
(Provincial Council)	49,842,820	0	49,842,820
Research projects	4,242,552	0	4,242,552
Cash flow applied to financing of investments	8,246,147	66,546,492	74,792,639
Total	688,331,519	66,546,492	754,878,011

Distribution of the elements Didactic modules 42% of the fixed assets

Building work 8% Other facilities and furniture 8% Machinery and other material assets 16%

Computer applications 21%

Other assets 5%

Financing of investments 1999 (without financial assets)

Debt authorised by the Catalan Government 79% Investment subsidies from Generalitat 3%

Investment subsidies from Diputació 7%

> Research projects 1%

Own resources 10%