

# AfterUOC 2022

## Can Jaumandreu

Let me start by saying how wonderful it is to be able to meet up again with you in person. And it's even more wonderful to be able to do so at our home, at our growing campus here at Can Jaumandreu. As, above all, I want to be able to be among you again I'll make my speech short. It focuses on two points.

The first is related to genealogy. I don't know whether you had the chance to hear President Obama, who returned briefly to the White House, to unveil the official portraits of him and his wife. He's a great speaker and he said that he'd always seen his institutional responsibility as a relay race: "you take the baton from someone, you run your leg as hard and as well as you can, and then you hand it off to someone else". In turn, we could say that:

*"The UOC's long and successful history is thanks to the sum of the legs run by each and every one of you. Together we are more than the sum of our parts, but, if any single part is missing, we are not whole."*

Secondly, I want to stress that strange feeling of belonging that links all of us here today. I say 'strange' because, as you know, talking about an 'ex' isn't usually something positive... at least not in terms of relationships.

*"But, in the case of the UOC, being an 'ex' is something to be proud of, a strong link, something that identifies us."*

I know I'm not exaggerating because it's a conversation I've had with more than one of you here and because your being here and your willingness to work with the UOC are sure signs of this.

And I know because, as the months tick down to becoming an 'ex' myself, the UOC will always be my home, as it is yours, and you'll always be able to count on me, the way we can count on you here today.

Thank you very much!