Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

Annual Report Academic Year 2002-2003

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Presentation

On other occasions, I have referred to the role of research in our universities, and specifically to its near-foundational importance for a young university seeking to realise its potential, such as the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC). To a large extent, it is, in fact, a university's research that determines the quality of teaching and the usefulness to society of the knowledge generated – both, of course, being essential functions of a university.

In last year's report I referred to the raison d'être of research at the UOC – the content – and focussed on an important piece of work – the Projecte Internet Catalunya (PIC). This started in 2001 and the first delivery of the sectorial results and conclusions will occur between 2003 and 2004. Allow me today to make a reference to where the research is carried out – the site.

Research at the UOC is of a multidisciplinary and on-line nature, and the Parc Mediterrani de la Tecnologia, situated in Castelldefels on the outskirts of Barcelona provides a place of excellence conducive to research of this nature. It is here that our university builds up its own research infrastructure. This research centre represents and specifies the resulting efforts of various institutions and organisations, such as the Catalonian Ministry of Universities, Research and the Information Society (DURSI) itself, the Spanish Ministry of Science and Technology, and the European Union, all intent on the same purpose – ongoing research, development, and innovation in Catalonia.

This review of the academic year 2002-2003 would not be complete if the University did not recognise Dr Josep Laporte i Salas, former Catalonian Minister of Health and Education, currently presiding over the Institut d'Estudis Catalans. In March 2003, he became the first Doctor honoris causa at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya. The current status and vigorous productivity of the UOC during the last eight years, are owed, to a large extent, to the motivations and beliefs of Dr Laporte.

Andreu Mas-Colell
Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (FUOC).
Minister of Universities, Research and the Information Society, Catalonian Autonomous Government
(Generalitat de Catalunya)

This eighth academic year at our university has been one of continuity. Let me explain myself. Once again it has been a year in which the UOC's dynamism and the capacity for work of its teaching and management staff has allowed us to continue moving forward decisively and confidently along the three lines that define us as a university institution: teaching, research and the spread of knowledge in society.

It has been a year in which new courses have been developed, to be rolled out fully in the academic year 2003-2004, which I like to think are a sign of our "open" and international profile. A profile that looks to meet the social and economic needs of our environment and which consists of our know-how and expertise in the field of distance education and the use of information and communications technologies in learning. The actual results, thus, can be seen in the agreement with Casa Àsia to start up the first university studies into eastern Asia, the decision to offer the first international master of freeware and preliminary work into the launching of the international master of e-learning.

In terms of research I feel I have to mention, for its symbolic value and for its being one of the UOC's strategic raisons d'être, the first meeting of the UOC's research institute's, the IN3, Scientific Committee. Its members coming from all over the world, from MIT to Madrid's Universidad Complutense, or the LSE, the Polytechnic University of Catalonia and the University of British Columbia, their academic and professional careers and the fact that they are internationally renowned and points of reference in their field are signs of the ambition of our project and research.

It has also been a year of consolidation for our organisation and the legal framework that governs us. In this way, the Regulations for organisation and operation, or NOF, at the university have been updated and approved by the board of trustees. These regulations have been adapted specifically at the university to the new legislation, the Law on universities in Catalonia, or LUC, passed on February 19 2003 and the Organic law on universities 6/2001, or LOU. Another milestone reached, and due to the importance of which I do not wish to leave out, is the Teaching Staff Charter, which, following the consolidation of the UOC's university model, is to regulate and standardise the professional and academic development of our professors at the university.

This eighth year, as I said at the start, has been one of continuity in terms of the dynamic of growth, innovation and consolidation that is the hallmark of the character of the UOC and the team of people that make it possible.

Gabriel Ferraté
Rector of the UOC

One aspect I have always wished to highlight when talking about the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), in its role as an academic and research institution, is that it represents and promotes Catalonian culture everywhere, both here and internationally.

The UOC's Doctoral Programme on the Information and Knowledge Society has two defining characteristics. Firstly, that it is interdisciplinary, in that it shares the knowledge of participants from various disciplines and it points researchers to the specific area of the impacts and transforming effects of ICTs on society. Secondly, that it is international.

Ever since its first edition in the academic year 2000-2001, there are already 190 graduates and researchers who have taken part, with nearly 50% being from foreign countries. Of them, forty obtained the Diploma of Advanced Studies, eight are working on their doctoral thesis, and one of them has already read it.

In this sense, the Doctoral Programme integrates a number of elements that define what one can expect from the UOC: The promotion of initiatives, channels and programmes to encourage networking and on-line work by researchers and professionals who are from various disciplines and countries.

Thus, the Information and Knowledge Society provides the facility for study and research and the UOC's doctoral programme allows this research to be internationally recognised.

Josep Vilarasau
Chairman of the Council, Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (FUOC)

FUOC

Governing Bodies

**The Foundation
for the Universitat
Oberta de Catalunya**

The Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, created on 6 October 1994, is governed by a Board of Trustees made up of various entities firmly consolidated throughout the territory and of acknowledged social prestige. The following are its founding institutions: the Catalonian Federation of Savings Banks; the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Navigation of Barcelona; Televisió de Catalunya, SA; and Catalunya Ràdio, Servei de Radiodifusió de la Generalitat, SA (Catalonian Radio and Television).

The Board of Trustees was next joined by the Generalitat de Catalunya (Catalonian Autonomous Government), which holds the majority of votes, and later by the Fundació Enciclopèdia Catalana, the Fundación Lara and the Fundación Telefónica.

Its constitutive process was continued with the unanimous approval of the Law of Recognition of the UOC (Law 3/1995, of April 6th), and the corresponding publication in the Official Gazette of the Generalitat (DOGC) no 2040 of 21 April 1995.

Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

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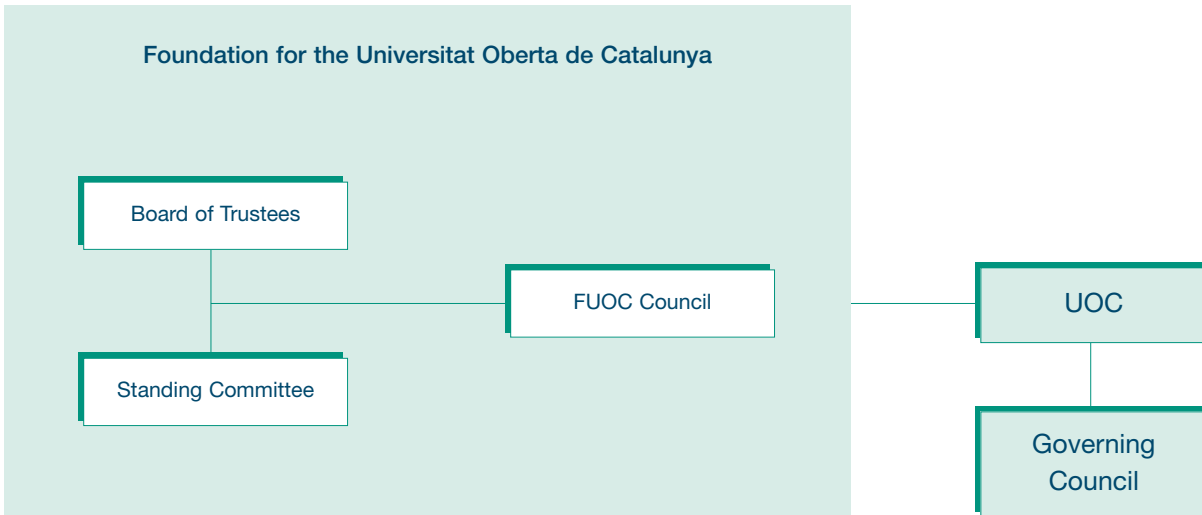
Board of Trustees of the UOC

The Board of Trustees is the highest body in the representation, government and administration of the Foundation according to its Statutes (section 1, article 14.1). The main functions of the Board in relation to the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya are to approve, and if necessary to modify, the norms concerning the organisation and workings of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya; to appoint and to dismiss the Rector and the Administrator; to approve the University budget and balance of payments; to approve the plan of action put forward by the Rector, and to evaluate its results.

Members of the Board of Trustees of the FUOC

**The Standing Committee
of the Board**

The Foundation's Board of Trustees delegates some of its functions to the Standing Committee, which is the permanent body for the administration and management of the Foundation, and whose mission is to direct the ordinary affairs of the Foundation.

Members of the Standing Committee of the Board

The FUOC Council

The Board of Trustees is assisted by the FUOC Council, a consultative body of the Foundation, in accordance with an agreement of 28th December 1995, made by the Government of the Generalitat de Catalunya, by which the composition and functions of the Council are approved (Resolution of 8th January 1996).

The function of the FUOC Council is to inform about the budget, the programme, and the appointment of the Rector of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya.

In addition to the Rector of the UOC and the Director of the FUOC, it is made up of representatives from the Catalonian Parliament (2), public universities (4), employers' associations (2) and trade unions (2), and various personalities from the field of research and culture (5). It is therefore widely representative of Catalonian society, to which the University, given its condition as a public service, has the determination and the duty to serve.

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 Inter-university Council (Consell Interuniversitari de Catalunya):

Joan Batlle, Rector, University of Girona (UdG)
Lluís Ferrer, Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB) until 9 May 2003, on which date he was substituted by **Joan Tugores**, Rector, University of Barcelona (UB)
Josep Ferrer, Rector, Polytechnic University of Catalonia (UPC) until 9 May 2003, on which date he was substituted by **Rosa Maria Virós**, Rector, Pompeu Fabra University (UPF)
Lluís Arola, Rector, Rovira i Virgili University (URV)

Councillors-representatives appointed by the legally-constituted Employers' Associations of widest scope in Catalonia:

Josep A. Díaz Salanova, Vice President of Foment del Treball
Lluís Godayol, Representative of PIMEC

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

César López Sánchez, Representative of Comissions Obreres (CCOO)
Jordi Fayos i López, Representative of UGT

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

Josep Vilarasau, President, Caixa d'Estalvis i Pensions de Barcelona Foundation
Chairman
Manuel Castellet
Carmina Virgili, Spanish Senate
Vice President

Two vacants

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.

The Governing Council of the UOC

The internal organisation of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya has in the Governing Council its highest body of collegiate government, whose function is to guide, plan and evaluate university activity, and to lay down the main lines of action of the University in all its spheres.

The Rector is the highest authority of the University and holds the maximum responsibility in the representation, government, and administration of the University. The Rector is assisted by the Vice Rectors and the Administrator, whose job is the overseeing of the ordinary management of the University.

Members of the Governing Council of the UOC

Gabriel Ferraté
Rector

Josep Coll
Vice Rector for Academic Policy

Imma Tubella
Vice Rector for Research

Francesc Vallverdú
Vice Rector for Educational Methodology and Innovation

Joan Fuster
Vice Rector for Cultural Action and Relations

Francisco Rubio
Vice Rector for International Relations

Xavier Aragay
Administrator

Organisational Structure

Norms Concerning the Organisation and Workings of the UOC

Foreword

This new century is a time of fast changes, a time in which information and knowledge play a growingly determining role in the life of societies. This period of changes harbours the potentiality of discovering a new renaissance based on the strength of creativity, scientific activity, and cultural development of the collectivity. Our knowledge society can be singled out by its capacity to create, to accumulate and to transmit knowledge, the capacity which people have to generate ideas, to disseminate them and to make them evolve through networking in order to obtain social advantages from them.

A society geared toward knowledge has the right to demand a key and active role from universities. Universities have indeed been geared toward knowledge for more than seven hundred years. They must evolve now in order to adapt not only to change, but also to their future role. The university is in a position to achieve the leadership of a new offer of services, values and ideas, with a will to participate with its own voice, while contributing scientific knowledge, integrating new values, and encouraging the capacity of creation of richness based on knowledge, acting as an intellectual and critical powerhouse of society; in one word, gearing society toward a richer and more creative cultural future, a more cohesive and progressive social future for all.

Under the impulse of the Generalitat de Catalunya and through the Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (FUOC), the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (henceforth UOC) was born at the end of the last century as a deeply innovating university aiming to become a world referent in the sphere of distance universities. It is a university with a will to lead new research and training proposals from the possibilities offered by the information and communications technologies, anticipating the new problems and needs of people and organisations in a rapidly-evolving society, a society more complex and global all the time, in which knowledge and innovation constitute the keys of professional activity and well-being.

The UOC was created by the Law 3/1995 of the Catalonian Parliament, of 6th April. In it the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya is acknowledged as a new reality, which has found specific acknowledgement in the Law 1/2003, of 19th February, about Catalonian universities (LUC) and in Organic Law 6/2001, of 21st December, about universities (LOU).

Mission and Inspiring Principles

The UOC is a university emerged from the knowledge society and its basic mission is to facilitate the training of people throughout their lives.

The main aim of the UOC is to get each person to satisfy his or her learning needs taking full advantage of his or her effort. To this end it uses the information and communications technologies which allow it to overcome the space and time barriers, while facilitating the accessibility of people to training, by means of an educational design based on personalisation and integral accompaniment.

Students, faculty and management staff interact and co-operate in the Virtual Campus, making up a university community which uses the Net to create, structure, share, and disseminate knowledge.

The UOC aims to stimulate the creativity of people and promote the progress of society, encouraging specialised research around the knowledge society and establishing alliances with universities and institutions from all over the world which share objectives and values to construct a global space of knowledge.

This mission develops in accordance to the following inspiring principles:

1. The UOC is rooted in Catalonia and its presence is felt throughout the world

The UOC is aware that it is providing a public service and, as a consequence, it works for the benefit of Catalonian society and it is therefore rooted in the cultural, social, scientific and linguistic reality of Catalonia, where it has been conceived of as an innovating element in its university system, and it connects to its industrial, commercial, artistic and services needs. In this respect, the UOC's own and official language is Catalan, without prejudice to what is laid down in article 3.2 of the Autonomical Statute of Catalonia. For this reason, the UOC promotes the full use of the Catalan language in all its spheres and will lay down the relevant means to ensure its understanding and use both by faculty and students. Its nature and activity make it present world-wide, where it has been acknowledged for its pedagogical methodology and the design of the training activities from the intensive use of the information and communications technologies.

2. Making knowledge available to all, regardless of time and space limitations

In today's society, knowledge needs to be made as accessible as possible to all citizens, ensuring that they can obtain access to the learning process in a personalised way from any place and at any time. By taking advantage of the opportunities afforded by the information technologies, the UOC provides an advanced answer to the needs of society in its globality, without any limitations involving age, activity, financial status, place of residence or personal situation, making it easier for each person to achieve their training objectives and needs in a flexible way.

3. Offering permanent training in accordance with personal needs

A changing and intensive society regarding knowledge brings about social and professional changes in citizens which make them require access to new knowledge. The UOC designs its educational offer in accordance with the person's need to learn throughout his or her life, while taking into consideration at the same time people's varying learning needs and styles, with the aim of taking the utmost care in the access to university training.

4. Placing methodology at the service of learning

The pedagogical methodology and the way to learn are training values in themselves and they constitute an essential part of the UOC's way of being. The aim of the UOC is to facilitate learning. For this reason, it is a student-oriented university, in which the various Faculties, programmes and projects are designed in accordance with the real needs of individuals and collectives to which it addresses itself. The UOC is an institution which strives to learn how to serve better the persons, organisations and collectives to which it has a duty.

5. Promoting research and innovation in the knowledge society

The UOC created the Internet Interdisciplinary Institute (IN3) for a better promotion, financing and co-ordination of research. Its twofold objective is to provide support to all the research and development activity which is carried out at the university, specifically, that of focusing on the study of the impact on our society of the generalised use of networked information. The IN3 intends to become a world referent in this field and it acts in co-operation with other universities and institutions, especially with the university system in Catalonia.

6. Promoting university co-operation through a metacampus

In order to satisfy to the maximum the training needs of students, and being aware of the possibilities offered by a global society which owes its accessibility to the communications technologies, the UOC promotes the metacampus as a formula of academic co-operation with universities from all over the world. The metacampus has to make possible the exchange of content, lecturers and subjects from any university with students from any other university, without limitations. The global sphere of activity of the UOC is the global space of knowledge, which knows of no temporal or territorial limitations.

7. Collaborating with the environment in order to achieve the objectives

The complex reality of today makes collaboration with the environment indispensable to obtain the best results. This, together with the information technologies, makes the existence of multiple co-operation networks both possible and necessary. The UOC plays an active role in them, which leads to the creation of alliances, collaboration agreements and mixed or shared entities which have helped the UOC to attain the objectives of service, quality and universality with which it feels committed. All these relations are geared to power the excellence of the UOC and to provide it with the right dimension to guarantee its working in today's society.

8. Creating a new organisation for a new concept of university

The UOC is becoming the innovating online organisation which uses the Internet and the information technologies in an intensive way, not only in its internal processes, but also in the development of its activity. This nature allows it to be flexible, interactive and to act globally. It seeks the best professionals to represent its main value. They integrate into a single team of enterprising culture, geared to excellence. This team turns quality and efficiency, permanently evaluated from an internal and external point of view, into one of the basic objectives at the service of university strategy.

9. Adopting en ethical commitment to society

The UOC advocates for equal opportunities, making no difference regarding sex, sexual leaning, religion, nationality or any other social distinction, in a context in which cultural diversity, solidarity, sustainability, and positive and creative knowledge are a guarantee of humanity's progress. From its activity, the UOC promotes values which make individual and collective progress possible, like teamwork, co-operation, solidarity, an enterprising capacity, responsibility, creativity, and a continued improvement. As a university, the UOC seeks to become active in its role to promote critical thought, to anticipate problems, and to offer new proposals and suggestions for the challenges poised by today's society, especially those arising from the use of the information technologies.

Chapter One
Aims of the University

Article 1

Since its integration into Catalonia's university system and in order to render a service to Catalonian culture and to project it into the world, and to make effective the challenges expressed in its mission and inspiring principles, the UOC is determined to attain the following objectives:

1. Promoting, improving and innovating teaching and learning throughout one's life through distance means.
2. Encouraging and developing scientific research in all the fields of knowledge where the University is present, especially in the study of the knowledge society.
3. Disseminating knowledge, transferring technology, know-how and innovation across the fields of training and culture associated to the intensive use of ICTs.

Article 2

To develop all these objectives, the UOC, as an institution with a will to anticipate the future and adapt to social change, brings together a team of professionals of the highest level who constitute its main value.

Article 3

As a networked organisation, the UOC structures a collection of institutions and alliances around the university which makes up the UOC Group.
The UOC Group serves the purpose laid down in the mission and principles of the University and is an instrument to widen its relation to society, to transfer its knowledge and expertise onto it, and at the same time, to generate a return that will power its activities.

Article 4

UOC's teaching is exclusively of the distance modality through the Virtual Campus, where a true university community which creates and shares knowledge is organised.

The University is structured as a network, with a nucleus made up of the university community (students, own faculty, and management staff) and a space for various collaborators from all over the world.

The Virtual Campus develops into various campuses: the main campus –the original campus– and some other specific campuses, attending to the various territorial, sectorial, cultural and linguistic spheres of their area of action.

Article 5

According to the possibilities offered by global society –made accessible thanks to the information and communications technologies– the UOC promotes the concept of metacampus as a way of relating and of academic co-operation, where lecturers and students may virtually share subjects, research and content, from universities world-wide, in order to construct a global space of creation and knowledge.

Article 6

In accordance with the characteristics of virtual teaching which allow overcoming space and time restrictions in the world, with its international presence the UOC contributes to a twofold objective:
   a) to facilitate the access of all to knowledge and culture, helping them to overcome space or functional restrictions or of any other type.
   b) to project and obtain the best opportunities, relations and alliances for the Catalonian culture at a world-wide scale.

Article 7

In accordance with its values, the UOC takes part in solidarity programmes involving co-operation and help to development, contributing to them its technology and know-how, and the voluntary work of the members of its community.

Chapter Two
Governing Bodies

Article 8

The University has two types of governing bodies, namely unipersonal and collegiate ones.
1. The unipersonal governing bodies are the Rector, the Vice Rectors, the General Secretary, and the Administrator.
2. The collegiate governing bodies are the Board of Trustees, the Standing Committee and the Council of the Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, and the Governing Council, the Academic Affairs Committee and the Strategic Committee.

The Rector and Vice Rectors
Article 9

The Rector is the highest academic authority of the University. To him or her, therefore, correspond the relevant responsibilities of representation and government.
1. The Rector is nominated by the FUOC's Board of Trustees, after the opinion of the FUOC Council is heard, and his or her election and dismissal must be ratified by the Government of the Generalitat.
2. The Rector presides over the Governing Council and any other meeting of any governing body of the University which he or she may attend, with the exception of the Board of Trustees, the Standing Committee and the Council of the Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya.

3. The Rector is assisted by Vice Rectors, in the number he or she will decide. The nomination, assigning of functions and dismissal of the Vice Rectors is the Rector's responsibility.
4. The Vice Rectors are full members of the Governing Council.
5. In case of absence, illness or vacancy of the Rector, a Vice Rector designated by the Rector will take on his or her responsibilities. If a Vice Rector has not been previously designated, responsibilities will be handed over to the Vice Rector of higher seniority.

Article10

The functions of the Board of Trustees, the Standing Committee and the Council of the Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya will be those laid down in the Statutes of the Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and the corresponding norms of application.

The Secretary-General
Article 11

Whenever he or she thinks it necessary, the Rector may appoint a Secretary-General from among the staff of the UOC and assign to him or her the corresponding competences.
1. The Secretary-General is the Secretary of all the governing bodies of the University and the Electoral Board.
2. He or she forms part of the Council, of which he or she is the Secretary.

The Administrator
Article 12

The Administrator is in charge of the day-to-day management of the University.
1. The Administrator is named or dismissed, upon proposal of the Rector, by the Board of Trustees of the FUOC of which, by reason of the post, he or she is the Chairperson.

2. The Administrator is a full member of the Governing Council.
3. The Administrator may have assistants, who will be nominated and dismissed by the Rector, who will also assign to them their functions, upon the proposal of the Administrator.

The Governing Council
Article 13
The Governing Council is made up of the Rector, the Vice-Rectors, the Administrator, and the Secretary General should there be one, who will act as its Secretary.

1. The following are the functions of the Governing Council:
   a) To set the strategic and programmatic lines of the University.
   b) To guide, plan and assess the activity of the University.
   c) To lay down the general working lines for all areas of the University.
2. The Governing Council can create the committees it may think necessary, be they permanent or temporal, to develop the policy of the University.

Article 14
As the highest collegiate body of the University, the Governing Council has to approve:
   a) The agreements in which the University wishes to take part.
   b) The study and research programmes.
   c) The academic calendar.
   d) The designation of representatives of the University in other institutions.
   e) The norms affecting the University itself (matriculation, permanence...).
   f) The creation and provision of teaching, research and management structures.

g) The fixing of the careers of the academic, research and management staff.
h) The fixing of the retribution levels and the conditions to participate in the staff selection processes of the University.
i) The definition of the criteria to assess staff and university structures.

1. All decisions about provisions, fixing the teaching careers and retribution levels must, at any rate, adapt to the General Action Plan, as defined and approved by the Board of Trustees of the FUOC, and to the specific budget which accompanies it.
2. The Governing Council will report to the Board of Trustees of the Foundation about all agreements formalised by the University.

Article 15
The following will require a previous debate and approval by the Governing Council before they are presented to the Board of Trustees of the Fundació:
   a) The norms about internal functions and those developing these.
   b) Any modifications to current regulations.
   c) The University's budget and economic balance sheet.
   d) The University's plan of action.
   e) The report of the teaching and research activity carried out by the University.
   f) The fees for didactic materials and university services.
   g) The proposals for teaching new regulated or own degrees.
   h) The University's entrance requirements for students.
As for budgeting and programming, the FUOC Council will previously submit a mandatory report in accordance with the Statutes of the Foundation of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and the Agreement of 28 December 1995 of the Government of the Generalitat de

Catalunya, by which the membership and functions of the FUOC Council were approved.

The Academic Affairs Committee
Article 16
The Academic Affairs Committee is made up of the members of the Governing Council, the Heads of Faculty, the Head of the IN3 and any other academic post designated by the Rector.

1. The Academic Affairs Committee will be presided over by the Rector or by the member of the Governing Council whom he or she may designate. The following are the functions of the Academic Affairs Committee:
   a) The monitoring and co-ordination of the execution of the academic activity in accordance with the Strategic Plan of the University and the Annual Plan of Objectives.
   b) The co-ordination and strategic alignment of teaching, research, and technology dissemination and transfer of the University.
   c) The promotion of interdisciplinary programmes.
   d) The promotion of the development of the academic community and its members.
   e) The assessment to the Rector, the Governing Council and the Strategic Committee, in all the spheres of academic life.

Strategic Committee
Article 17
The Strategic Committee is made up of the members of the Governing Council and the Academic Affairs Committee, the heads of area and the administrators of the line of activity.

1. The Strategic Committee will be presided over by the Rector or by the member of the Governing Council whom he or she may designate. The following are the functions of the Strategic Committee:

a) To submit to the Governing Council the strategic plan and the plan of objectives each academic year, and to do the monitoring and co-ordination of its execution.

b) To suggest to the Rector and the Governing Council strategic and specific actions.

c) To favour co-ordination among the various sectors of the University.

d) To facilitate to all its members the necessary information to ensure the flux to all the organisation.

2. The Strategic Committee can in its turn set up specific committees, of a temporary or permanent nature.

Chapter Three
University Structures

Academic Structures
Article 18
The academic activity of the UOC is structured into a single centre for all its programmes, attending to the fact that it carries out its activity in an exclusively distance modality.
The Rector is the highest academic authority of this centre.

Article 19
The faculty is usually distributed into Faculties which are defined by thematic spheres of knowledge, in order to develop their academic tasks.

Article 20
The Rector appoints a Head for each Faculty from its own teaching staff.
1. The Heads of Faculty are members of the Academic Affairs Committee and of the Strategic Committee.
2. The following are the functions of the Heads of Faculty:
a) The promotion and guidance of the activities in the Faculties.
b) The professional development of the lecturers that form part of them.

c) A guarantee of the coherence of the teaching, research, dissemination of knowledge, transfer and innovation activities.

d) The leadership of the relation with the professional sector.

e) The representation of the University in those acts they attend by reason of their posts or representing the Rector.

Article 21
The Governing Council will define the number of Faculties and their thematic sphere, as well as the other academic structures which make possible the activity of the single centre of the UOC.

Article 22
The University's teaching offer is structured into programmes. Each programme will have a Director appointed by the Governing Council among the lecturers.

Article 23
The UOC created the IN3 as a research instrument of the University with the following functions:
a) To stimulate and support the research promoted by the UOC faculty, facilitating fundraising and financing of the projects.
b) To lead the development of the research ambits and lines to which the University may give strategic priority.

Article 24
The Rector appoints the Head of the IN3, whose assignment is the managing of the research and development, according to the guidelines of the Governing Council.
1. The Head of IN3 is a member of the Academic Committee and of the Strategic Committee.
2. In order to develop its task, the IN3 will seek the resources and the adequate infrastructure to ensure the operative organisation of all its activities.

3. The Governing Council will create the advisory organs for the IN3 it may consider necessary in order to contribute to the development of its aims.

The Virtual Library
Article 25
The pedagogical model of the UOC hinges on the Virtual Campus as the learning environment where university life takes place. Within the Campus, the Virtual Library is a resource centre for training and research. The mission of the Library is to provide to the university community and to the UOC network access to the information resources, and to collaborate in the processes of creation of knowledge.
1. The Rector appoints the Head of the University's Virtual Library.
2. The Head of the University's Virtual Library is a member of the Strategic Committee.

Management Structures
Article 26
The University management is structured into areas of management and lines of action. The Governing Council outlines the number and functions of the areas and lines of action.

Article 27
The management areas are functional resource areas which are professionally specialised, and must be organised so that they guarantee an efficient and agile working of the University and an optimum use of the resources.
1. The management areas will fall under the responsibility of a Director who will be appointed by the Rector after a proposal of the University Administrator.
2. The area Directors are members of the Strategic Committee.

3. The areas will be structured into operating groups under the responsibility of a Director of the operating group. The Directors of the operating groups will be appointed by the University Administrator.

Article 28
The lines of action manage all teaching, research and dissemination services given by the University.

1. The lines of action will fall under the responsibility of a manager of line of activity appointed by the Rector after a proposal of the University Administrator.
2. The managers of the lines of action are members of the Strategic Committee.

Article 29
The Rector may appoint a Head of Cabinet and assign to him or her the supporting functions he or she may deem necessary.

Territorial Structures
Article 30
1. In order to guarantee and facilitate its presence in the territory of action, the UOC will roll out a node network of local relations. Each node will be either an own or a concerted node, the latter through collaboration agreements with public or private entities. Each node will have the territorial scope defined by the Governing Council and its aim will be to provide support to and galvanisation of the university community and to disseminate and inform.

2. At any rate, the main campus will have support centres concerted with public and private entities through an agreement. These centres guarantee its presence in the regions of Catalonia and will provide services to the community and the territory. Each centre will have a person responsible appointed by the Governing Council. This person will also be responsible of the territorial area determined by the Governing Council.

Chapter Four
University Community

Article 31
The university community is made up of the students, the own faculty and the management personnel.

The Students
Article 32
To the effect of these regulations, UOC students are all those who are enrolled in any of the University's official or own educational programmes, whether as undergraduate or postgraduate degrees.

1. The UOC gears all its action towards the service of students so that through the optimisation of their effort they may achieve the objectives set. For this reason it turns personalised attention and integral accompaniment into the central elements of its methodology.
2. The Governing Council will lay down the specific norms of access for each programme, if necessary.

Article 33
1. Students have the following rights:
   a) To receive a quality training and teaching.
   b) Not to be discriminated upon by reason of sex, sexual leaning, race, opinion, religion, handicap or any other personal or social circumstance.
   c) To be evaluated in a just and objective way.
   d) To receive information about study plans.
   e) To exercise freedom of expression, association, information and reunion in the campus in accordance with the conditions of use fixed by the University.
   f) To take part, through the organs laid down in these norms and with their initiatives and opinions, in the good functioning of the University.
   g) To be informed and heard, and to have access to reasoned information about the decisions of the governing bodies.
2. Students have the following duties:
   a) To fulfil their academic duties.
   b) To make a good use of the resources the University provides them with, in particular those relating to the Virtual Campus.
   c) To fulfil the Chart of commitments of the community.
   d) To fulfil the Norms of organisation and functioning and other internal regulations.
   e) To take part in university life in the best interest of the University.
3. The rights and duties of students may be developed by specific norms of the Governing Council, which will have to rely on a mandatory report of the campus committees.

Participation
Article 34
Given the special circumstances of virtual learning and its potentialities, participation and association procedures are devised to ensure that the opinions, interests and contributions of the UOC students may have an effective influence on the improvement of the institution.

1. To this end, for each of the existing campus, the following forms of participation have been devised:
   a) The Faculty committees.
   b) The Campus committee.
   c) And for the main campus, the support centre committees.
2. Elections at the University will be conducted within the framework of the corresponding campus, under the supervision of the Electoral Board and in accordance with the specific norms laid down by the Governing Council.

The Faculty Committees
Article 35
A committee will be set up for each of the existing faculties of the University, in order to channel study participation in the ordinary working of the faculties.
1. Each committee will be presided over by the respective Head of Faculty, and will include the Directors of Programmes related to the Faculty, and will ordinarily work through the corresponding campus.
2. The election of the student representatives in the Faculty committees will be carried out by secret and universal ballot in the corresponding campus.
3. The number of students in each committee will be fixed by a specific internal regulation approved by the Governing Council.

The Support Centre Committees
Article 36
Given the characteristics of the scope of the main campus, and with a view to promote student participation in the territory, a student committee will be created for each of the support centres. The purpose of these committees is to propose activities to the people in charge of the support centres and to provide assessment on the functioning, services, and activities at each centre.

1. Each committee will be presided over by the person in charge of the support centre and will have the number of students laid down in the regulations.
2. The way of electing will be by secret and universal ballot, in the campus, among all the students assigned to the corresponding support centre.
3. The Governing Council will lay down the specific norms.

UOC Associations
Article 37
The UOC will favour student associations in the academic, cultural, professional, leisure, sporting and solidarity spheres. The Virtual Campus will be the preferred means of carrying out the activities of these associations. A set of rules and regulations issued by the Governing Council will determine the procedures to be followed to start up an association and to use the necessary computer support material.

UOC's Own Teaching Staff
Article 38
The UOC's own teaching staff is committed to its reason of being and methodology. The UOC's own teaching staff is responsible for academic activity in its sphere of knowledge or in similar spheres; it is responsible for the development of the University's research; and it contributes to the corporate strategy of dissemination of knowledge.
1. The staff's teaching conditions, its number and categories, its selection criteria, its training and promotion will be laid down in accordance with the UOC's teaching and research needs. They will have to be the object of regulatory development by the Governing Council.

2. The UOC teaching staff is hired to work exclusively for it on a full-time basis, and is normally assigned to a single faculty. Selection of the UOC teaching staff is based on works published, capacity, suitability and academic and scientific merits. If previously authorised by the Rector, faculty may develop external work.
3. The own staff will co-ordinate the collaborating staff, the research technicians, and the authors of didactic materials.
Their activity is subject to evaluation. Similarly, the UOC will establish the agreements contemplated by the Law with the Quality Agency of the Catalonian University System.

Article 39
The UOC teaching staff takes part in the activity and general orientation of the University through meetings with the other lecturers of the faculty and by participating in the Campus Committee, if selected.

Article 40
The University's Lecturers Council will meet at least once a year. The Council is made up of the UOC's own teaching staff, and is convened and presided over by the Rector. The function of this Council is to debate and to put into common all aspects of university life, paying special attention to those aspects specifically of an academic nature and relating to the development of the University's own scientific community.
The Governing Council will carry out the regulatory development of the Council of Lecturers, and will establish its composition and functioning.

Management Staff
Article 41

The Management Staff is committed to the reason of being of the University, and it works for the improvement and innovation of its field of professional specialisation.

1. The Management Staff forms part of the university community. The management staff is made up of professionals who specialise in areas that are necessary for the right management of the University.
2. The Management Staff is selected according to criteria focusing on the person's professionalism and suitability for the job.

Article 42

The Management Staff participates of the activity and ideas of the University by means of meetings of their management areas, reunions and specific conferences, as well as through their representatives at the Campus Committee, according to the specific norms.

The Campus Committee
Article 43

The Campus Committee is the participatory body that is convened in order to achieve what is laid down in article 8.6 of the Law of Recognition of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya.

1. The following are the functions of the Campus Committee:
   a) To inform mandatorily of the academic programming.
   b) To inform mandatorily of the internal norms affecting the rights and duties of students.
   c) To inform mandatorily of the norms of access and permanence.
   d) To inform mandatorily of the rules of participation and the elections.
   e) To value the workings of the institution, of the services and of the campus, and to contribute initiatives to it.
   f) To manage the opinions and suggestions of the university community.
2. The Campus Committee will be constituted in all cases by the Rector, who may delegate the presidency on a Vice Rector, who will convene and preside over it; an own lecturer from each faculty, chosen among the faculty's own teaching staff; a student from each faculty chosen from the members of the study committees and support centres, when necessary, and three members chosen from the management staff.
3. The Governing Council will mandatorily develop the election process.
4. The Rector will design a Secretary among the staff of the University. The Committee will normally meet in the corresponding campus and will lay down its own internal functioning rules.
5. The Committee of the main campus will design the representatives laid down in the Law of Universities of Catalonia, in the Conference of the Catalonian Interuniversity Council.

The University Ombudsman
Article 44

The Board of Trustees of the Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, at the suggestion of the Rector, will appoint a University ombudsman. His or her function will be to watch over the rights and duties of all the University members. It will act with independence and autonomy from all other University organs and instances.

Chapter Five
The Collaborating Teaching Staff. The UOC Network

Collaborating Teaching Staff
Article 45

In order to fulfil its objectives as a University, the UOC has a wide network of external experts, under the co-ordination of its own staff, who work as collaborating teaching staff.

1. The collaborating teaching staff takes on the UOC's educational methodology and has the role of guiding student learning. It offers external services through the contracts signed with the University. Its selection is through a public process.
2. When the staff member is a lecturer from other universities, the UOC will establish the specific agreements laid down in Article 4 of the Law of Recognition of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya.
3. The Heads of Faculty and a Vice Rector specifically designed by the Rector to carry out this function, will take care of and monitor its University activity, and will co-ordinate their initiatives and opinions regarding the institution.
4. To all intents and purposes, the authors or visiting lecturers will, for as long as their collaboration with the UOC lasts, receive the same consideration as the collaborating teaching staff.

The UOC Network
Article 46

The UOC is a networked organisation which works as a network; for this reason, and by means of the Virtual Campus and the metacampus, its community is linked to groups, institutions and persons which co-operate in activities and services and which share a common knowledge space, in several degrees and various way, as they make up the UOC network.

1. The UOC network is made up of the following:
   a) Members of external research groups or linked to the University.
   b) Members of the Graduates Club and Friends of the University.
   c) Lecturers and students in metacampus programmes.
   d) People participating in co-operation programmes and members of the Campus for Peace.
   e) The members of the public or private institutions who collaborate with the UOC's territorial nodes.
   f) All those who by reason of their link to the UOC enjoy the privilege of one or several of the University campuses.

The Club of Graduates and Friends of the University
Article 47
The Club of Graduates and Friends of the University is a space for associations and services for the alumni community and the friends of the UOC. Its members are members of the UOC network and they operate through the Virtual Campus.

1. Its working norms are the general norms applicable to UOC associations, and the Governing Council may lay down specific norms for its linkage to university activity.
2. The possibility that important members of the Club may form part of the FOUC Council will be taken into account. They will be designed by the Board of Trustees of the FUOC, at the suggestion of the Rector.

The Campus for Peace
Article 48
The Campus for Peace is the UOC's solidarity initiative, contributing to it with its expertise, technology, knowledge and the community's voluntary work. It develops co-operation programmes and programmes to help the development and promotion of peace and solidarity.

Additional Regulations

First Additional Regulation
The UOC commits itself to lend its maximum effort to incorporate into the world of study those people who, for reasons of any type of disability, cannot do so yet.

Second Additional Regulation
The UOC will pay special attention to the programmes that will favour the competency of the university community in third languages.

Final Regulation
These rules and regulations will be raided by the FUOC's Board of Trustees to the Government of the Generalitat de Catalunya, who will approve them if necessary, and may be implemented through specific further regulations. These regulations will be approved by the FUOC's Board of Trustees by suggestion of the Governing Council.

DOGC no 4013 of 19 November 2003

UOC's Model of Excellence

The UOC aims at being an institution which may excel in each of the services it renders. In order to achieve this goal, we look for the policies and tools typical of universities and of institutions of a recognised high quality.

The collection of own policies, systems and tools used by the UOC is what we know as *model of excellence.*
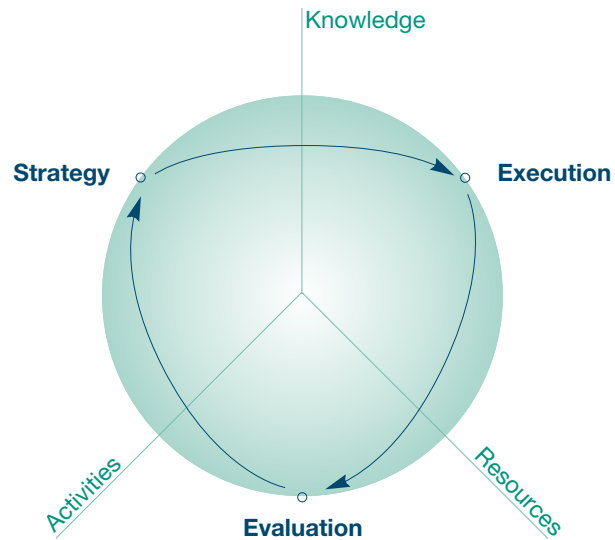
This model applies to any of the dimensions of the UOC, whether in the institutional sphere or in that of a specific activity.

To carry it out, the necessary systems are developed to ensure that all the activities integrate in a systematic way and are geared toward the achievement of results, promoting the necessary alliances and the effective management of resources.

A first exercise of institutional evaluation of the University has been conducted this academic year. The management team took part in various working groups to take a first step in the institutional evaluation of the University. The aspects evaluated ranged from style of management to the institutional policies, the main strategic lines and the main results which the University has obtained regarding its students and society in general.

Autoevaluation has been carried out through a support guide, which is a memory based on the EFQM model (European Foundation for the Quality Management), which seeks to gather evidence that the UOC is an organisation of excellence.

This is the basic tool from which institutional evaluation works when trying to establish whether things are done according to the EFQM criteria. This foundation suggests a non-prescriptive working model where results are attained through a number of enabling agents.

Agents		Results	
Leadership	Management of the human team	**Processes**	Results in the human team
	Policy / Strategy		Results in customer
	Management of the resources		Results in society itself	**Results**
Innovation and Learning			
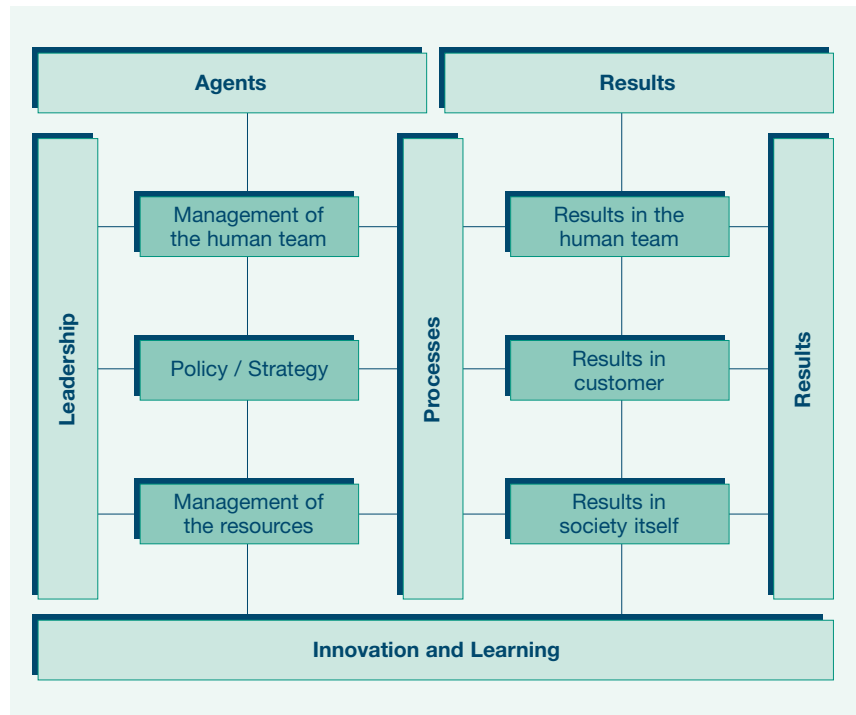
The UOC Corporation

The UOC as an organisation has grown, has become diversified and made complex. This reality has implied a radical change in the way to organise its activity.

The structure of this period is based on five pillars:
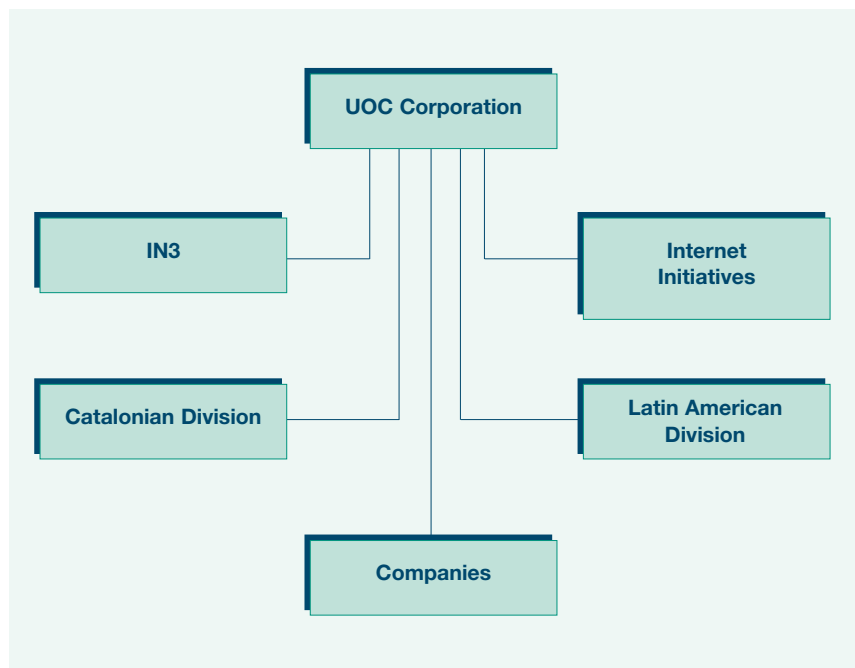
The Corporation has the mission to define the strategic lines of the UOC and has planned its action on the basis of three types of activity: teaching, research and social dissemination.

Regarding the teaching activity, the UOC is keen to become one of the main reference leaders in the sphere of distance training by telematic means.

Through its research activity, the UOC wants to lead the study of the impact that an intensive use of the new information and communications technologies makes on society.

The social dissemination of knowledge is also an essential activity, which is carried out by means of the Internet (Portal) and of activities like meetings and congresses, and through other means, like the Editorial UOC.

Organisation

Rector

Gabriel Ferraté

Vice Rectors

Josep Coll	Academic Policy
Joan Fuster	Cultural Relations
Imma Tubella	Research
Francisco Rubio	International Relations
Francesc Vallverdú	Educational Innovation and Methodology

Administrator's Office

Xavier Aragay	Administrator
Carles Esquerré	Deputy Administrator
Josep Salvatella	
Encarna Silva	

Offices

Toni Brunet	Communication
Josep Maria Oliveras	Rector's Office

Heads of Faculties

Agustí Canals	Information and Documentation
Rafael Macau	Computer Science and Multimedia
Isidor Marí	Humanities and Language and Literature
Joan Prats	Law and Political Science
Carles Sigalés	Psychology and Educational Sciences
Jordi Vilaseca	Economics and Business Studies

Heads of Area

Lourdes Anglès	Economics
Assumpta Civit	Human Resources
Conxita Marlés	Marketing
Francesc Noguera	Technology
Adoració Pérez	Library
Albert Sangrà	Methodology

Head of Internet Initiatives

Genís Roca

IN3

Ramon O'Callaghan	Director
Toni Riu	Administrator

Administrator of the Catalonian Division

Josep Riera

Directors of Operating Groups

Magí Almirall	Development of Intranets
Carles Cortada	Organisational Design and Management of the Professional Team
Marta Enrech	Digital Library
Ricard Giménez	Community Services and Galvanisation
Esther Gonzalvo	Student Care
Josep Izquierdo	Finance and Fiscal Management
Juanjo Martí	Computer Applications for Management
Antoni Martínez	Operational Marketing
Pedro Mingueza	Technological Infrastructures
Jaume Moregó	Activities and the Territory
Rosa Otero	Budget Management
Àngels Paredes	Development of the Professional Team
Carles Ramírez	Co-ordination and Teaching Management
Patrícia Riera	Documentation Services
Antoni Roure	Telecommunications
Imma Sánchez	Linguistic Services
Núria Soler	Management of Bibliographic Material
Juan Antonio Taboada	Infrastructures and Logistics
Maria Taulats	Information for Management

Programme Directors

Main Campus

Albert Batlle Rubio	Political Sciences and of the Administration
Maria Jesús Marco Galindo	Technical Engineering in Computer Management
Antoni Meseguer Artola	Labour Sciences
Eva Ortoll Espinet	Documentation
Anna Pagès Santacana	Psychopedagogy
Esther Pérez Martell	Tourism
Josep Prieto Blázquez	Technical Engineering in Computer Systems
Joan Pujolar Cos	Language and Literature
Inma Rodríguez Ardura	Market Research and Techniques
Toni Roig Telo	Audiovisual Communication
Elisabet Ruiz Dotras	Business Administration and Management
Ramon Segret Sala	Computer Engineering
Enric Serradell López	Business Sciences
Miquel Strubell Trueta	Humanities
Montse Vall-llobera Llovet	Psychology
Raquel Xalabarder Plantada	Law Studies

Latin American Campus

Josep M. Batalla Busquets	Business Sciences
	Business Administration and Management
	Labour Sciences
Joan Manuel Marquès Puig	Technical Engineering in Computer Management and Systems
Anna Sala Andrés	Law Studies
Sandra Sanz Martos	Documentation

Director of the Doctoral Programme

Manuel Castells Oliván   Scientific Co-director
Imma Tubella Casadevall   Scientific Co-director
Eduard Aibar Puentes   Programme Director

Head of Latin American Division

Antoni Cahner

Directors of the Latin American Division

Teresa Arbués   Postgraduate
Ladislau Girona   Marketing
Imma Garcia   Recruitment
Montfragüe Madera   Finances
Montserrat Matute   Human Resources
Isabel Solà   Academic
Lluís Tarín   Continuing Education

Executive Directors of Continuing Training Programmes

Matías Álvarez González
Montserrat Atienza Alarcón
Anabel Marín Gonzálvez
Alejandro Martín Revilla
Jesús Mendoza Jorge
M. Elena Rodríguez Vall-llovera

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Full-time Staff

	Management	Operating Groups	Support Centre Managers	Teaching Staff	Technical Staff	Administrative Staff	Informers	
UOC Management (a)	2	4	–	5	7	5	–	**23**
Management of Strategic Areas (b)	6	–	–	–	3	1	–	**10**
Linguistic Services	–	1	–	–	3	1	–	**5**
Faculty of Economics and Business Studies	–	–	–	16	–	1	–	**17**
Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences	–	–	–	16	1	1	–	**18**
Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature	–	–	–	16	1	1	–	**18**
Faculty of Law and Political Science	–	–	–	13	–	1	–	**14**
Faculty of Computer Science and Multimedia	–	–	–	18	1	–	–	**19**
Faculty of Information and Communications Sciences	–	–	–	7	1	–	–	**8**
Tourism Programme	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	**1**
Asia Programme	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	**1**
Doctoral Programme	–	–	–	3	1	–	–	**4**
Digital Library	–	1	–	–	2	–	–	**3**
Management of Bibliographic Material	–	1	–	–	6	–	–	**7**
Documentation Service	–	1	–	–	4	–	–	**5**
Student Care	–	3	–	–	18	7	–	**28**
Educational Methodology and Innovation	–	1	–	–	5	–	–	**6**
Co-ordination and Teaching Management	–	1	–	–	13	2	–	**16**
Finance and Fiscal Management	–	1	–	–	12	2	–	**15**
Budget Management	–	1	–	–	3	–	–	**4**
Infrastructures and Logistics	–	1	–	–	10	6	–	**17**
Marketing	–	1	–	–	7	–	–	**8**
Human Resources	–	2	–	–	12	–	–	**14**
Activities and the Territory	–	1	8	–	7	2	14	**32**
Services of Community Galvanisation	–	1	–	–	6	–	–	**7**
Telecommunications	–	1	–	–	4	1	–	**6**
Development of Intranets	–	1	–	–	6	–	–	**7**
Computer Applications for Management	–	1	–	–	5	–	–	**6**
Technological Infrastructures	–	1	–	–	6	–	–	**7**
Information for Management	–	1	–	–	1	–	–	**2**
IN3	3	4	–	1	21	1	–	**30**
IN2	1	–	–	–	6	1	–	**8**
Campus for Peace	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	**1**
Other (c)	3	–	–	–	2	–	–	**5**
International Relations	–	1	–	–	3	1	–	**5**
	16	**31**	**8**	**97**	**177**	**34**	**14**	**377**
Projects / Temporal	–	–	–	13	44	12	–	69
	16	**31**	**8**	**110**	**221**	**46**	**14**	**446**

(a) It includes the Rector's Office, the Administrator's Office and the Press Office.
(b) It includes Strategic Management; and Management of Recognised Degrees and of Own Degrees.
(c) It includes Continuing Education and the Latin American Division.

Collaborating Teaching Staff of the recognised degrees at the main campus and the Latin American campus

Faculties	Counsellors	Tutors	Total
Economics and Business Studies	347	115	**462**
Psychology and Educational Sciences	123	42	**165**
Law and Political Science	121	24	**145**
Humanities and Language and Literature	123	31	**154**
Computer Science and Multimedia	319	64	**383**
Information and Communications Sciences	89	20	**109**
Total	**1,122**	**296**	**1,418**

Computer Applications for Management

During this academic year, we have continued developing the necessary applications and systems so that all the activities developed are integrated into the management processes in a systematic way.

In this sphere, we should single out the tools that enable a better management of the teaching action. The following are the management tools developed and launched:

– Tool to edit the teaching plan

– Tool to manage commissions to collaborators (PEP)

– Tool to manage contracts and payments to collaborators (PACO)

– Tool to manage the selection of collaborators

Concerning academic management, there have been various improvements, like the second adaptation of plans, the separation of examination dates, the teaching offer, and the second examination revision.

On the other hand, the new management of the evaluation of previous studies and the new version of the system to control accesses and users management (TREN) have been analysed.

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Infrastructures

During the academic year 2002-2003, the building works of the third phase were carried out corresponding to the closing, the installations and the finishes. In the summer 2003 the construction works of the IN3 building at the Parc Mediterrani de la Tecnologia in Castelldefels were finished.

This building, finally, has 4,167 m² of total surface built distributed into three stories and an auditorium with a capacity for 120 people.

The preliminary plan of the building located at Can Jaumandreu, in Barcelona's Rambla del Poblenou, between the Avinguda Diagonal and the Carrer Perú, very near the Centre Comercial Glòries (Area 22), was awarded, and the basic and executive project was commissioned to the architect Josep Llinàs i Carmona during the month of July of 2003.

Buildings of the organisation

		Localities	m²
Buildings	Tibidabo-I	Barcelona	2,149.94
	Tibidabo-II	Barcelona	3,079.97
	Tibidabo-III	Barcelona	1,146.37
	Annex Tibidabo-III	Barcelona	181.50
	Diputació	Barcelona	1,450.00
	IN3	Castelldefels	4,167.00
Support Centres	Bages	Manresa	248.00
	Gironès	Salt	195.00
	Baix Camp	Reus	360.00
	Barcelonès	Barcelona	1,343.84
	Segrià	Lleida	287.00
	Andorra	Sant Julià de Lòria	200.00
	Vallès Occidental	Sabadell	57.60
	Vallès Occidental	Terrassa	343.00
	Baix Llobregat	Sant Feliu de Llobregat	441.00
	Baix Ebre	Tortosa	251.00
Total m²			**15,901.22**

Strategic Alliances

Ever since the beginning of its activity, the UOC has struck multiple alliances with institutions of very varied character (universities, enterprise, governmental institutions, and so on), whether of a local, autonomical, national or international scope.

During this academic year we have widened our relations with some organisations with which we had formerly collaborated –especially universities– and we have signed agreements to fix new collaboration efforts with various institutions, always with the aim of offering a better service to the community, to attain the objectives of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and to promote its extension across the territory.

Universities

- Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB)
- University of Barcelona (UB)
- University of Girona (UdG)
- University of the Balearic Islands (UIB)
- University of Lleida (UdL)
- University of Vic (UV)
- University of Valencia
- Jaume I University
- Polytechnic University of Catalonia (UPC)
- Pompeu Fabra University (UPF)
- University of Andorra
- Rovira i Virgili University (URV)
- Autonomous University of Madrid
- University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria
- Complutense University of Madrid

Generalitat de Catalunya

- Telecommunications and Information Technologies Centre
- Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries
- Department of Universities, Research and the Information Society
- Catalonian Public Administration School
- Department of the Interior
- Department of Social Welfare
- Department of the Presidency
- Department of Employment
- Department of Culture
- Department of Education
- General Secretariat of Youth

- Centre for Business Innovation and Development (Centre d'Innovació i Desenvolupament Empresarial, CIDEM)
- Catalonian Supercomputing Centre (Centre de Supercomputació de Catalunya, CESCA)
- Catalonian Audiovisual Council
- Management of University and Research Grants Agency (Agència de Gestió d'Ajuts Universitaris i de Recerca, AGAUR)

Regional Sphere

- Town Council of Barberà del Vallès
- Town Council of Manresa
- Town Council of Sant Adrià de Besòs
- Town Council of Vallirana
- Town Council of Vidreres
- Town Council of Vilafranca del Penedès
- Regional Council of Maresme
- Regional Council of Osona
- Provincial Council of Girona

Institutions, Foundations, Associations, and Professional Associations

- Alianza ONG
- Amnesty International of Catalonia
- Spanish Association of Accountancy and Business Administration (Asociación Española de Contabilidad y Administración de Empresas, AECA)
- Association Alliance Française
- Manresa Film Festival Association
- Doctors Without Borders
- Movement for Peace, Disarmament, and Solidarity

- Patronat Municipal de Teatre de Sitges
- Associació Catalana d'Enginyeria sense Fronteres
- Associació Catalana de Comptabilitat i Direcció
- Associació Catalana de Gestió Pública
- Col·legi Oficial de Metges de Barcelona
- Col·legi d'Educadores i Educadors Socials de Catalunya
- Col·legi Oficial de Psicòlegs de Catalunya
- Col·legi Oficial de Diplomats en Treball Social i Assistents Socials de Catalunya
- Colegio Oficial de Graduados Sociales de Madrid
- Spanish Red Cross
- Fundació "la Caixa" ("La Caixa" Foundation)
- Fundació Blanquerna
- Catalonian Down Syndrome Foundation
- Fundació Antoni Tàpies
- Fundació Bosch i Gimpera
- Fundació Catalana per a la Recerca
- Fundació Jaume Bofill
- Fundació Joviat
- Fundació Politècnica de Catalunya (FPC)
- Fundació Privada d'Estudis Superiors d'Olot
- Fundació Universitària del Bages
- Fundació Carolina
- Fundación Comparte con los Niños del Mundo
- Fundación de Economistas sin Fronteras
- Fundación Francisco Largo Caballero
- IWith.org Foundation
- Fundit
- Institut DEP

- Institut Europeu de la Mediterrània
- Institut Internacional de Governabilitat (IIG)
- Institut Municipal d'Activitats Culturals de Tortosa
- Institut Català d'Oncologia
- Instituto Cervantes
- Institut de Neurociències i Salut Mental
- Institut Internacional per la Pau, la Resolució de Conflictes i la Conciliació

Other Institutions

- Aeropuertos Españoles y Navegación Aérea (AENA)
- Alcoa CSI España, SA
- Aleph Servicios Editoriales, SL
- Asepeyo
- Town Council of San Sebastián/ Donostiako Udala
- Barcelona Activa, SA
- BBVA Catalunya
- Caixa d'Estalvis i Pensions de Barcelona "la Caixa"
- Caixa Tarragona
- Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Navigation of Barcelona
- Casa Àsia (Asia House)
- Centre Tecnològic de Manresa
- Centre de Formació i Divulgació de Tecnologia Informàtica "la Caixa" / IBM (CFDTI)
- Centre de Seguretat Marítima Integral "Jovellanos"
- Círculo de Progreso, SL

- Spanish General Council of the Judiciary
- Eivissa and Formentera Insular Council
- Consorci de Biblioteques Universitàries de Catalunya
- Diario El País, SL
- Provincial Council of Gipuzkoa / Gipuzkoako Foru Aldundia
- ECA
- Ediciones Primera Plana, SA
- El 3 de Vuit
- Polytechnic University School of Manresa
- Fòrum Universal de les Cultures - Barcelona 2004, SA
- Department of Education and Culture, Balearic Islands Autonomous Government
- Grup de Cooperació del Campus de Terrassa
- IMPART, Gabinet de Premsa i Comunicació, SL
- Intrasoft Internacional
- Ivimeds Limited (Virtual Medical School)
- Joviat - University Tourism School of Manresa
- La Ley Actualidad, SA
- Microsoft Ibérica, SRL
- Miguel Torres, SA
- Spanish Ministry of Science and Technology
- Museu Diocesà i Comarcal de Lleida
- Papeles Estrella, SL
- Piscines Bernat Picornell
- Servijob Desarrollo Profesional, SL
- Spain Tag Systems, SL
- Sun Microsystems Ibérica, SA
- Catalonian National Theatre

- Turisme de Lleida
- Unió Empresarial del Penedès
- Unió Vinícola del Penedès
- Xarxa per a la Promoció d'Escoles Productives

International Institutions

- United Nations University (UNU)
- United States Consulate of Barcelona
- OCLC Online Computer Library Center
- United Nations Education, Science and Culture Organisation (UNESCO)
- PostEurop
- The Open University
- University of Milan-Bicocca (UNIMIB)

Latin America

- University of Guadalajara (Mexico)
- Veracruzana University (Mexico)
- University of Sciences and Communication (Chile)
- Inter-American Agency for Co-operation and Development (IACD)
- Escuela Bancaria y Comercial (Argentina)
- Federació d'Associacions Americanes a Catalunya
- Government of Jalisco State, United Mexican States
- Instituto Superior Tecnológico (Peru)
- Agencia de Desarrollo Comarcal Oarsoaldea (Argentina)
- Panamerican Health Organisation
- Supreme Court of Justice of the Dominican Republic

International Scope

The Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, as an educational institution arising from the knowledge society which develops networked and online activities, achieves a dimension and a scope of action both global and international.

The UOC makes international activities into one of the strategic issues of its mission and vision. From the values that are its own, and out of the social and cultural reality where it is born and where it consolidates itself, the UOC promotes a global space for knowledge, with which it seeks to lead a new concept of university which may constitute a first-class referent for other educational and research institutions, and weave a network of relations and alliances which may contribute towards the projection of Catalonian culture and of the university itself all over the world.

The presence of the UOC in the world is made specific through a strategy of alliances with universities and research institutions which are representative of various countries, with which the University shares in the same vision and values. They are alliances among equals, with whom common objectives are set; they are alliances based on respect and the acceptation of the various cultural and linguistic differences; and they seek co-operation from cultural diversity.

The Metacampus

In collaboration with these institutions and seeing the possibilities offered by a global world which is made accessible thanks to the information and communications technologies, the UOC promotes the concept of metacampus as a space of relations and academic co-operation, in which lecturers and students may share in a virtual fashion subjects, research and content, from universities world-wide, in order to build a global space for creation and knowledge.

With the Unesco Chair of e-learning as a key instrument for the strategy of international projection of the University, the UOC seeks to lead an international co-operation network at the service of the dissemination of the educational use of ICTs in the university sphere, and of the strategies of cultural and organisational change which adapt better to the particularities of each institution.

The global dimension of the UOC, made specific in the growing activity of training, research, and international dissemination, accounts for the position and projection of the University all over the world.

Europe and America

The UOC's priority scenarios for action are Europe and Latin America, where it develops the virtual network of universities based on its model of co-operation an through the metacampus: the European and Latin American universities network. The priority activities in the dimension of training are geared to the creation and extension of the virtual mobility of students, and to offer two types of degrees –undergraduate and postgraduate– together with the universities on the network.

For university training in Spanish, the UOC reached an agreement in 2000 with the Grupo Planeta. This agreement makes use, on the one hand, of the success and experience of the UOC as a pioneering institution in virtual training in Spain, particularly in Catalan; on the other, of the experience and know-how of Grupo Planeta, the leading company in the Spanish language publishing sector, with a wide presence in Latin America and an acknowledged experience in the sphere of business management and innovating projects.This joint initiative between UOC and Grupo Planeta has allowed the incorporation of the offer of university degrees in Spanish and

has facilitated the expansion and implementation of its model in the collection of Spanish-speaking countries.

Moreover, the Catalunya-Argentina Chair at the UOC seeks to generate a space of projection of Catalonia in Argentina, and vice-versa, paying special attention to aspects relating to political systems, promotion of civil society, of educational systems, art, culture, health systems, and the extension of the ICTs in both countries.

The UOC has agreements with more than thirty American universities to offer international postgraduate programmes, and with various companies and multinational corporations.

Similarly, we should mention here the International Council for Distance Education (ICDE), the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU), the World Health Organisation (WHO), and the Organisation of American States (OAS), as some of the more relevant institutions with which the UOC has reached international co-operation agreements.

Asia

The UOC carries out pioneering action in Asia as regards the application of the information and communications technologies to the spheres of education and training and to various cultural contexts. These activities are carried out through projects of the EU with European allies and of the countries involved. The main projects are being developed in China, in South East Asia, and in India.

The vocation of the UOC to come closer to the world of Asia finds also an expression in the development of the East Asia Studies programme within its training offer in collaboration with Casa Àsia, an institution promoted by the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Generalitat de Catalunya and the Town Hall of Barcelona. Its objective is to promote relations and exchange with this geographical zone.

Business Initiatives: UOC Group

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                                    │   FUOC   │
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                                         ├─────────│ Virtual Network  │
                                    ┌────┴─────┐   └──────────────────┘
                                    │ UOC Group│
                                    └────┬─────┘
              ┌──────────────────────────┼──────────────────────────┐
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      │ Editorial UOC  │         │   Planeta UOC   │         │     GEC      │
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              │                  ┌─────────┴────────┐                │
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      │  Eurecamèdia   │    │   EO   │        │   GMMD   │    │ E-strategies │
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      ┌────────────────┐    ┌──────────────────────────┐    ┌──────────────────┐
      │  E-publishing  │    │ Teaching offer at the Latin│   │ – Training for   │
      └────────────────┘    │     American campus       │   │   enterprise     │
                            └──────────────────────────┘    │ – Knowledge      │
                                                            │   management     │
                                                            │ – Virtual        │
                                                            │   communities    │
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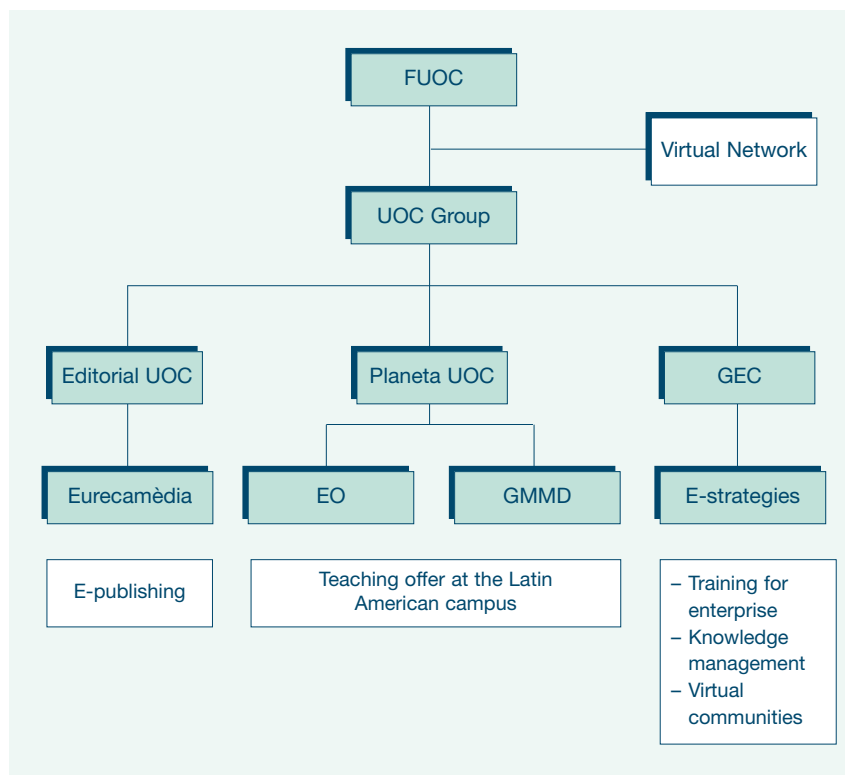
Editorial UOC, SL

Aragó, 182, 6a. planta
08011 Barcelona
Tel. 93 452 74 20
Fax 93 451 30 16
www.editorialuoc.com

Director: Isaías Taboas
Foundation Date: 24 October 2001
Capital at 31 December 2002:
375,650 €
Participation: 100% Grup UOC

Editorial UOC is a business initiative of the University which makes available to the university community and to society a wide catalogue of publications, in various supports and formats, which includes a great many titles, wich range from university manuals to essays, with special attention being paid to the research cores of the University.

Its activity is completed by the disseminating and making available to all citizens the materials which the UOC has elaborated with a specific methodology to facilitate distance learning.

During the year 2002-2003, the most significant effort of Editorial UOC has consisted in guaranteeing the appearance of novelties and the consolidation of sales to Latin America, which has grown a 382% compared to those of 2002.

EDITORIAL UOC

Eurecamèdia, SL

Aragó, 182, 1a. planta
08011 Barcelona
Tel. 93 452 74 90
Fax 93 451 30 16
www.eurecamedia.com

Director-General: Isaías Taboas
Foundation Date: 29 October 1999
Capital at 31 December 2002:
60,104 €
Participation: 62,5% Editorial UOC, SL

Eurecamèdia, in addition to the services it offers through the elaboration of the didactic materials of the UOC and its associated initiatives, has achieved the following goals during the year 2002-2003:

– It has consolidated its external portfolio of own customers who do not come from the FUOC nor from its business group, a fact which has implied the doubling of the turnover from this type of customer when compared to last year.

– It has increased productivity thanks to the implementation of MAGIC, its operations methodology, so that, even after reducing its staff by 25%, it has been capable of increasing the volume of production of subjects for the UOC if compared to last year.

eureca media

Ensenyament Obert

Diputació, 250
08007 Barcelona
Tel. 93 412 60 63
Fax 93 412 38 51
www.obert.com

Manager: Eugeni Sender
Foundation Date: July 1998
Capital at 31 December 2002:
480,800 €
Participation: 50% Planeta UOC

Ensenyament Obert, a company created by Enciclopèdia Catalana and the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, aims at offering distance training programmes, especially focussing on the pre-university sector, and geared for those people who owing to job limitations cannot do face-to-face courses, yet are keen to make personal and professional progress.

During last year, Ensenyament Obert's main objective was the consolidation of the courses which were already working and the increase of its training offer.

–Access course to university courses for persons over 25 years of age

–High Specialist Programme (PES)

–Access course to higher degree courses for persons over 20 years of age

Gestión del Conocimiento, SA

Pellaires, 30-38
08019 Barcelona
Tel. 93 394 12 00
Fax 93 394 12 01
www.gec.es

Director-General: Ramon Puente Margalef
Foundation Date: 31 January 1997
Capital at 31 December 2002: 180,300 €
Participation: 74% UOC Group

We contribute to the generation of value for organisations through the management of knowledge, learning, and communication.

Important initiatives have been carried out in order to consolidate and place GEC as the reference company for knowledge management projects, e-learning and virtual communities in Spain and Latin America.

A multidisciplinary team of 125 specialists in various areas (consultants, communicators, pedagogues, engineers, designers, journalists, and so on) have made it possible.

The objective of these years consisted in the consolidation and development of the Madrid market. In this sense, projects of great relevance have been won, like the development of a corporate university for AENA, and a project for the Madrid underground, among others.

Graduado Multimedia

Av. Canal Olímpic, s/n
Parc Mediterrani de la Tecnologia
08860 Castelldefels
Tel. 93 681 19 00
Fax 93 681 19 10

Foundation Date: 23 December 1999
Date of merger: 25 September 2003

The Distance Degree in Multimedia Studies (Graduado Multimedia a Distancia, GMMD) was created as a joint initiative by the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya and the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya.

During the academic year 2000-01, the incorporation of a new partner, Planeta, SL, made it easier for GMMD's management to integrate into the UOC's Latin American Division. Since then, we have gone deeper into this integration with the objective of improving the academic quality of our courses and all the necessary processes for the right learning of students.

As part of a business reorganisation process, its Latin American Division merged with Graduado Multimedia a Distancia on 25 September 2003.

Graduado Multimedia

Planeta UOC, SL

Av. Canal Olímpic, s/n
Parc Mediterrani de la Tecnologia
08860 Castelldefels
Tel. 93 681 19 00
Fax 93 681 19 10

Director-General: Antoni Cahner
Monzo
Foundation Date: July 2000
Capital at 31 December 2002:
1,469,144 €
Participation: 50% Grup UOC

In 2000, the UOC and Grupo Planeta reached an agreement which made possible the projection and extension of the distance and innovating model of University to the cultural space of the Spanish language. This projection, which initially focussed on the Latin American sphere, is the direct result of the University's distance methodology. Given its specific nature, the UOC promotes a global space for knowledge, with which it seeks to lead a new concept of university which may constitute a first-class referent for other educational and research institutions, and weave a network of relations and alliances which may contribute towards the projection of Catalonian culture and of the university itself all over the world. With this in mind, the association with Grupo Planeta has proven to be an essential factor for the effective execution of this strategy.

The result of this collaboration was a line of growth and consolidation, which this academic year 2002-2003 resulted in the development of 12 recognised degrees, in addition to the 100 postgraduate programmes (masters, specialities, continuing training) offered during the same period, and nearly 6,000 students which took part in the collection of these training actions.

**Xarxa Virtual de Consum, SCCL
(Virtual Consumers' Network)**

Diputació, 219
08011 Barcelona
Tel. 93 253 24 27
Fax 93 453 94 84
www.lavirtual.com
lavirtual@lavirtual.com

Foundation Date: 25 November 1996
Capital at 31 December 2002:
154,831.88 €
Participation: 19.7% FUOC

La Virtual (Virtual Consumers' Network) is a consumers' co-operative born within the ambit of the Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and located within the service providing policy of the UOC. Its aim is to offer solutions to the consumption needs of the community of people who are or who have been linked to the UOC (students, lecturers and management staff).

The consumers' co-operative juridical status has the following objectives:

– To show the initiative's will to serve, without any direct interest in the economic benefit, reverting the business benefits to the customers, basically making prices cheaper.

– To favour the corporate identification of students with the rest of the community members, as the co-operative formula offers a greater implication potential with the institutional project, a factor of special relevance in a distance relation system.

Objective

La Virtual would like to offer those products which go beyond a mere satisfaction of the needs generated by the University itself (computing, bookshop, stationary), as its objective is to become a reference point at the time of buying any product or service (music, travel, banking services, and so on) which might be of interest to the community members. This offer is presented in an environment of e-commerce within the framework of the Virtual Campus.

General Online Assembly

The extraordinary general assembly was held within the framework of the Virtual Campus between the 25th and 27th of June 2003. During it, the management for 2002 and the yearly accounts were approved, as was the budget for the exercise 2003.

La Virtual
La cooperativa de la UOC

Activity

Training

Introduction

This year for the first time all new students have completed a fully virtual incorporation process. Thus, all students who started their degrees this academic year completed the formalities of their application form from the external website, and they enjoyed almost immediate access to the Virtual Campus many days before the matriculation period.

Improvements in the design and structure of the Campus

In accordance with the study of the facility of use which has been carried out, a new design of the Campus has been elaborated and a new organisation of the information and navigation, which improve its facility and efficiency at the time of use. All of which has led to a design which gives priority to the correct visualisation of the information, a more coherent structure of the information, and a more transparent navigation system.

– New Homepage. The new Virtual Campus homepage shows the main novelties and news generated by the academic activity and, in addition, it incorporates direct accesses to the various consultation and communication spaces, as well as information about the number of unread messages in each of these spaces.

– New help space. It incorporates the explanation of the various spaces and functions of the Campus. Moreover, the *Help* space includes various elements relating to technological aspects of the UOC, like information about the recommended workpoint, and access to the UOC's technological model, which users need to be acquainted with in order to work correctly within the UOC's virtual environment.

– Launch of the Diary as a new Virtual Campus functionality. The Diary is a tool which enables to enter appointments and contacts, and in addition, it offers the possibility of integrating into it in an automated way informations of an academic and institutional type. Finally, the incorporation of this diary enables the user to have a tool for the planning of work during the semester.

– The new version of the Campus. It incorporates a number of changes to the personal mailbox with the objective of improving its use. Among the improvements, we should single out that the use of messaging has been made simpler and faster, and a number of functions have been enabled to facilitate the management of the personal mailbox.

– Updating of the versions of the forums of the *Community* space. An update of the forums on the *Community* space has been carried out with the aim of adapting the design, the structure and the working on the new version of the Virtual Campus.

Organisation of *Student Care* and of the Virtual Secretary's Office

The launch of the new virtual campus at the UOC has involved the reorganisation of services and content which, to date, were grouped under the *Student Care* section. The aim of this reorganisation was to make both the Virtual Secretary's Office and the various communication channels which the UOC facilitates to all Virtual Campus users more available.

The new Virtual Secretary's Office introduces a number of changes regarding the structure of the content as well as the navigation system, with the idea of improving the facility and efficiency of use of this Campus space.

Classroom Design

The launch of the new UOC campus has also involved a new design of the classroom, and, in addition, a change in the way to access it, as the access to both the subject classrooms and the counselling classroom will now be effected through the *Classrooms* space. With the aim of facilitating access to all the functionalities it contains and to its use, each classroom in this space has been structured into four blocks: Planning, Communication, Documentation and Evaluation. In each of these blocks you will find the resources and the applications related to each theme.

The interface and the features of the shared classroom mailboxes (notice-board, debate and forum) have also been adapted to the new version of the Virtual Campus. Thus, these communication spaces present the same design and work in the same way as the personal mailbox. This fact lends coherence to the way of communicating within the classroom sphere, and generally in the Virtual Campus.

Renewed offer of progressive degrees

The various Faculties at the UOC have worked in the design of a new offer of progressive degrees. The aim behind the launch of a new offer of progressive degrees responds to the idea of adapting to the current needs of the professional market the academic recognition which the University grants in the achievement of each partial degree.

Making good use of the period between semesters

After the final evaluation tests of the first semester, and before the start of the second semester, UOC students can now continue with their study progress through the launch of the first winter courses. These courses have, in addition, given UOC students the possibility of obtaining two free-election credits per course, once the standard final evaluation has been successfully passed.

Virtual Library services extended and improved

The Virtual Library continues to work in order to improve its digital services, developing new content, facilitating access to it, and, above all, customising its features to the needs of each user. Along these lines, the following are some of the improvements:

– Increase of the digital collection. The digital holdings of the UOC Library have been enlarged through new subscription sources and new complete-text specialised journals.

– Electronic distribution of summaries of paper journals service. A new feature has been added to the service of electronic distribution of summaries which allows you to request in digitalised form from the summary of the paper journals to which the Library is subscribed.

– Recommended bibliography, and Didactic Modules. All the new bibliographies selected by the teaching staff have now been incorporated into each subject, so that searches can now be made in the catalogue by the name of the subject, and retrieve the didactic module and the new bibliography recommended for each subject.

– New customised services of the Virtual Library. The Virtual Library has launched a new service of news about psychology and the Internet, as well as two daily services that monitor economic issues and the official gazette of autonomical, state and European scope (official publications).

Promotion of the services to the community

During the last year the communication spaces of the community have been promoted, as have the services offered by the Labour Exchange, and the Directory of Degree Holders, so that all students may have the greatest number of resources to build their own professional development.

Specifically, with the objective of contributing to the development of the UOC community, favouring the knowledge of the current labour market and the possibility to adapt to it and to enjoy a better situation in it, the university-enterprise training periods have been launched.

First Cycle Studies; First-and-Second Cycle Studies; Second Cycle Studies; Own Degrees

General Data

Faculties	
Economics and Business Studies	Diploma in Business Studies*
	Degree in Business Administration and Management (Second Cycle)*
	Degree in Labour Sciences*
	Degree in Market Research and Techniques (Second Cycle)*
	Diploma in Tourism Studies*
Psychology and Educational Sciences	Degree in Psychopedagogy (Second Cycle)*
	Degree in Psychology*
Law and Political Science	Degree in Law*
	Degree in Political Science (Second Cycle)
Humanities and Language and Literature	Degree in Humanities
	Degree in Catalan Language and Literature
Computer Science and Multimedia	Technical Engineering in Computer Management*
	Technical Engineering in Computer Systems*
	Computer Engineering
	Degree in Multimedia Studies (Own Degree)**
Information and Communication Sciences	Degree in Documentation (Second Cycle)
	Degree in Audio-visual Communication (Second Cycle)

* Studies offered at the main campus and at the Latin American campus.
** Studies offered only at the Latin American campus.

Students	
Recognised degrees	25,779
Own degrees	833
Total	**26,612**

Profile	
Men	54.74%
Between 25 and 29 years of age	33.53%
Single	59.40%
No children	82.60%
Employed	94.80%

Students with a Degree		
	Academic year 2002-2003	**Accumulated**
Total	**767**	**1,427**

Faculty of Economics and Business Studies

Diploma in Business Studies

Date of Recognition: RD 2062/1995, of 22 December 1995 (BOE no 15 of 17 January 1996)

Length: 3 years divided into 6 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 185.5 credits are required, of which 148.5 are compulsory, 18 are optional and 19 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 (Second Cycle)

Date of Recognition: RD 217/1997, of 14 February 1997 (BOE no 57 of 7 March 1997)

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.

* 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 Labour Sciences (Second Cycle)

A report was issued on 2 July 2001 speaking favourably about an official recognition. Publication in the BOE pending.

Length: 2 years divided into 4 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 120 credits are required, of which 78 are compulsory, 24 are optional and 18 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 Market Research and Techniques (ITM) (Second Cycle)

Date of Recognition: RD 362/2003, of 28 March 2003 (BOE no 86-2003 of 10 April 2003)

Length: 2 years divided into 4 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 120 credits are required, of which 78 are compulsory, 24 are optional and 18 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.

Diploma in Tourism Studies

Date of Recognition: RD 397/2003 of 4 April 2003 (BOE no 99-2003 of 25 April 2003)

Length: 3 years divided into 6 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 180 credits are required, of which 138 are compulsory, 24 are optional and 18 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.

Students				
Business Sciences	Business Administration and Management	Labour Sciences	ITM	Tourism
Total	6,392	1,328	2,050	262	406

Students matriculated for the course		
Business Sciences	Business Administration and Management	ITM
Total	192	153	40

Teaching Staff

Head of Faculty

Jordi Vilaseca Requena
Doctor's degree in Economics and
Business Studies by the Faculty of
Economics and Business Studies
of the University of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Applied
Economics, World Economics,
Knowledge Economics

Programme Directors

Josep M. Batalla Busquets
Programme Director of Business
Studies at the Latin American campus
Degree in Economics from the
University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Economics

Antoni Meseguer Artola
Director of the Labour Sciences
Programme at the main campus
Degree in Mathematics and in
Economics and Business Sciences from
the Autonomous University of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Applied Economic
Mathematics, and Games Theory

Esther Pérez Martell
Director of the Tourism Programme
at the main campus
Degree in Physics from the
Autonomous University of Madrid
Area of specialisation: Sea sciences

Inma Rodríguez Ardura
Director of the Market Research and
Techniques Programme at the main
campus
Doctor's degree in Economics and
Business Sciences from the
University of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Marketing
and E-commerce

Elisabet Ruiz Dotras
Programme Director of Business
Administration and Management at
the main campus
Degree in Economics and Business
Studies from the Pompeu Fabra
University
Area of specialisation: Financial Markets

Enric Serradell López
Programme Director of Business
Studies at the main campus
Degree in Economics from the
University of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Finances and
Business Organisation

UOC's Teaching Staff

Gisela Ammetller Montes
Degree in Business Administration
and Management from the University
of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Marketing

Carlos F. Cabañero Pisa
Degree in Business Administration
and Management from the University
of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Business
Organisation

David Castillo Merino
Degree in Business Administration
and Management from the University
of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Economics of
Finance, Accountancy

Rosa Colomé Perales
Doctor's degree in Business Organisation
from the Pompeu Fabra University
Areas of specialisation: Operating
Research, Logistics and Accounting

Josep Coll Bertran
Degree in Industrial Engineering from
the Polytechnic University of Catalonia
Area of specialisation: Industrial
Organisation

Raquel Ferreras Garcia
Degree in Business Administration
and Management from the University
of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Economic
and Business Mathematics, and
Games Theory

Pilar Ficapal Cusí
Degree in Psychology from the
Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Industrial

Lluís Garay Tamajon
Degree in Economics from the
Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: General
Economics

Carolina Hintzmann Colominas
Degree in Economics and Business
Sciences from the University
of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Applied
Economics

Josep Lladós Masllorens
Doctor's degree in Economics and
Business Studies from the University
of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: General
Economics

M. Jesús Martínez Argüelles
Degree in Economics and Business
Studies from the University of Oviedo
Area of specialisation: Business
Organisation and Administration

Dolors Plana Erta
Degree in Economics and Business
Sciences from the Autonomous
University of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Economics
of Finance, Accountancy

Francisco Rubio Royo
Professor of Applied Physics at the
University of Las Palmas de Gran
Canaria

M. Mar Sabadell Bosch
Degree in Law from the University
of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Law and
Fiscality

Joan Torrent Sellens
Doctor's degree in Economics from
the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
Area of specialisation: Applied
Economics

Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences

Degree in Psychopedagogy (Second Cycle)

Date of Recognition: RD 2062/1995, of 22 December 1995 (BOE no 15 of 17 January 1996)

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 her possibilities of dedication.

Degree in Psychology

Date of Recognition: RD 902/2001, of 27 July 2001 (BOE no 191 of 10 August 2001)

Length: 4 years divided into 8 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 300 credits are required, of which 220 are compulsory, 48 are optional and 32 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.

Students		
	Psychopedagogy	**Psychology**
Total	**1,450**	**1,916**

Students matriculated for the course	
	Psychopedagogy
Total	**151**

Teaching Staff

Head of Faculty

Carles Sigalés Conde
Degree in Philosophy and
Educational Sciences from the
University of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Educational
Policy, Attention to Diversity and
Psychopedagogical Intervention

Programme Directors

Anna Pagès Santacana
Programme Director of
Psychopedagogy at the main campus
Doctor's degree in Educational
Sciences from the Autonomous
University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Foundations of
Pedagogy

Montse Vall-llovera Llovet
Programme Director of Psychology at
the main campus
Degree in Psychology from the
University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Methodology
of Behavioural Sciences

UOC's Teaching Staff

Manuel Armayones Ruiz
Doctor's degree in Psychology from
the University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Personality,
Evaluation and Psychological
Treatment

Antoni Badia Garganté
Doctor's degree in Psychology from
the Autonomous University of
Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Educational
Psychology

Elena Barberà Gregori
Doctor's degree in Psychology from
the University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Educational
Psychology

Guillem Bautista Pérez
Degree in Pedagogy from the
University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Didactics and
Syllabus

Mercè Boixadós Anglès
Doctor's degree in Psychology from
the Autonomous University of
Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Methodology
of Behavioural Sciences

Ana M. Gálvez Mozo
Degree in Psychology from the
Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Psychology of
Labour Organisations

Adriana Gil Juárez
Doctor's degree in Psychology from
the Autonomous University of
Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Social
Psychology

Eulàlia Hernández Encuentra
Doctor's degree in Psychology from
the Autonomous University of
Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Psychology of
Development and Education

Josep M. Mominó de la Iglesia
Degree in Pedagogy from the Ramon
Llull University
Area of specialisation: Didactics,
School Organisation

Modesta Pousada Fernández
Doctor's degree in Psychology
from the University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Basic
Psychology

Israel Rodríguez Giralt
Degree in Psychology from the
Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Social
Psychology

Lourdes Valiente Barros
Doctor's degree in Psychology
from the Autonomous University
of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Basic
Psychology

Josep Vivas Elias
Degree in Psychology from the
Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Psychology
of organisations and labour

Faculty of Law and Political Science

Degree in Law

Date of Recognition: RD 217/1997, of 14 February 1997 (BOE no 57 of 7 March 1997)

Length: 4 years divided into 8 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 300 credits are required, of which 221 are compulsory, 43 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.

Degree in Political Science (Second Cycle)

A report was issued on 17 October 2001 speaking favourably about an official recognition. Publication in the BOE pending.

Length: 2 years divided into 4 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 120 credits are required, of which 84 are compulsory, 24 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.

Students		
	Law Studies	**Political Science**
Total	**2,157**	**178**

Students matriculated for the course	
	Law Studies
Total	**36**

Teaching Staff

Head of Faculty

Joan Prats Català
Doctor's degree in Law from the
Autonomous University of Valencia
Area of specialisation: Administrative
Law

Associate Head

Pere Fabra Abat
Degree in Law and in Philosophy
from the University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Philosophy of
Law

Programme Directors

Albert Batlle Rubio
Programme Director of Political
Sciences at the main campus
Doctor's degree in Political and
Administration Sciences from the
Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Political Theory

Raquel Xalabarder Plantada
Programme Director of Law at the
main campus
Doctor's degree in Law from the
University of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: International
Law, Intellectual Property

Anna Sala Andrés
Programme Director of Law at the
Latin American campus
Doctor's degree in Law from the
Pompeu Fabra University
Areas of specialisation: Mercantile
Law, and Financial Market Law

UOC's Teaching Staff

Rosa Borge Bravo
Doctor's degree in Political and
Administration Sciences from the
University of Deusto
Area of specialisation: Political
Participation

Ana Sofía Cardenal Izquierdo
Doctor's degree in Political and
Administration Sciences from the
Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Comparative
Politics

Agustí Cerrillo Martínez
Doctor's degree in Law from the
University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Public Law

Ana Delgado García
Doctor's degree in Law from the
University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Financial and
Tax Law

Antoni Galiano Barajas
Degree in Law from the Autonomous
University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Public
Management

Jordi Garcia Albero
Degree in Law from the University of
Lleida
Area of specialisation: Procedural Law

Mark Jeffery
Doctor's degree in Law by the
European University Institute of
Florence
Areas of specialisation: Labour Law,
European Social Law, and
Comparative Law

Óscar Morales García
Doctor's degree in Law from the
Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Penal Law

Miquel Peguera Poch
Degree in Law from the University of
Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Mercantile Law

Mònica Vilasau Solana
Degree in Law from the University of
Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Civil Law

Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature

Degree in Humanities

Date of Recognition: RD 217/1997, of 14 February 1997 (BOE no 57 of 7 March 1997)

Length: 4 years divided into 8 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 300 credits are required, of which 219 are compulsory, 51 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

Date of Recognition: RD 217/1997, of 14 February 1997 (BOE no 57 of 7 March 1997)

Length: 4 years divided into 8 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 300 credits are required, of which 224 are compulsory, 46 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.

Students		
	Humanities	Catalan Language and Literature
Total	1,724	352

Students matriculated for the course		
	Humanities	Catalan Language and Literature
Total	25	3

Teaching Staff

Head of Faculty

Isidor Marí Mayans
Degree in Catalan Language and
Literature from the University of
Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Research into
Multilingualism in Organisations

Programme Directors

Joan Pujolar Cos
Programme Director of Language
and Literature at the main campus
Degree in Catalan Language and
Literature, and in Anglo-American
Language and Literature Doctor's
degree in Philosophy from the
Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Globalisation
and Linguistic Contact

Miquel Strubell Trueta
Programme Director of Humanities at
the main campus
Degree in Psychology from Oxford
University, Degree in Physiology from
the Autonomous University of
Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Planning of
Linguistic Status, Linguistic Policies,
and Linguistic Minorities in Europe

UOC's Teaching Staff

Joan Elies Adell Pitarch
Doctor's degree in Catalan Language
and Literature from the University of
Valencia
Areas of specialisation: Theory of
Literature, Contemporary Catalan
Literature

Elisenda Ardèvol Piera
Doctor's degree in Philosophy and
Arts from the University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Social
Anthropology

Federico Borges Saiz
Degree in English Language and
Literature from the Jaume I University
Area of specialisation: English

Laura Borràs Castanyer
Doctor's degree in Romance
Philology, Degree in Catalan
Language and Literature from the
University of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Theory of
Literature, Comparative Literature,
Medieval Romance Literatures

Joan Campàs Montaner
Degree in Philosophy and
Contemporary History
from the University of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Hypertext
and Digital Art

César Carreras Monfort
Doctor's degree in Archaeology from
the University of Barcelona, MSc in
Computing Applied to Archaeology
from the University of Southampton
Area of specialisation: Archaeology

Salvador Climent Roca
Doctor's degree in Romance Philology
from the University of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Language
Processing, Semantics

Pauline Ernest
BA in English from the University
of Sussex
Area of specialisation: Contemporary
Literature

Narcís Figueras Capdevila
Degree in Classics from the
Autonomous University of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Humanistic
Latin, History of Humanism,
Languages in the World of Education
in the Modern and Contemporary
Age

Joan Fuster Sobrepere
Degree in History from the
Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: History

Joseph Hopkins
MA in Applied Linguistics, BA in
German and Spanish from the
University of Illinois at Urbana-
Champaign, USA

Mar Massanell Messalles
Degree in Catalan Language and
Literature from the University of
Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Linguistic
Variation: Dialectology,
Sociolinguistics, Pragmatics

Glòria Munilla Cabrillana
Doctor's degree in Prehistory, Ancient
History and Archaeology from the
University of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation:
Mediterranean Protohistory, Heritage

Francesc Núñez Mosteo
Degree in Political Sciences,
Sociology and Educational Sciences
from the Autonomous University of
Barcelona and from the University
of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Sociability in
Virtual Technological Environments

Agnès Vayreda Duran
Doctor's degree in Romance
Philology from the Autonomous
University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Discourse
Analysis, Sociability in Virtual
Technological Environments

Faculty of Computer Science and Multimedia

Technical Engineering in Computer Management

Date of Recognition: RD 217/1997, of 14 February 1997 (BOE no 57 of 7 March 1997)

Length: 3 years divided into 6 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 208.5 credits are required, of which 160.5 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

Date of Recognition: RD 217/1997, of 14 February 1997 (BOE no 57 of 7 March 1997)

Length: 3 years divided into 6 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 208.5 credits are required, of which 160.5 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.

Computer Engineering (Second Cycle)

Date of Recognition: RD 217/1997, of 14 February 1997 (BOE no 57 of 7 March 1997)

Length: 2 years divided into 4 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 120 credits are required, of which 72 are compulsory, 36 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.

Degree in Multimedia Studies

An own interuniversity degree from the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and the Polytechnic University of Catalonia

Length: 3 years

To obtain this degree, 225 credits are required. The progressive nature of the Degree in Multimedia Studies enables students to obtain the following partial university certificates:

– An Introduction to Multimedia Interactive Systems: 45 credits
– Multimedia Production: +45 (total 90 credits)
– Production of Multimedia Interactive: +45 (total 135 credits)

Students			
Technical Engineering in Computer Management	Technical Engineering in Computer Systems	Higher Engineering	Degree in Multimedia Studies
Total **2,215**	**3,245**	**509**	**833**

Students matriculated for the course			
Technical Engineering in Computer Management	Technical Engineering in Computer Systems	Higher Engineering	Degree in Multimedia Studies
Total **21**	**24**	**1**	**6**

Teaching Staff

Head of Faculty

Rafael Macau Nadal
Degree in Journalism from the Autonomous University of Barcelona, in Mathematics from the University of Barcelona, in Computing from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia
Area of specialisation: Information Systems

Programme Directors

Ferran Giménez Prado
Director of the Distance Degree in Multimedia Studies
Degree in Philosophy and Educational Sciences from the University of Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Multimedia and Curricular Innovation

Maria Jesús Marco Galindo
Programme Director of Technical Engineering in Computer Management at the main campus
Degree in Computing from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia
Area of specialisation: Software Engineering

Joan Manuel Marquès Puig
Programme Director of Technical Engineering in Computer Management and Computer Systems at the Latin American campus
Degree in Computing from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia
Area of specialisation: Distributed Systems

Josep Prieto Blázquez
Programme Director of Technical Engineering in Computer Systems at the main campus
Degree in Computing from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia
Area of specialisation: Computer and Network Architecture

Ramon Segret Sala
Programme Director of Computing Engineering at the main campus
Degree in Industrial Engineering from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia and the Polytechnic University of Madrid
Area of specialisation: Databases and Applications Development

UOC's Teaching Staff

Carlos Casado Martínez
Degree in Computing from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia
Area of specialisation: Multimedia

César Córcoles Briongos
Degree in Mathematics from the Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Multimedia

Atanasi Daradoumis Haralabus
Doctor's degree in Computing from the University of Thessaloniki, Greece
Area of specialisation: Collaborative Learning

Ana Elena Guerrero Roldán
Degree in Pedagogy from the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences of the Ramon Llull University

Isabel Guitart Hormigo
Degree in Computing from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia
Area of specialisation: Information Systems

Montse Guitert Catasús
Doctor's degree in Language and Literature, and in Educational Sciences from the University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Educational Technology

Jordi Herrera Joancomartí
Doctor's degree in Mathematics from the Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Cryptography and Information Security

Josep Maria Marco Simó
Degree in Computing from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia
Area of specialisation: Systems Architecture

Antoni Marín Amatller
Degree in Pedagogy from the Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Multimedia

David Megías Jiménez
Doctor's degree in Computing from the Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Systems and Automation Engineering

Julià Minguillón Alfonso
Doctor's degree in Computing from the Autonomous University of Barcelona. Master in Combinatorial Analysis and Digital Communication

Enric Mor Pera
Degree in Computing Engineering from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia
Area of specialisation: Artificial Intelligence and Usability

Laura Porta Simó
Degree in Pedagogy from the Ramon Llull University
Area of specialisation: Virtual Learning

M. Àngels Rius Gavidia
Degree in Computing from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia
Areas of specialisation: Computer Languages, and Intensification in the Information Systems Area

Elena Rodríguez González
Degree in Computing from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia
Area of specialisation: Information Systems

Teresa Romeu Fontanillas
Degree in Pedagogy from the Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Virtual Learning Environments

Francesc Saigi Rubió
Doctor's degree in Biology from the University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Microbiology and Molecular Genetics

Eugènia Santamaria Pérez
Doctor's degree in Telecommunications Engineering from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia
Area of specialisation: Signal Theory and Communications

Jordi Serra i Ruiz
Degree in Higher Computing Engineering, and Master's degree in Industrial Computing from the Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Systems and Automation Engineering

Montse Serra Vizern
Degree in Computing Engineering from the Autonomous University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Computer Architecture

Francesc Vallverdú Bayés
Doctor's degree in Telecommunications Engineering from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia
Area of specialisation: Development and simulated execution of hybrid ATC voice coding

Faculty of Information and Communications Sciences

Degree in Documentation (Second Cycle)

Date of Recognition: RD 1835/1999, of 3 December 1999 (BOE no 306 of 23 December 1999)

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.

Degree in Audio-visual Communication (Second Cycle)

Date of Recognition: RD 361/2003, de 28 March 2003 (BOE no 86-2003 of 10 April 2003)

Length: 2 years divided into 4 semesters*

To obtain this degree, 124 credits are required, of which 75 are compulsory, 36 are optional and 13 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.

Students	
Documentation	Audio-visual Communication
Total	1,386	209

Students matriculated for the course
Documentation
Total	115

Teaching Staff

Head of Faculty

Agustí Canals Parera
Degree in Physics from the
Autonomous University of Barcelona,
MBA (ESADE)
Areas of specialisation: Information
and Knowledge Management

Programme Directors

Eva Ortoll Espinet
Programme Director of
Documentation at the main campus
Doctor's degree in Documentation
and D.E.A. in Documentation from
the Carlos III University
Areas of specialisation: Information
Management in Health Sciences, and
Training in Informational Competence

Toni Roig Telo
Director of Programme of Audio-visual
Communication at the main campus
D.E.A. in the UOC interdisciplinary
doctoral programme,
telecommunications technician,
Degree in Audio-visual
Communication from the Ramon Llull
University
Area of specialisation: Industry,
Production and Reception of the
Audio-visual

Sandra Sanz Martos
Programme Director of
Documentation at the Latin American
campus
Degree in Hispanic Languages and
Literatures from the University of
Barcelona and University of Granada
Area of specialisation: Practice
Communities

UOC's Teaching Staff

Jordi Alberich Pascual
Degree in Philosophy and Education
from the University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Aesthetics and
Image Theory

Gemma Andreu Pérez
Degree in Journalism and Diploma in
Library Management and
Documentation from the Ramon Llull
University and the University of
Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Information
and Communication

Josep Cobarsí Morales
Degree in Telecommunications
Engineering from the Polytechnic
University of Catalonia
Area of specialisation: Information
Resources Management, Electronic
Publishing

Pablo Lara Navarra
Degree in Documentation from the
University of Granada
Areas of specialisation: Management
of Information Resources, and
Information Organisation and Viewing

Mario Pérez-Montoro Gutiérrez
Doctor's degree in Philosophy and
Education from the University of
Barcelona
Areas of specialisation: Knowledge
Management, Information and
Communications Theory

Víctor Renobell Santaren
Doctor's degree in Sociology from
the University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Image and
Society

Imma Tubella Casadevall
Doctor's degree in Social Sciences
from the University of Perpignan
Area of specialisation:
Communication and Identity

Third Cycle Studies

Doctoral Programme

The Doctoral Programme on the Information and Knowledge Society 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.

But an analysis of the changes and the phenomena that characterise the information society needs to go beyond the traditional disciplinary barriers, as one of its essential traits is the interconnection among the various social, economic, political and cultural systems. The doctoral programme, therefore, is organised from a clearly interdisciplinary perspective integrating various theoretical perspectives and methodological tools of a transverse nature.

During the teaching period, doctoral students receive training in the various aspects of the information society: some of them are of a more general nature (the new economy, digital communication, education, law, governability), and some of a more specific nature (intellectual property, virtual communities, enterprise, work, e-commerce, and so on). At the same time they receive training in the methodology of social sciences, which should guarantee the elaboration of quality research work and doctoral theses.

Academic Programme

The Programme has three different periods:

Teaching Period

Doctoral students must obtain a minimum of 20 credits distributed in three blocks:

a) Basic General Courses (3 credits) dealing with fundamental issues of the doctoral programme around three main axes: the current state of ICTs; their interaction with the social, economic and political spheres; and the function and management both of knowledge and information in today's world. Doctoral students must choose 2 courses out of an offer of 8 courses.

b) Methodological courses of an applied nature destined to facilitate doctoral students with the research tools. Doctoral students must choose 2 courses, each worth 2.5 credits, out of an offer of 3 courses.

c) Courses of a Specific Type, organised as seminars for greater in-depth study, on specific aspects of the information society and taught by leading experts in each area. Doctoral students must choose 3 courses, each worth 3 credits, out of an offer of 9 courses.

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

Research Period

During this period, doctoral students must take part in a research seminar linked to one of the IN3 research groups.

The research seminars constitute the last stage of the doctoral programme and are the period prior to the writing-up of the doctoral thesis. Doctoral students must show their skill to carry out a scientific research task in the sphere of the information society.

The offer from research seminars has been structured around the following theme areas:

– Interdisciplinary analysis of the information society
– Cyberculture
– Information and Communications Technologies and the Law
– Virtual learning (e-learning)
– Knowledge management
– Governability in the knowledge society
– The new economy
– Information and Communications Technologies

At the end of this period, after an evaluation carried out by an academic panel, doctoral students will be awarded the Diploma of Advanced Studies (DEA).

Doctoral Thesis

Once the DEA has been obtained, doctoral students must submit a project of a doctoral thesis. Once this project has been accepted, students will during this period develop the research that will enable them to submit their doctoral thesis.

During the academic year 2002-2003 the new structure of the programme was approved, and was launched in September 2003. In this new structure of the programme, the teaching period takes place during three semesters, and the research period, during one. This change of structure involved a revision of the course offers, and the introduction of content which had not to date been offered in the programme.

During the first semester of the programme, and before the start of the teaching period, students must do a compulsory introductory course, in which they are assigned an initial counsellor who will take care of helping them along their first contact with the Virtual Campus. Later, they will be assigned a monitoring counsellor, who will accompany students for the rest of their progress along the programme.
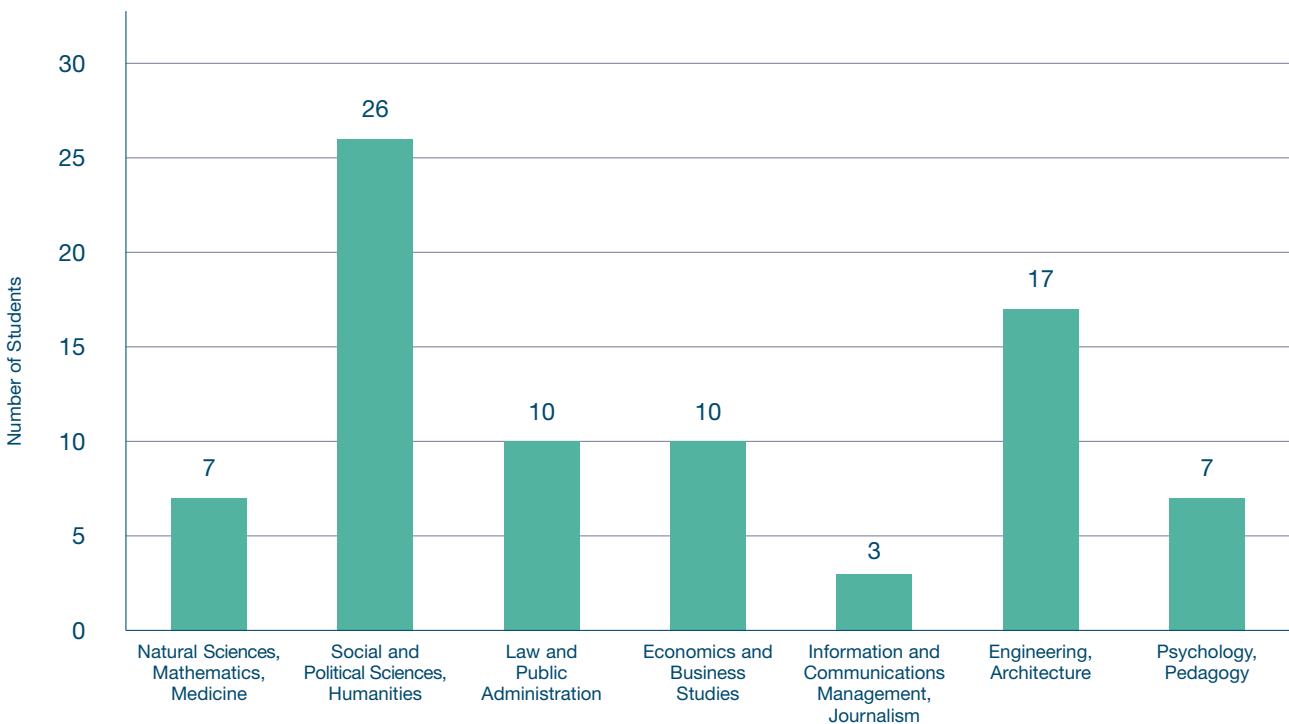
Students

At the beginning of the academic year 2002-2003, the first group to complete this programme obtained its diploma. A total of 50 students passed successfully the evaluation of the panel and were awarded the Diploma of Advanced Studies. Seven out of the 50 students obtained the approval of the project for their doctoral thesis during this course.
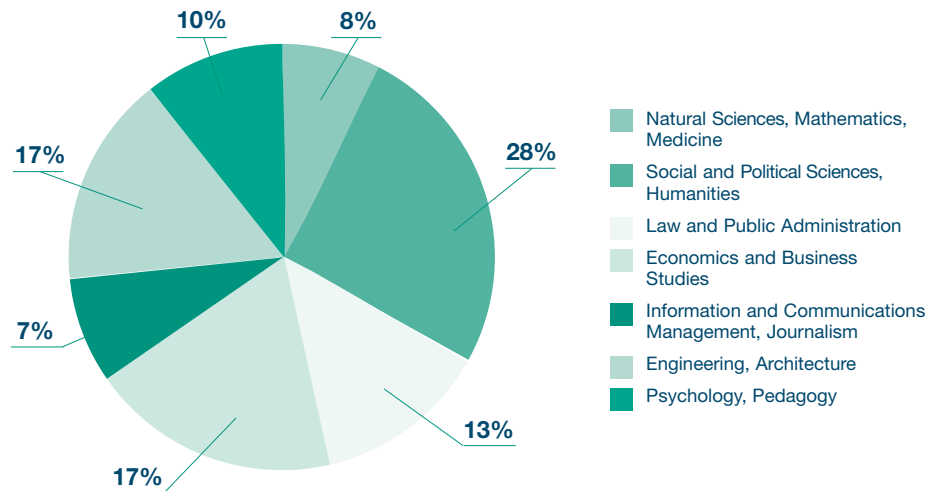
Similarly, 65 doctoral students of the second edition of this programme completed their research period in the seminars. A further 102 students are currently doing their courses of the teaching period of the third edition.
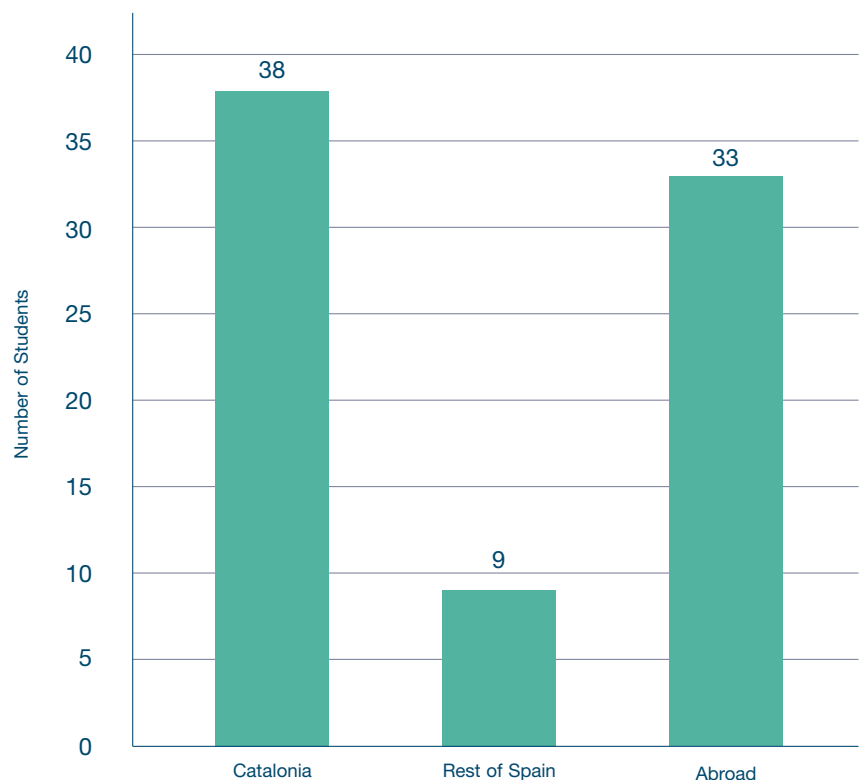
During the month of July, 80 new students who conformed the fourth edition of the programme started their activities with their initial counsellors.

Degrees Held by Doctoral Students

First Degree of Total
of Doctoral Students

- Natural Sciences, Mathematics, Medicine
- Social and Political Sciences, Humanities
- Law and Public Administration
- Economics and Business Studies
- Information and Communications Management, Journalism
- Engineering, Architecture
- Psychology, Pedagogy

Geographical Distribution
of Doctoral Students

Teaching Staff

Manuel Castells Oliván
Scientific Director
Doctor's degree in Sociology from
the University of Paris
Areas of specialisation: Sociology
and Economics of ICTs

Eduard Aibar Puentes
Programme Director
Doctor's degree in Philosophy from
the University of Barcelona
Area of specialisation: Social Study
of Science and Technology

Imma Tubella Casadevall
Scientific Director
Doctor's degree in Social Sciences
from the University of Perpignan
Area of specialisation:
Communication and Identity

Teresa Sancho Vinuesa
Academic co-ordinator
Doctor's degree in Electrical Engineering
from the Ramon Llull University
Area of specialisation: Numerical
Methods in Fluid Mechanics

Postgraduate Education

Postgraduate Studies

UOC's Postgraduate Education activity for the academic year 2002-2003 revolved around an offer of master and postgraduate programmes based on the development of the standard competencies of professional roles in the production and services sectors along lines of knowledge and experience.

During the teaching period we have continued to structure the areas of knowledge in the form of educational itineraries which offer students the possibility of completing shorter integrated programmes, so that their educational process is made easier as they can enjoy a flexible use of their time.

This flexible and interactive learning, based on innovation, on development and on the acquisition of new competencies, is the key concept to guarantee personal growth and success in their organisations to our participants.

The following table shows the number of programmes developed according to their typology.

Typology	Programmes
Master's Degrees	16
Postgraduate	45
Specialisation Programmes	58
Updating Programmes	15
Total	**134**

These 134 programmes, which are structured into 21 Master's itineraries, organise themselves around the main lines of knowledge of the University: Economics and Business Studies, Humanities, Information and Communications Sciences, Computing, Law and Educational Sciences.

The World of Enterprise and Organisations

– Area of Business Strategy and Development: Digital Enterprise
– Area of Environment
– Area of Finances and Economic Management
– Area of Marketing
– Area of Logistics
– Area of Prevention of Labour Risks
– Area of Quality
– Area of the Virtual School of Governability

Evolution of the technological environment

– Area of Information Technologies / Internet
– Area of Information Management
– Area of Information Society
– Area of Computing

Culture, Education and Health

– Area of Training Development and Educational Technology
– Area of Humanities: Cultural and Heritage Management
– Area of Health and Sanitation

Similarly, Postgraduate Training can also be defined by figures –a total of 2,346 students attended the periodical teaching programmes described above, which were developed between the teaching semesters of November 2002 and March 2003.

In addition, new programmes with the regulated updates in Mathematics and English have been developed. A total of 688 students followed these courses.

During this academic year, therefore, the number of participants in the various training activities was 4,590, distributed in the following way:

	Participants
Master's degrees, and other postgraduate and specialisation courses	2,346
Programmes with regulated updates	688
Universitat Oberta d'Estiu (Summer Open University)	1,196
Universidad Virtual de Verano (Virtual Summer University)	360
Total	**4,590**

The Graduation Ceremony of 1,100 students of Postgraduate Education, corresponding to the classes of 2001 and 2002, was held at Barcelona's Opera House (Gran Teatre del Liceu) on 8 May 2003. The ceremony was opened by the Rector of the UOC, Gabriel Ferraté; it was presided over by the Minister of Employment, Industry, Commerce and Tourism of the Generalitat de Catalunya, Antoni Fernández Teixidó, Fernando Villalonga, Director-General of the Fundación Telefónica acted as a patron.

During the month of July, Postgraduate Education offers the Universitat Oberta d'Estiu (Summer Open University) and the Universidad Virtual de Verano (Virtual Summer University).

Universitat Oberta d'Estiu (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 lines of action and of professional development, and use the most advanced resources.

In this edition, students were able to matriculate through the Internet.

A total of 46 courses were offered, each one lasting 30 hours and being worth 2 credits recognised as free-choice credits for UOC students and for the other universities forming part of the summer offer of the Joan Lluís Vives Institute.

The methodology of the courses follows the UOC's pedagogical model, which consists in the promotion of personal study and, at the same time, of co-operative work. Students take part in forums and debates relating to the content of each course, as well as in the carrying out of activities, and in the consultation and resolution of doubts.

Evaluation is not of the attendance type and is based on participation in debates and the completion of exercises, case studies, or practical work that has to be handed in to the lecturer or tutor.

An educational offer for the summer 2003 was made within the following areas:

Areas	Programmes
Economics, Business, and Law	11
Humanities	11
Educational Sciences and Psychology	4
New Technologies and the Internet	13
Multimedia	7
Total	**46**

The 1,196 participants in the Summer Open University were mainly students from our university community. 87% were participants of the UOC community, and the remaining 13% were people who had never done a course at the UOC.

The results obtained have been positive, as the 82.19% of students have successfully passed the courses.

Universidad Virtual de Verano (Virtual Summer University)

This year, the second edition of the Universidad Virtual de Verano consolidated its position. These summer courses have been done in Spanish and they have the same characteristics as the UOd'E as regards the number of credits required for each course, the evaluation system, and the general functioning.

In this second experience, a total of 16 courses were offered during the month of July. 360 students took part in them, for 80% of whom it was the first time that they joined our university. 78.33% of students passed their courses satisfactorily.

Pre-university Training

Access Course for People over 25 Years of Age

The basic aim of the access course to the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya for people over 25 is that students may attain a learning that may allow them to pass the UOC entry exams and, at the same time, join this university community in a successful way.

In the 2002-2003 period three access courses in Catalan and two in Spanish were organised for people over 25. Moreover, a new speciality has been incorporated: Tourism.

The rate of students who have successfully passed the exams reached 80% of all students who took the exams.

Students matriculated for the course						
Faculties	**November 2002**	**November 2002***	**March 2003**	**May 2003***	**June 2003**	**Total**
Business Sciences	133	21	46	12	46	**258**
Law Studies	68	19	37	15	22	**161**
Humanities	58	–	42	–	19	**119**
Technical Engineering in Computer Management and Systems	135	49	53	32	30	**299**
Catalan Language and Literature	8	–	1	–	4	**13**
Psychology	107	25	52	11	42	**237**
Tourism	41	–	14	3	12	**70**
Total	**550**	**114**	**245**	**73**	**175**	**1.157**

* Access to Faculties at the Latin American campus.

The UOC is the only university in Catalonia offering three access courses for people over 25 years of age.

High Specialist Programme

Programmes (formerly, higher education courses) are studies of higher vocational training which follow the pedagogical model of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya.

The following are the three specialities offered in the higher education courses:

– Secretarial Studies
– Commercial Management and Marketing (GCM)
– Administration of Computer Systems (ASI)

This offer's sphere of action is limited to the territory of Catalonia, and for this reason Catalan is used in the didactic materials, the Virtual Campus, etc.

The number of students matriculated during the period 2002-2003 is 82.

	Secretarial Studies	GCM	ASI	Total
October 2002 - February 2003	31	14	17	62
March 2003 - July 2003	2	9	9	20
Total	**33**	**23**	**26**	**82**

Access course to higher degree courses for persons over 20 years of age

The fourth edition took place of the course that gives preparation for access to higher degree courses for persons over 20 years of age.

The following are the specialities for which we offer preparation:

– Secretarial Studies
– Commercial Management and Marketing (GCM)
– Administration of Computer Systems (ASI)

	Secretarial Studies	GCM	ASI	Total
October 2002 - April 2003	3	2	11	**16**

Higher training courses for professionals

Within the sphere of higher training courses for professionals, this academic year 2002-2003 the UOC launched the following courses of university extension:

– Person in charge of sales and marketing
– Person in charge of logistics and buys
– Person in charge of commercial research and planning
– Person in charge of public relations

– Person in charge of administrative management
– Person in charge of merchandising and POS promotion
– Person in charge of prevention of labour risks
– Person in charge of labour safety
– Person in charge of prevention of labour risks (intermediate level). This course is offered only in Spanish.

The total number of students during this period was 55.

Methodology UOC

Learning Materials

The role of didactic materials in an educational model such as ours has not ceased to be one of the central elements of the UOC methodology, even if this role is gradually adopting more and more the function of lending support to the educational process of students through the galvanisation tools, like the teaching plan. The teaching plan allows the establishing of relationships between the teaching action and the resources made available to students, among which are the didactic materials –they are the most important ones–, so that the learning process may be dynamic and changing, according to the needs.

For this reason, we may speak more and more of flexibilisation and personalisation of training. The learning materials and resources must be contextualised and must relate to the various training objectives, with the evaluation determined for each semester. Similarly, they should be periodically updated. The teaching plan, among other strategies and tools, helps to give this new value to the learning materials.

New subjects of the course		
Recognised degrees	Main campus	86
	Latin American campus	78
Total		**164**

Total number of subjects offered		
Recognised degrees	Main campus	439
	Latin American campus	157
Total		**596**

Materials of new elaboration					
	CD-ROM	Book-manual	Paper	Video	Web
Economics and Business Studies	7	–	9	–	37
Psychology and Educational Sciences	3	–	7	1	10
Law and Political Science	–	1	26	–	17
Humanities and Language and Literature	5	1	5	–	12
Computer Science and Multimedia	5	–	13	–	4
Information and Communications Sciences	4	–	4	–	15
Total	**24**	**2**	**64**	**1**	**95**

Virtual Campus

During this academic year, the UOC's Virtual Campus has changed both externally and internally. The change is the result of two years of work geared to the technological development of the virtual classrooms and the totality of the Virtual Campus.

From the technological standpoint, the Virtual Campus is a Java –and CORBA– based system managed through the Oracle database. The new campus has managed to provide service to 2,200 students simultaneously. This new system ensures the stability of the Virtual Campus and the facility with which it can improve and evolve in the next three years.

Students and tutors think that the changes in the Virtual Campus have been evident. They have valued them very favourably. In the survey, we have noticed not only an improved satisfaction regarding the Campus, but also a reduction of incidents.

Connections during the academic year	6,623,367
Total connection time during the year (in minutes)	209,751,725
Weekly connections per student	6
Daily connection time per student (in minutes)	28

Face-to-face meetings

Face-to-face meetings constitute the right space to bring students and teaching staff together at the beginning and at the end of each semester. The academic programme of meetings, consisting of the counselling and tutoring sessions, registered a stable attendance nearing 35% of the total number of students matriculated. The programme of complementary activities, made up of workshops and cultural activities, also had a good reception. Indeed, each presentation meeting mobilised some 6,000 people, and each synthesis meeting, around 7,000 (data include students, counsellors, tutors and lecturers).

We next detail the main activities carried out during the face-to-face meetings for this academic year 2003-2003.

Presentation meeting, first semester

Venue: Autonomous University of Barcelona, Bellaterra Campus
Date: 14 September 2002

Number of counselling and tutoring sessions:

	Presentation meeting September 2002
Tutoring Sessions	896
Counselling Sessions	246

Lectures:

Faculty of Economics and Business Studies: "Towards the dream society tourism: new needs in market research", by Eulogi Bordas Rubíes, President of THR.

Faculty of Law and Political Science: "The new Internet legislation", by Amadeu Abril, Óscar Morales and Miquel Peguera.

Faculty of Information and Communications Sciences: A talk by Vicenç Villatoro, writer and current Director-General of Catalonian Radio and Television (CCRTV).

Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences: "Psychology in the face of the 21st century. Threats and opportunities for a discipline and a profession in a changing world", by Josep M. Blanch, Professor of Applied Social Psychology at the Autonomous University of Barcelona.

Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature: "Jacint Verdaguer: the search for the absolute Romantic", by Pere Farrés Arderiu, titular lecturer at the University of Barcelona.

"How to boost one's curriculum in the face of a selection process", by Ignacio Arellano, Director-General of Tea-Cegos Cybersearch.

"Personal Assessment: design your curriculum", by Meritxell Santiago, Head of the UOC's Labour Exchange.

"Looking for a job on the Internet", by Xavier Chalé, of Servijob.

"Organising your time and personal planning", by lecturer Garí Penella.

"Plan your time", by lecturer Garí Penella.

"Food and stress", by dietician Lourdes Torres.

"Putting together a balanced diet", by dietician Lourdes Torres.

Cultural Activities:

Films at the meeting: Cycle of Catalonian Directors

Workshops:

– Techniques in emotional self-control
– Consulting databases
– Searching for information in a virtual environment
– Internet I. Introduction and communication
– Internet II. Services
– Writing e-mail messages
– Planning your study time
– Visual and muscular fatigue in front of the computer. Relaxation techniques
– Juridical databases
– Virtual Campus workshop
– Introduction to the design and creation of web pages
– PowerPoint workshop. Basic level
– PowerPoint workshop. Advanced level

Synthesis meeting,
first semester

Venue: Autonomous University of
Barcelona, Bellaterra Campus
Date: 21 December 2002

Counselling and tutoring sessions:

	Synthesis meeting, December 2002
Tutoring Sessions	896
Counselling Sessions	246

Cultural Activities:

Films at the meeting: Cycle Joel and
Ethan Coen

Workshops:

– Exam preparation
– Techniques in emotional self-control
– Automassage, stretching and
relaxation workshop
– Searching for information in
databases
– Searching for information in a
virtual environment
– The Virtual Library
– Internet I. Introduction and
communication
– Internet II. Services
– Juridical databases
– Introduction to computer security
– Searching for specialised
information in psychology
– Visual and muscular fatigue in front
of the computer. Relaxation techniques
– Planning your study time

Presentation meeting,
second semester

Venue: Autonomous University of
Barcelona, Bellaterra Campus
Date: 1 March 2003

Counselling and tutoring sessions:

	Presentation meeting March 2003
Tutoring Sessions	959
Counselling Sessions	276

Talks:

Faculty of Computer Science and
Multimedia: "Free software", by Jordi
Mas and Òscar del Pozo, members
of Softcatalà.

Faculty of Humanities and Literature:
"Contemporary Catalan Grammar".

Faculty of Information and
Communications Sciences: "New roles
for the information professionals", by
Adela d'Alòs-Moner, President of the
Col·legi Oficial de Bibliotecaris-
Documentalistes de Catalunya.

Faculty of Economics and Business
Studies: "Leadership", by Jose Mari
Bakero.

Faculty of Law and Political Science:
Round table: "A new international
order?", with the participation of
Joan Prats, lecturer at the UOC and
Director of the Institut Internacional
de la Governabilitat; Jaume Giné,
Secretary-General of Asia House;
and Clàudia Jiménez, lecturer in
international public law at the
Autonomous University of Barcelona.

Faculty of Psychology and Educational
Sciences: "The reality of psychology in
the information and knowledge society",
by Dr Jaume Almenara, Professor of
Social Psychology at the University of
Barcelona, and Dean of the Col·legi
Oficial de Psicòlegs de Catalunya.

A talk about the degree in
Psychopedagogy, by tutor Manuel
Fernández Pérez.

PAUOC Lecture: "War in Iraq".

Club UOC Lecture: "Job pools and
skills. Horizon 2006", by Marcelo
Lewin, Director of Infempleo.com.

Cultural Activities:

Films at the meeting: Cycle of Social
Cinema

Workshops:

– Planning your study time
– Techniques in emotional self-control
– Searching for information in
databases
– Searching for information in a
virtual environment
– The Virtual Library
– Internet I. Introduction and
communication
– Internet II. Services
– Juridical databases
– Introduction to computer security
– Visual and muscular fatigue in front
of the computer. Relaxation techniques
– Internet music
– e-books
– Software on the Internet

Synthesis meeting,
second semester

Venue: Autonomous University of
Barcelona, Bellaterra Campus
Date: 7 June 2003

Counselling and tutoring sessions:

	Synthesis meeting, June 2003
Tutoring Sessions	959
Counselling Sessions	276

Talks:

Faculty of Humanities and Language
and Literature: "Citizen responsibility
in the face of war situations".

Round table about practice
programmes abroad.

An informative session about the
Graduates Club and Former UOC
Students Club.

Practicum II of Psychopedagogy.

Business Practice I and II.

Cultural Activities:

Films at the meeting: Cycle of
cinema for peace

The Website of the Meeting

The website of the meeting is the basic communication tool at the meetings, allowing the University to inform in advance about the meeting to all matriculated students. It informs of the day and the venue for the meeting, of how to get there, of the academic programme, the activities and workshops, as well as of the various services available on the spot during those days. During this academic year, an important effort has been made to improve the design, the image and the usability of the Website of the Meeting, in order to facilitate navigation and the access to all the information.

The Journal of the Meeting

For another year, *The Journal of the Meeting* becomes consolidated as a communication and participation tool for the whole UOC community, a basic tool for the meetings. It is a 16-page publication with the format of a university newspaper published on the occasion of each of the face-to-face meetings. *The Journal of the Meeting* contains information about the various aspects of the meeting: maps, activity grids, articles relating to the talks, or other activities carried out, and so on.

Institutional Evaluation

In 2002, the UOC had the idea, after seven years of activity, and as one of its strategic objectives, of revising and improving its student satisfaction evaluating system. To this end, a deep revision took place in order to adapt the questionnaires of satisfaction to these new evaluation needs, taking into consideration the various elements of the pedagogical model. In addition to all this revising process, an external firm specialising in opinion research centralised the gathering of replies and their exploitation.

So during the month of July of 2003 satisfaction questionnaires about the institution and the programme, as well as questionnaires about the subjects, were sent to students of Recognised Degrees, Doctoral Courses and Ensenyament Obert initiatives.

The measure of student satisfaction forms part of the UOC's methodological command box, which also includes the measure of the various indicators of academic performance and the degree of continuity in the faculties and in the institution. The gathering of all this information in a periodical manner and the later analyses will enable us to have a command box for decision making geared to improving the University's methodological model.

We next present the results of the survey corresponding to the aforesaid semester.

Overall, we should highlight that the global level of satisfaction of students polled regarding the various elements of the pedagogical model stays very close to the value 4 (in a 1 to 5 scale). This general satisfaction breaks down into various sections:

– Enjoyment of the experience of studying at the UOC: a value of 4,1 over 5
– Sense of belonging to the UOC community: a value of 3,8 over 5
– Extent to which the dedication and efforts invested pay off: a value of 4 over 5
– Perception of the benefits of studying at the UOC: a value of 4 over 5

Global Satisfaction
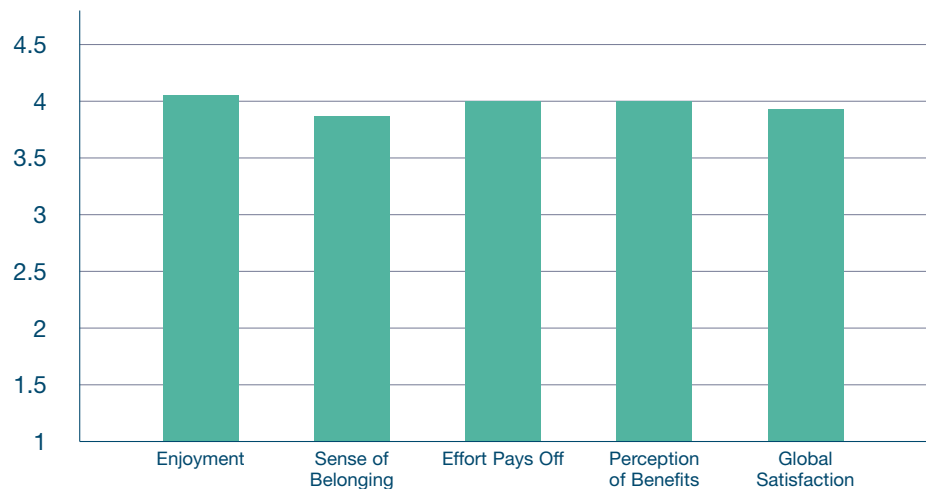
Regarding satisfaction with the elements supporting study, the main results were also placed around 4 over 5. Specifically, the concepts evaluated in this section were the following:

– Teaching action: Student satisfaction with regard to the actions of tutors and counsellors. In this section, the "mark" is very high: 4.3.

– Communication: Valuing of the various relationships and interactions offered to the student by the virtual community, and of the various means and resources to obtain them. The average evaluation in this regard is 3.6.

– Learning resources: Methodological elements with the function of facilitating learning (activities of various types, case studies, readings, links, etc.), as well as the didactic material itself, be it in digital or paper support. The evaluation reached here is 3.7.

– Evaluation: Valuation made by the student regarding the evaluation system used, as far as its suitability, coherence and feedback obtained. The average punctuation here is 4.2.

– Virtual learning environment: student satisfaction regarding the information, the services and the functionalities offered by the environment. Average value here is 3.9.

Support to Study
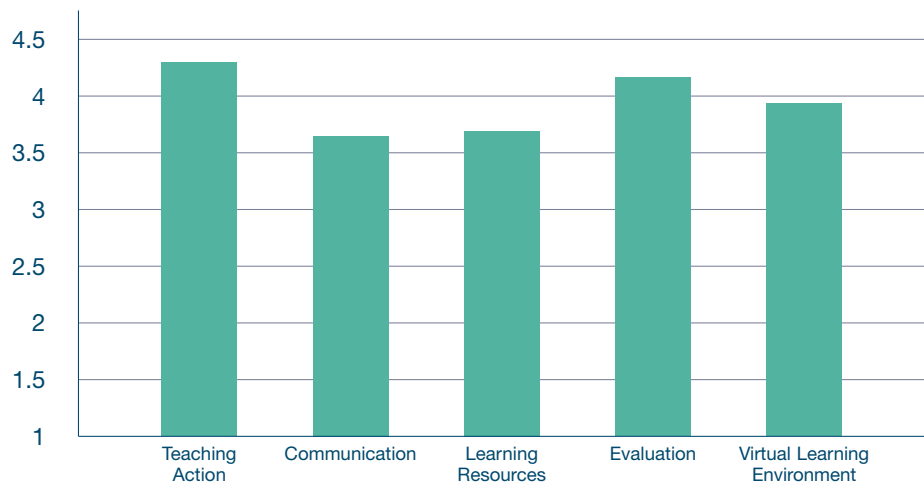
General student satisfaction regarding the various elements of the pedagogical model stays in the region of 4 over 5.

The average of punctuation in the section about support to study is also nearly 4 over 5, but the component of this section have a higher variation margin than the previous one (in other words, the level of global satisfaction).

As regards Faculties, the following evaluation elements were taken into consideration:

– Suitability: adaptation of content in the study plan to the expectations generated, taking into account the objectives set, the level of in-depth study, and the difficulty of the subject. This element was valued at 3.9.

– Applicableness: this term refers, basically, to the use of the content in the professional, academic and personal environment of student. The average value here is 3.6.

Content
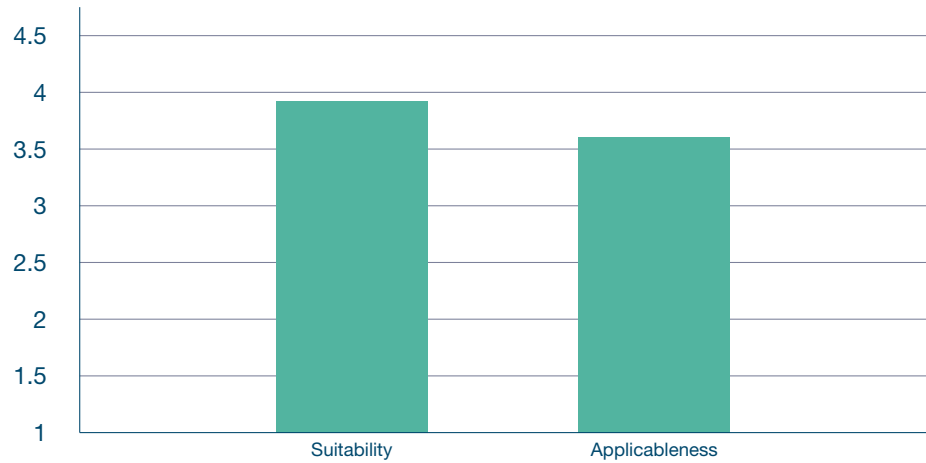
Technical details of the survey

Population: 12,210 students

Type of sampling: voluntary replies

Number of (voluntary) replies: 2,759 (global percentage of reply: 39.3)

Error margin due to a 95% trust interval (most unfavourable case $p=q=0.5$) +/-1.67%

Questionnaire format: web (application for surveys)

Questionnaire available during: month of July 2003

Place of publication: message sent to new students

The Virtual Library

The academic year 2002-2003 has been characterised by the complete renovation of the web structure from which the UOC's Virtual Library provides service to its users and for the specialisation in resources related to the information society.

The new interface implemented during the second semester of the course incorporates usability criteria, a global search engine to facilitate access to any information resource, be it physical or digital, available from the OUCH, as well as a new version of the digital resources manager (DIMAX). This new version adapts to the SCORM and IMS virtual learning standards, which facilitate the exchange of information and resources with other initiatives of digital libraries and the creation of learning spaces which may follow these standards.

The second important aspect of this course is the start of the specialisation of the UOC Library in the information society, a subject it hopes to become a referent in the medium term. The steps taken in this direction have been the creation at the UOC's central building of a physical library specialising in this issue, building on the bequest of Professor Manuel Castells, and the acquisition of physical and digital documents, like books and electronic journals, and online databases relating to this disciplines.

Resources

In addition to the effort made to have direct access to documents relating to the information society, new documents have engrossed the bibliographic and digital holdings of the library. This added material is closely linked to the lines of research of the UOC and to its training offer.

At the end of the academic year, UOC users could obtain access to 50,194 monographic works, 2,677 periodical publications in paper or digital format, and 13,648 digital documents like online databases and e-books, among other types of resources.

Seeing the characteristics of the UOC, efforts have been dedicated to complement the bibliographic information on the available monographic works, incorporating the résumés and digital summaries in order to improve their usability, give more information to the user about these documents, and improve the pertinence of the demand of this material. With regard to the recommended bibliography and the holdings on the information society, the service is offered for 100% of the documents.

Of all the new incorporations to the digital collection of the Library, we should single out the Safari Tech Books, with 620 new digital books related to the UOC disciplines and research activities. New databases have also been incorporated, like Kluwer International Law, specialising in law, which includes the complete text of some fifty journals, and Wiley InterScience, with access to the complete text of 350 electronic journals of recognised international prestige, dealing with subject matters as diverse as enterprise, mathematics and statistics, computing, engineering, education, psychology, law, and health sciences, among others.

Regarding periodical publications, the electronic distribution of summaries service (DESU) has a database with the reference to 58,298 articles from all the journals to which the UOC is subscribed. To these should be added a further five million references approximately to articles in all the university libraries of Catalonia which form part of the Consorci de Biblioteques Universitàries de Catalunya (CBUC).

Use of the Library	87.7% of users use the Library through the Virtual Campus (819,407 users), and 114,637 (12.3%) have contacted the services of the support libraries to use their infrastructure, to consult materials, or to collect the materials taken on loan.	The total consultations made in the various spaces of the Virtual Library is 13,248,216, an increase of 33.17% with respect to the academic year 2001-2002.
Services	The document provision service has facilitated 52,399 documents to UOC users, a 40.34% than in the previous academic year, which totalled 37,337. 50,229 services relating to user care have been conducted, like demand for information, consultations, and information searches. The figure for the previous year was 47,183.	Finally, the customised information services (like the news services, the distribution of summaries, and other personalised sources of information) had 10,684 subscribers at the end of the year, something which represented 1,125,801 services completed, 408,082 more than in 2001-2002.
Classroom Libraries	Important efforts have also been made to increase the number of classrooms with resources related to the subject taught. During this year, 405 subjects have this functionality	(as apposed to the 245 of the previous year) and they have a total of 6,720 resources available, a 59.43% more than in the year 2001-2002.
Agreements	The UOC's Virtual Library signed bilateral agreements with other libraries and entities to improve the services given to users and to work jointly in issues of common interest: Open University Library, University of Barcelona, University of Girona, Rovira i Virgili University, University of	Lleida, Polytechnic University of Catalonia, Complutense University of Madrid, University of the Balearic Islands, Jaume I University, Associació de Mestres Rosa Sensat, Asia House, and the Col·legi d'Enginyers Tècnics Industrials de Barcelona (CETIB).

External Projection

In October 2002, the UOC Library and the Open University Library of the United Kingdom organised a seminar about personalisation and digital libraries at Milton Keynes (UK).

The Library has also been present in various meetings, seminars and congresses, among which we could single out the following:

• VII Encuentro Internacional sobre Sistemas de Información y Documentación - Ibersid 2003 (Saragossa)

• III Jornadas de Bibliotecas Digitales (Complutense University of Madrid)

• VIII Jornadas Españolas de Documentación - Fesabid 2003 (Barcelona)

• IV Coloquio Internacional en Ciencias de la Documentación (Salamanca)

• "Information Systems", a one-day congress held at Bordeaux (France), organised by the Montesquieu University of Bordeaux, and the Médiaquitaine de Gradinhan

• Concertation Meeting on Heritage for All (Luxemburg)

• Seminar organised by the Asociación de Revistas Culturales de España (ARCE) at El Escorial

• Partners Meeting of the COINE Project at the Jagellonian University (Krakow)

Similarly, professional visits have been paid by the French Librarians' Association (ABF), the Open University Library, the National School of the Judiciary (Dominican Republic), and the Chilean universities of Las Lagunas and Bio Bio.

The UOC Library also forms part of the Consorci de Biblioteques Universitàries de Catalunya (CBUC) and of the Red Española de Bibliotecas Universitarias (REBIUN). Regarding the latter, the UOC's Virtual Library took part in line 2 of the strategic plan (in other words, the promotion of the development of ICTs in libraries, and the support to carry out its implementation and maintenance), and in the statistics working group. Finally, the UOC Library forms part of the Excellence Network in Digital Libraries (DELOS).

Student Services and Care

Student Care

Students at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya have a student care service organised into various information spaces and services.

On the one hand, from the moment in which a student fills in his or her application form to start studying at the UOC, he or she can obtain access to the Virtual Campus and consult detailed information about the matriculation process, the transactions and the documentation needed for matriculation, about the UOC and how to study there, the computer requirements for his or her work point, among other content.

Before matriculation, the student has the chance to take part in the introduction classroom to the Virtual Campus, a space specially designed so that new students may get to know the main spaces and functionalities of the Campus, may become familiarised with the virtual learning environment, and may start relating to their lecturers, colleagues and the university as such.

Next, once the student has matriculated, he or she is given the CD *Connect to the UOC*, whose aim is to provide the necessary information and tools to configure his or her work point and the connection to the Virtual Campus.

The counselling classroom is the space destined to the student so that he or she may stay in permanent contact with his or her counsellor. This classroom also hosts other useful content for the development of students' academic life, like the main elements of the UOC's teaching model, issues about incorporation into the University, information about the Faculties, description of the main academic transactions, and content related to the resources of the Virtual Campus.

When the teaching activity starts, students may access the whole volume of information which the UOC makes available to them, specially in the *Student Care* and Secretary's Office sections.

The *Student Care* space brings together the necessary channels for students to communicate with the University regarding non-teaching actions, in other words, relating to management, service, or information. Thus this space brings together a number of services intended to facilitate to students their stay at the UOC, and indeed gather their opinion in order to improve the services we offer them, and to respond to their demands.

During the academic year 2002-2003, the various services in student care registered the following figures:

Attention to consultation services	**27,261**

Computer Help	
Incidents via Campus	13,135
Incidents via telephone	34,706
Total incidents in the year	**47,841**

Suggestions and Claims Service	
Involving non-teaching issues	2,130
Involving teaching issues	227
Suggestions and claims received	**2,357**

Virtual Secretary's Office

Finally, the Secretary's Office is the space where students may check and manage for themselves all the issues that may affect them throughout their academic life.

The aim of the Virtual Secretary's Office is to facilitate as much as possible all the transactions that students have to carry out throughout their academic life, and provide to them the information needed to carry them out. The two basic pillars to achieve this objective are the information always available for consultation from the Secretary's Office itself, and the transactions which can be carried out directly affecting the academic record.

Campus Accessibility

The UOC undertakes the commitment to facilitate to those sectors of the population who experience special difficulties access to the University. For this motive, it has adapted its methodology and processes to this objective.

To this end, during the academic year 2002-2003 work has been undertaken in the following areas:

1. To pay special attention right from the moment of enrolment, thus ensuring service to all students from a global point of view: materials, Campus, and so on.

2. To keep adapting the Virtual Campus in order to suppress any computer access barriers for those persons with any disability.

3. To keep in contact with groups conducting research and innovation on Internet accessibility issues, in order to launch the new accessibility technologies with the greatest speed.

With special regard to the accessibility of the blind, we maintain the adaptation of the Virtual Campus so that with a workpoint configured with the accessibility software and hardware, students may work using both the audio and the Braille line. This will enable them to obtain access not only to the on-line information of the Virtual Campus, but also to the materials that we send in electronic format.

Labour Exchange

The nearly 500 students matriculated in practicum subjects and end-of-degree assignments, together with the more than 1,380 graduates who obtained their degrees in the last years, make it necessary for the UOC Labour Exchange to promote for this academic year 2002-2003 the services to approximate the labour market.

In December 2002, the UOC launched the educational co-operation practice periods between the university and enterprise, with the aim of bringing students closer to the world of labour and facilitate to them the chance to observe good professional models from which to learn in the exercise of their activities, while at the same time offering them an environment where to apply the theoretical knowledge acquired during their studies to real situations.

In July 2003, eight months after the creation of this service, the UOC already has a participation of 50 institutions and enterprises offering themselves as collaborating centres, where more than 40 students can do their practice period, whether on the spot or virtually.

The good reception enjoyed by this service augurs the creation of a good network of practice-collaborating enterprises capable of responding satisfactorily to the needs of all the UOC community students.

On the other hand, with the graduate student very much in mind, the first edition of the *Directory of UOC Graduates* was presented in July 2003, a book listing the doctors, and the degree and diploma holders who had graduated at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya until that date.

With the publication of this Directory, we would like to achieve two objectives: on the one hand, to facilitate the contact among graduates, to make the exchange of ideas and experiences possible, thereby generating common projects; on the other, to offer a good communication tool with enterprise and the leading intermediaries in the labour market, giving the latter a chance to get to know who the UOC graduates are so that they can send a few possible suggestions of professional improvement to them directly.

The *Graduate Directory* was distributed among graduates and lecturers at the UOC, as well as to more than 500 companies, among which were the leading consulting firms in selection of human resources, and the leading firms in each of the labour sectors relating to the studies which can be done at the UOC.

UOC Associations

The aim of the Associations Service is to promote and regulate associative life, but at the same time to channel the task carried out by various interesting groups so that the activities undertaken by the members of the community are enriching for all. The Service manages applications to set up associations, promotes the creation of groups of interest, and provides assessment at all times.

A new association was created this year, the UOC Group of Free Software Users (Grup d'Usuaris i Usuàries de Programari Lliure de la UOC, GUPLU). The following are the aims of this association:

– To disseminate and promote the free-licence computer applications, otherwise known as *free software.*

– To lend support to UOC users of free software.

– To become the means of promotion, exchange of experiences and dissemination of free software among students and graduates, lecturers and tutors, management staff, and students matriculated for the courses in continuing education and, generally, the collectives with a right of access to the Virtual Campus.

The following associations are currently registered:

1. Associació d'Estudiants de la UOC (AEUOC)

2. Associació de les Illes Balears i les Pitiüses (ABIPI)

3. Associació Professional de Docents Telemàtics de Catalunya - UOC (APDTC-UOC)

4. AtletiUOC

5. Coordinadora d'Estudiants dels Països Catalans (CEPC-UOC)

6. Club de Rugbi UOC (CRUOC)

7. Grup d'Usuaris i Usuàries de Programari Lliure de la UOC (GUPLU)

8. Oberta al País Valencià (OPV)

9. Associació d'Estudiants de Doctorat de la UOC (Paradigma)

10. Plataforma Antiguerra de la UOC (PAUOC)

11. Associació d'Estudiants de Documentació de la UOC (Puntdoc)

12. Xarxa de Comunicació i Recursos de Resolució i Transformació de Conflictes - UOC (RC2-UOC)

13. Associació dels Estudiants de la UOC Residents a l'Estranger (REUOC)

14. Revista Catalana de Cultura i Lletres (Tossal)

15. Associació dels Llicenciats i Llicenciades en Psicopedagogia de la UOC (UOCAP)

16. ZonaCampus

La Universitat Oberta de Catalunya offers each association a space within the Virtual Campus containing information about the association and the possibility to host their web pages. On the other hand, it offers them general-access exchange mailboxes for all the associations, and other mailboxes with access restricted to their members only.

The UOC promotes and favours student associations in the cultural, academic, professional, leisure and sporting spheres, as associative life constitutes the best way to disseminate and channel a plurality of interests and opinions which enriches the whole university community.

Number of members	
AEUOC	197
ABIPI	51
APDTC-UOC	3
AtletiUOC	106
CEPC-UOC	3
CRUOC	29
GUPLU	36
OPV	44
Paradigma	3
PAUOC	41
Puntdoc	38
RC2-UOC	3
REUOC	22
Tossal	3
UOCAP	16
ZonaCampus	3
Total	**598**

Sports Promotion

One of the objectives of the University is the promotion of sport, a healthy activity which creates links and group awareness within the university community. The objectives of the Sports Service follow the line of promoting sporting practice, the participation of the UOC in inter-university championships and the setting up of an aid programme for professional sportsmen.

In the sphere of inter-university sport, we should single out the variety of championships held, with a total of 28 individual sports and 10 team sports.

In the sphere of the promotion of sporting practice, an adventure-sport week-end was organised at Boí-Taüll.

During the two semesters of the academic year 2002-2003, a total of seventy students took part in the Catalan University Championship, in which a total of 8 medals was obtained.

As regards State competitions, two UOC sportspersons took part in the university championships: David Plana, who competed in the athletics modality of pole vaulting, and Erica Castañeda, who competed in women's taekwondo (59 to 63 Kg). Erica Castañeda won the silver medal with her second place.

The number of students participating was sensibly reduced due to the 2002 regulations issued by the Spanish Higher Sports Council limiting the age of sportspersons to 28 years of age.

We would also like to single out the participation of Erica Castañeda in the XXII Summer Universiad held at Daegu (Korean Republic), where she came fifth in the women's taekwondo competition (59 to 63 Kg).

Similarly, this year the UOC organised the Catalonian University Championships of Middle Marathon held in Sitges, and of Middle Mountain Marathon held at Alpens. Competitions lasted one day and were held on 12th January and 1st June respectively.

Sport	Gold Medals	Silver Medals	Bronze Medals
Judo	–	–	1
Cross-country skiing	1	–	–
Karate	1	–	–
Middle Marathon (men and women)	–	1	–
Middle Mountain Marathon	1	–	–
Swimming	–	1	–
Pitch and Putt	–	1	–
Taekwondo	–	1	–
Total	**3**	**4**	**1**

Virtual Consumers' Network

E-commerce:
The Virtual Shop and Gallery

La Virtual (Virtual Consumers' Network) offers specifically-designed solutions for the UOC study point at La Botiga (The Shop) of La Virtual, 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 UOC.

La Botiga is framed within a wider commercial offer called the Galeria Virtual (www.lavirtual.com), the first university virtual commercial centre.

It is a space managed by La Virtual where willing companies can address themselves directly to the UOC community. With this e-commerce space, a wide offer of products and services is given to Virtual Campus users.

In 2003 the number of members had risen to 29,108 –a significant increase of members when compared to the previous year.

Access Networks

Students and teaching staff can use access networks to connect themselves from home to the UOC's Intranet servers.

– BTN (Basic Telephony Network): It is the conventional access network. It needs a modem providing 33 or 56 Kbps.

– ISDN (Integrated Services Digital Network): It provides 64 Kbps with a capacity to reach 128 Kbps. It offers two channels allowing the user to hold the connection to the intranet without engaging the telephone line.

– ADSL (Asymmetrical Digital Subscriber Line): It offers a permanent high-speed data connection, up to 2 Mbps, over a conventional copper device. During the academic year 2002-2003, this technology has become the most popular among students.

The amount of information posted on the Internet has doubled for the second year running; thus at the beginning of this academic year we have reached 23 Mbps (a measure extracted calculating the mean over 5 minutes), while at the beginning of last academic year we had reached 12.5 Mbps.

The type of technology through which the connections to the Internet are made has changed from ATM to Gigabit Ethernet. The reasons for the change were the increase in the capacity of transmission after moving from 34 Mbps lines to 1 Gbps, and the inferior cost of the new technology.

In the framework of a renovation of the relations of the collaborating teaching staff with the University, it was announced at the end of the academic year that from then on collaborators would take up the connection to the Virtual Campus. The remote access service through the 900 telephone line would be discontinued, as the increase of possibilities as a result of technological evolution and the liberalisation of the telecommunications market made it advisable.

A pilot experience of wireless technology access to the management network was conducted with a very positive result.

The IN3 site has been equipped with the latest technologies and the necessary infrastructure to move the machine room from Tibidabo to Castelldefels. The connection speed to Tibidabo is 1 Gbps. The connection between the central building and the facilities at Carrer Diputació has also been renewed in order to achieve this speed.

The UOC Centres

The territorial network organises itself on two levels: a nuclear network of support centres which embraces large demarcations or population areas (Girona regions, Central regions, Western regions, Camp de Tarragona and Terres de l'Ebre); and a capillary network made up of support points and link points reaching all the Catalonian regions.

The support centre is the main resource of the territorial network, and it offers the maximum level of services to all students in its region of influence. Support centres also undertake to co-ordinate all the work of the support points and the services offered therefrom. Cultural activities that contribute to enrich the programmes in which the UOC is present are also promoted from these centres.

Moreover, this academic year has seen the consolidation of the centre committees as a student participation instrument in all that refers to the centre's services and activities.

Support points and link points act as complementary devices of the support centres. They are located within some public service or centres of public institutions by means of a collaboration agreement. These territorial devices offer attention to the public, and the possibility of carrying out some specific transactions; they also have equipment for connection to the UOC's Virtual Campus.

Throughout this academic year, the UOC has made itself present in the following territories:

Support Points:
  Sant Andreu - Barcelona
  Illes Pitiüses - Eivissa

Link Points:
  Vallirana
  Barberà del Vallès
  Vidreres

Territorial Distribution

	Support Centres and Sites	Support Points and Link Points
Metropolitan Scope	Barcelona (Barcelonès)	L'Hospitalet de Llobregat Support Point (Barcelonès) Les Corts Support Point (Barcelonès) Olympic Village Support Point (Barcelonès) Mataró Support Point (Maresme) Badalona Support Point (Barcelonès) Sant Andreu Support Point (Barcelonès)
	Sant Feliu de Llobregat (Baix Llobregat)	Vilanova i la Geltrú Support Point (Garraf) Masquefa Link Point (Anoia) Vallirana Link Point (Baix Llobregat)
	Vilafranca del Penedès (Alt Penedès)	
	Terrassa (Vallès Occidental)	Rubí Support Point (Vallès Occidental)
	Sabadell (Vallès Occidental)	Granollers Support Point (Vallès Oriental) Barberà del Vallès Link Point (Vallès Occidental)
Girona Regions	Salt (Gironès)	Figueres Support Point (Alt Empordà) Olot Support Point (Garrotxa) Palafrugell Support Point (Baix Empordà) Ripoll Support Point (Ripollès) Santa Coloma de Farners Support Point (Selva) Banyoles Support Point (Pla de l'Estany) Blanes Support Point (Selva) Ribes de Freser Link Point (Ripollès) Vidreres Link Point (Selva)
Camp de Tarragona	Reus (Baix Camp)	Valls Support Point (Alt Camp) Coma-ruga Support Point (Baix Penedès) Móra d'Ebre Support Point (Ribera d'Ebre) Montblanc Support Point (Conca de Barberà)
Terres de l'Ebre	Tortosa (Baix Ebre)	Gandesa Support Point (Terra Alta) La Fatarella Link Point (Terra Alta)
Western Regions (Ponent)	Lleida (Segrià)	Seu d'Urgell Support Point (Alt Urgell) Tàrrega Support Point (Urgell) Sort Support Point (Pallars Sobirà) La Pobla de Segur Link Point (Pallars Jussà)
Central Regions	Manresa (Bages)	Igualada Support Point (Anoia) Berga Support Point (Berguedà) Solsona Support Point (Solsonès) Puigcerdà Support Point (Cerdanya)
	Vic (Osona)	
Outside Catalonia	Sant Julià de Lòria (Andorra - Estudis Virtuals d'Andorra. University of Andorra)	Brussels Support Point (Belgium) – (Barcelonès)* Alghero Support Point (Sardinia, Italy) – (Barcelonès)* Manacor Support Point (Mallorca) – (Barcelonès)* Ciutadella Support Point (Menorca) – (Barcelonès)* Illes Pitiüses Support Point (Barcelonès)*
	Madrid Site	
	Valencia Site	
	Seville Site	

* Reference Support Centre.

Heads of Support Centres

City	Region	Person in Charge
Manresa	Bages	Mònica de Llorens
Salt	Gironès	Antoni Romero
Reus	Baix Camp	Fanny Galve
Barcelona	Barcelonès	Josep Maria Basté
Lleida	Segrià	Glòria Martínez Llabrés
Sant Julià de Lòria	Andorra	Montserrat Casalprim
Sabadell	Vallès Occidental	Gemma Segura
Terrassa	Vallès Occidental	Gemma Segura
Sant Feliu de Llobregat	Baix Llobregat	Víctor Panicello
Tortosa	Baix Ebre	Teresa Nielles
Vilafranca del Penedès	Alt Penedès	Víctor Panicello
Vic	Osona	Mònica de Llorens

Person Responsible for the Site
outside Catalonia

City	Person in Charge
Madrid	Jorge Bronet
Valencia	Laura Alcañiz
Seville	Sergio Cancelo

Support points have been made
possible thanks to the contributions
of various entities.

City	Region	Agreement with
Tàrrega	Urgell	Town Council of Tàrrega
Igualada	Anoia	Town Council of Igualada
Berga	Berguedà	Town Council of Berga, Regional Council, and Berguedà University Foundation
Granollers	Vallès Oriental	Town Council of Granollers
Figueres	Alt Empordà	Regional Council of Alt Empordà
Olot	Garrotxa	Regional Council of La Garrotxa, Town Council of Olot, and Secretaria General de Joventut i Turisme Juvenil de Catalunya
Valls	Alt Camp	Consorci Pro Universitari Alt Camp - Conca de Barberà and Town Council of Valls
Puigcerdà	Cerdanya	Regional Council of La Cerdanya
Palafrugell	Baix Empordà	Town Council of Palafrugell
Solsona	Solsonès	Regional Council of Solsonès
Rubí	Vallès Occidental	Town Council of Rubí
Santa Coloma de Farners	Selva	Town Council of Santa Coloma de Farners
Ribera d'Ebre	Móra d'Ebre	Regional Council of Ribera d'Ebre
Coma-ruga - el Vendrell	Baix Penedès	Consorci Universitari del Baix Penedès
Ripoll	Ripollès	Regional Council of Ripollès
Hospitalet de Llobregat	Baix Llobregat	Town Council of L'Hospitalet de Llobregat
Brussels	Belgium	Patronat Català Pro Europa
Madrid	Madrid	Delegation of the Generalitat de Catalunya in Madrid
Alghero	Sardinia - Italy	Òmnium Cultural de l'Alguer, University of Sassari, and Town Council of Alghero
Sort	Pallars Sobirà	Regional Council of Pallars Sobirà
Gandesa	Terra Alta	Regional Council of Terra Alta
Banyoles	Pla de l'Estany	Regional Council of Pla de l'Estany
Manacor	Mallorca	Town Council of Manacor and University of the Illes Balears
Ribes de Freser	Ripollès	Town Council of Ribes de Freser
Ciutadella	Menorca	Town Council of Ciutadella and University of Illes Balears
Masquefa	Anoia	Town Council of Masquefa
Mataró	Maresme	Town Council of Mataró
Blanes	Selva	Town Council of Blanes
Barcelona - Les Corts	Barcelonès	Consorci de Biblioteques de Barcelona
Barcelona - Olympic Village	Barcelonès	Consorci de Biblioteques de Barcelona
Seu d'Urgell	Alt Urgell	Regional Council of Alt Urgell
Pobla de Segur	Pallars Jussà	Town Council of La Pobla de Segur
Badalona	Barcelonès	Town Council of Badalona
Fatarella	Terra Alta	Town Council of La Fatarella
Vilanova i la Geltrú	Garraf	Town Council of Vilanova i la Geltrú
Montblanc	Conca de Barberà	Regional Council of La Conca de Barberà
Barcelona - Sant Andreu	Barcelonès	Consorci de Biblioteques de Barcelona
Vallirana	Baix Llobregat	Town Council of Vallirana
Eivissa	Illes Pitiüses	Insular Council of Eivissa and Formentera
Barberà del Vallès	Vallès Occidental	Town Council of Barberà del Vallès
Vidreres	Selva	Town Council of Vidreres

UOC Club

The UOC already has 2,815 graduates, distributed in the following Faculties:

The profile of the people trained at the UOC is ideal to become active participants in the emerging information society, as they acquire talent to manage information and knowledge on the Net and they conform a profile of people characterised by an innovative and creative mentality. They are people sensitive to constant learning, committed to the improvement of their talent, flexible to changes in their environment, and good managers of their time.

Graduate students from recognised degrees		
Economics and Business Studies	Business Sciences	344
	Business Administration and Management	248
	Labour Sciences	40
Psychology and Educational Sciences	Psychopedagogy	435
Law and Political Science	Law Studies	64
Humanities and Lang. and Lit.	Humanities	36
	Catalan Language and Literature	5
Comp. Science and Multimedia	Technical Engineering in Computer Management	31
	Technical Engineering in Computer Systems	45
	Computer Engineering	1
	Degree in Multimedia Studies	6
Information and Communications Sciences	Documentation	172
Doctor's degree in the Information and Knowledge Society		1
Master's degree holders and other postgraduate students		1,387
Total		**2,815**

The UOC Club of Graduates and Friends offers all graduates the possibility of preserving their link to the University, forming part of a network of associates who share the same spaces, services and privileges, with the objective of promoting their projection and recognition in the professional world and updating the knowledge acquired, while taking part in the seal of quality and prestige which we all attain jointly.

The BBVA bank has sponsored the creation of the UOC Club. The latest collaboration agreement was signed on 8 July 2002.

The Club member enjoys a wide scope of resources and services included in the following three areas:

Professional Projection

The Club provides the necessary tools, services and resources for the professional projection of the member, who is allowed to enjoy the greatest advantages for having studied at the UOC. Similarly, it collaborates in the building of a prestigious community.

This section includes the Labour Exchange service, offering personalised professional guidance and selected job offers, and the Graduate Directory.

Training

The Club allows a constant recycling of the knowledge acquired during the studies, in the issues of the professional sphere, of the information and knowledge society, and of culture in general. This section includes interesting discounts in training, and the possibility of obtaining access to courses, seminars and meetings.

Preservation of Links

The Club offers the possibility of creating, maintaining and strengthening the links to other graduates, former students and faculty, so as to consolidate a network of relations which, be it personally be it professionally, may be interesting and enriching.

The Club also offers activities and advantages which facilitate access to cultural and artistic life, and to participate in it.

The Club addresses itself to graduates holding official titles (undergraduate degrees, diplomas and engineering degrees), masters and postgraduates and doctoral degrees, and to former students who did not finish their studies keen to remain linked to the UOC.

The association takes place in the Virtual Campus, once one's studies are over. Graduates and other degree holders, and doctor's degree holders, have one year of free association.

Community galvanisation

– Doing Business in the Knowledge Society Community (Comunitat de Fer Empresa en la Societat del Coneixement, CFESC): the second specialised community, launched in July 2002. It is a space open to participation for all those with an interest in the business world. Here members can share best practices, debate current issues, get to know new business strategies, and enjoy the best advantages in fairs and congresses.

Study visits are one of the lines of activity included in the CFESC, with the aim of organising visits to firms and institutions which we consider interesting and model within their sector of activity. The objective of these visits is to come closer to the business environment in order to be able to observe directly the professionals at their work, the production systems which they have organised, or the organisation and management of some of their services, as an opportune and complementary source of knowledge to update the training acquired while studying. During this course, four visits were made which were attended by a total number of 114 students.

– UOC Theatre Community (Comunitat de Teatre (CT) de la UOC): in December we celebrated the first anniversary of this community. A total of 200 inscriptions were registered throughout the year. They have enjoyed the virtual space with a volume of two hundred messages and four attendance activities (going to the theatre and attending a TV recording of the *Jet lag* sit-com), attended by 113 UOC members.

The members of the UOC community were also able to take part periodically in leisure and cultural outings, like an adventure sports week-end and the now traditional CalçUOCtada in Reus, or the activities which framed the **Graduation Ceremony 2002** of the UOC students, this year held in Lleida.

Throughout the academic year 2002-2003 the **UOC Awards for Virtual Creation** were newly convened. These awards were launched three years ago with the aim of galvanising the UOC community. Year after year, the awards redefine its structure seeking improvements in this aspect. 51 works entered this fourth edition of the prizes, and the modalities with the greatest participation, in identical numbers, were the creation of desktop backgrounds, divulgation web pages, and short narrative. Participation has also been high in the modalities of poetry, theatre scripts, and e-postcards, and the modalities of children's drawing and narrative. In March 2003, the Club of UOC Graduates and Former Students held its first UOC **Graduate Evening**, with a total attendance of 176 persons, 90 of whom were graduates. Out of this meeting, a group was constituted made up of 12 graduates committed to the Club's objectives and lines of action.

In one word, a total of 26 activities were organised this year, in which 908 people participated.

Advantages

The Advantages service offered the UOC community members, through the collaboration of various cultural firms and entities, a total of 260 advantages.

Among them, there were discounts of between 5% and 50% in museums, bookshops, sports shops, fitness centres and many other cultural firms and entities throughout Catalonia, simply by showing the UOC card.

Similarly, through ticket draws among our members, a number of 2,764 free tickets were distributed, at exchange and half-price rates to go to theatre plays and concerts at the Teatre Nacional de Catalunya, the Teatre Poliorama, the Teatre Victòria, the Versus Teatre and the Auditori de Barcelona, among others.

Research

Introduction

The Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), the university institution which creates knowledge, dedicates a special attention to the promotion and impulse of research in order to fulfil its mission of service to society. Along this line, research at the UOC is networked, international and interdisciplinary, and establishes alliances with researchers from other universities, institutions and enterprises.

During the year 2003, work has gone into consolidating the focus of the research at the UOC on the study of the effects of ICTs on people, on organisations and on society in general, and the influence of these technologies on the changes produced over the change from an industrial society to the information society and knowledge.

The nature of this research has the following traits:

– It is basic and geared to the generation of new knowledge.
– It applies to, and is oriented towards, the resolution of specific problems.
– It is innovative and capable of transferring in order to develop services and products transferable to society.

The UOC develops the activity of research through the IN3 and does it with a double function:

1. To promote and lead the research priorities laid down by the University to become a relevant node and an excellence centre on the international research network about the information and knowledge society.

2. To lend operating support to all the research generated in the sphere of the University, not only as regards the academic and scientific side, but also regarding aspects of management, monitoring and promotion.

Since its creation, and now from its new Castelldefels site since 2003, the IN3, co-funded by the Generalitat de Catalunya and the European Union's Feder Funds, has the following missions:

– To observe and analyse the phenomena relating to the intensive use of the information technologies in society, and to the changes that took, place over the change from the industrial society to the knowledge society.
– To facilitate the knowledge, instruments and tools that make the attainment of the objectives set possible.
– To suggest to companies, institutions and governments actions and initiatives that ensure the adaptation of knowledge to society, and the competence within this society.
– To disseminate the results of the research through publications, forums, courses and seminars that impinge of the various spheres of action of the Institute.

The spheres of research

The spheres seen as priority from this year 2003 are the following two:

Online training

From this sphere an analysis is made of the incorporation of ICTs and Internet into the educational world: the psychology of education, the theories of learning, the management of the new organisational models in education, the management of knowledge, the use of software in educational didactics, the design and implementation of learning processes in digital support and the analyis and evaluation of the impact of the new technologies on society.

The UOC, which characterises itself by the intensive use of the new information and communications technologies in all their dimensions, has sought right from the start to contribute to the generation of knowledge in the sphere of online training (e-learning).

The following are its main lines of work:

– Management of online training: projects based on the knowledge management, the analysis of educational organisations devoted to distance training, the analysis of the processes and their cost-effectiveness relation, the creation and maintenance of observatories linked to online training and to the use of ICTs in the education, and the systematisation and dissemination of knowledge referred to online training.

– Online teaching and learning: analysis of the theories and processes involved in learning environments and systems that incorporate ICTs; analysis, design and evaluation of models that improve the performance of the student and of the elements involved in these models, and the promotion of innovation in the teaching strategies.

– Online training technology (design, development and evaluation): development and innovation of virtual learning environments to increase the flexibility, the personalisation with regard to the user, and the interaction and the co-operation among the agents involved; innovation in the creation of more personalised, interactive and multimedia didactic materials through the ICTs; development and application of virtual simulators and laboratories; development of databases for the digitalisation of content to allow the reuse of learning resources, such as learning objects, metadata, etc.

The co-ordinator of this sphere of research is Professor Tony Bates. Bates is the Head of the Department of Distance Education and Technology at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in Canada, and has been doing research in this field for well over thirty years. He is a founding member of Great Britain's Open University and has worked as an advisor in this speciality for the World Bank, the UNESCO, the committees on public university teaching in the United States, the Canadian Agency for International Development, and for universities and ministries of education in more than thirty countries. Bates's work has focussed especially on how university institutions can, from their organisational structures, obtain educational advantage from the use of the information and communications technologies.

The Network Society

The aim of the research on the network society is to analyse the impact of the use of ICTs on society in general, and the phenomena accompanying the emergence and consolidation of a network society. This line of research pays special attention to the analysis of the transformations derived from the use of the Internet in business activity, at home, on the educational network, in the public Administration, the means of communication, and the health system, among other spheres.

The co-ordinator of this line of research is Professor Manuel Castells. Castells has a degree in Law and Economics from the University of Barcelona, a Master's degree in Law and Economic Policy, and is a Doctor in Sociology and Human Sciences by the University of Paris (La Sorbonne). He was Professor of Sociology and City and Regional Planning at the University of California, Berkeley. Castells has been a visiting Professor at 15 universities in Europe, Asia, Latin America and the United States. Of his works, we should single out his trilogy on the information society, *The Information Age: Economy, Society and Culture* (revised edition, 2000).

He is currently the President of the IN3's Scientific Committee, and the Scientific Co-director of the doctoral programme on the Information and Knowledge Society at the UOC.

Projects

Projecte Internet Catalunya (PIC)

PIC is an interdisciplinary research programme on the information society in Catalonia developed by IN3 researchers, with various entities and persons collaborating in surveying and documentation tasks. The project has been made possible thanks to the impulse and support of the Presidency of the Generalitat, and is funded by various Government Departments of the Generalitat de Catalunya.
The umbrella project is co-directed by doctors Manuel Castells and Imma Tubella. The PIC is made up of the following research projects:

PIC. The Network Society
It analyses the uses of the Internet and their relationship to social and communicative practices within the framework of social structure and social practices over the whole Catalonian population. The first resulting report is available at the following address: www.uoc.edu/in3/pic. The second phase of the project suggests an in-depth analysis of the data resulting from the survey, and the preparation of the relevant research publications.

PIC. Information and Communications Technologies and transformations in Catalan business
After a representative survey on 2,000 Catalonian businesses, this research project analyses transformations in business strategies and organisation linked to the intensive use of ICTs. The research team finished the qualitative phase in 2002 with the design of the sample, the elaboration of the questionnaire, and the pilot test. The quantitative phase was carried out during 2003, with fieldwork and the publication of the resulting report.

PIC. School in the Information Society
In the non-university educational sphere, PIC identifies and analyses the introduction of the Internet into the Primary and Secondary Education centres of Catalonia; it observes in which transformations the Internet is present, and in what way it contributes to the appearance of a new educational culture adapted to the needs gradually configured in the information society. Work on the characterisation of the study was under way in 2002, as were the design and selection of a representative sample of 350 centres, the elaboration of the questionnaires, and the pilot test. Quantitative data compilation was completed during 2003, and the publication of results is scheduled for the first quarter of 2004.

PIC. Internet Uses in Catalonia's Autonomous Administration
It analyses the current use of the Internet by the Autonomous Administration of Catalonia. Specifically, it analyses the rollout of the Administració Oberta de Catalunya project from two perspectives: on the one hand, we study the changes that occur in the relationship between citizens and Administration, both with respect to the provision of services and the mechanisms of participation; on the other, we study the processes and transformations within the Administration relating to the intensive use of the network.

PIC. Internet Uses in the Town Council of Barcelona
Within the framework of the study of technological change in the City Council of Barcelona, the partial analysis has now finished of various questions relating to internal change arising from the information systems and technologies. With the data obtained, a study has been developed of the structural change in the City Council.

PIC. Internet and the Catalonian University Network
It analyses the real practice of the Internet in the university sphere in all its dimension, taking into account not only the organisational aspect, but also that of the production of knowledge, and the teaching and learning tasks.

The Projectes Internet Catalunya under preparation are the following:

1. PIC. Use of the New Technologies in the Catalonian Health System
2. PIC. The Role of the Internet in the Transformations of the Communication Media

Projects Evaluated

Of the activity in 2003, we should single out the finalisation of the projects of the second call for research projects made by the IN3. The evaluation process of this session ended in September. The call was made in December 2001 with the aim of promoting researched focussing on the problems related to the information society.

CDDE. Copyright and Digital Distance Education

This project, co-ordinated by Doctor Raquel Xalabarder, lecturer at the Faculty of Law Studies and Political Science, has focussed on the study of intellectual property issues with relation to the use of protected works, to carry out the teaching and research activity through digital networks.

DTNT. Information Technology and Workers' Privacy

Within the framework of this project co-ordinated by Doctor Mark Jeffery, lecturer at the Faculty of Law Studies and Political Science, a comparative study has been undertaken about the way legal systems in seven different countries (Brazil, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, United Kingdom and the United States) start to react in the face of two closely interrelated issues which have been deeply affected by the new technologies: the control over workers, and the processing of their personal details.

E-Crime. Information Society and Penal Law. Criminal Policy in the Globalisation Context

Doctor Óscar Morales, who lectured at the Faculty of Law Studies and Political Science until July 2003, co-ordinated this project which suggests two lines of work. On the one hand, a comparative legal study of the legal protection needs with respect to technological crime, and the reality of penal, international and supranational positive law on the matter. And, on the other, the elaboration of a cross-study of the responsibility of Internet service providers regarding the content of users who pass through their servers or are hosted in them.

Hermeneia. Literary Studies and Digital Technologies

Doctor Laura Borràs, a lecturer at the Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature, co-ordinates Hermeneia, a project which focusses on research on the application of the computer interactive systems integrating the information morphologies (text, image and sound) to literature. The project suggests a critical analysis around the implicit repercussions which this application implies.

Interlingua. Development, evaluation, experimentation and application of non-supervised automated translation and the treatment of textual information

Doctor Salvador Climent lectures at the Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature. He is co-ordinating this project aimed at the creation of knowledge and the development of applications for non-supervised automated translation, and for intelligent treatment of the text (extraction of information, automatic summaries, etc.).

KAIMI. Knowledge Assets Identification and Methodologies of Implementation in Organizational Knowledge Management

Co-ordinated by Doctor Mario Pérez-Montoro, lecturer at the Faculty of Information and Communications Sciences, KAIMI seeks a twofold objective. On the one hand, to elaborate a definition of knowledge allowing the efficacious identification and discrimination of knowledge items in organisations. On the other, and closely linked to the previous objective, to design a methodology of implementation which may be used as a model for directives in knowledge management projects for organisations.

Òliba. Creation of models, and evaluation of virtual platforms, for the dissemination, documentation and communication of cultural and heritage institutions

Doctors Glòria Munilla and César Carreras, lecturers at the Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature, co-ordinate the project whose aim is the evaluation of the application of the information and communications technologies (ICTs) to documentation and dissemination within the sphere of museums and other centres of interpretation of heritage.

POTICS. The Impact of New Technologies on Democratic Politics: Actors, Preferences and Institutional Contexts

Co-ordinated by Doctor Ana Sofía Cardenal, lecturer at the Faculty of Law Studies and Political Science, the aim of this project is twofold. In the first place, to contribute to the study of the impact of the new technologies on the transformation of democratic political processes in advanced democracies. In the second place, the project aims to specify the relations existing between the use which socio-political actors make of the new technologies and the characteristics of the institutional context in which they act.

PSINET. The Psychology of Health and of Quality of Life in the Information and Knowledge Society

This project was co-ordinated by Doctor Lourdes Valiente, lecturer at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, who conducted an exploratory study of the relationship of the information and knowledge society with the psychological aspects of health and of quality of life.

TACEV. Learning and Co-operative Work in a Virtual Environment: The Case of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

TACEV, a project co-ordinated by Doctor Montse Guitert, lecturer at the Faculty of Computer and Multimedia Studies. The project is geared to developing learning methodologies and co-operative work in virtual environments of university scope. The research has been carried out from the description of educational experiences currently in progress, analysing the phenomena intervening in the process, and of the clarification of the relationships and discoveries of the underlying critical processes.

Other Projects

Growth-Nodes in a Knowledge-Based Europe (G-NIKE)
A programme of the European Commission of the information society technologies (IST)

Regional Indicators of e-Government and e-Business in Information Society Technologies (Regional IST)
A programme of the European Commission of the information society technologies (IST)

Roadmap to Communicating Knowledge Essential for the Industrial Environment (ROCKET)
A programme of the European Commission of the information society technologies (IST)

Learning in Virtual Integrated University System (LIVIUS)
A virtual learning initiative by the European Commission

Streaming of multimedia content to mobile devices with micro-payment retribution (Streamobile)
A PROFIT Programme - National programme of the information society by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Technology

Digital Images Protection Platform (PID Plan)
A PROFIT Programme - National programme of the information society by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Technology

Interaction and Educational Influence: Knowledge Building in Teaching and Learning Electronic Environments
Announcement of grants from the Spanish Ministry of Science and Technology to fund R+D projects

Use of ICTs in Applied Quantitative Subjects (E-MATH)
Programme of Studies and Analysis of the Directorate General of Universities of the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports

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Research Chairs

In the context of the IBM/"la Caixa" Chair, work has gone into the creation of interactive teaching materials for online learning. Materials are structured and follow a standard to enable its monitoring and the adaptation to the specific needs of each user, for the improvement of the learning process.

Similarly, the Telefónica Chair of Virtual Communities promoted research projects for the analysis of the emergence and functioning of virtual communities on the network, and the study of its social and cultural repercussions.

Applied Research and Innovation

Metacampus: The Marketplace for Lifelong Learning
A programme of the European Commission of the information society technologies (IST)

Personalised Curriculum Builder in the Federated Virtual University of the Europe of Regions (CUBER)
A programme of the European Commission of the information society technologies (IST)

eLearning Thematic Network (ElearnTN), Roadmap
A programme of the European Commission of the information society technologies (IST)

Time2Learn Roadmap
A programme of the European Commission of the information society technologies (IST)

Learning Grid of Excellence Working Group (LeGE-WG), Roadmap
A programme of the European Commission of the information society technologies (IST)

Developing a European eLearning Observation System (DELOS)
Virtual learning plan of action by the European Commission

Cultural Objects in Networked Environments (COINE)
A programme of the European Commission of the information society technologies (IST)

Costing Tool for European Educational Multimedia Co-production (COST€R)
SOCRATES programme of the European Commission

Training Information Technologies (TRAIN SEE)
A programme of the European Commission of the information society technologies (IST)

As a result of the collaboration between the IN3 and the Centre for Business Innovation and Development (CIDEM) of the Generalitat de Catalunya, the laboratory for usability of advanced mobile applications was created at the IN3. Its aim is to lend support to businesses by advising on the mobile applications development and implementation processes, the development of user interfaces, the carrying out of usability studies of new-generation mobile technologies applications, and the adaptation to user needs.

Projects Involving Transfer of Technology and Knowledge

Institutions with which there has been collaboration to carry out these projects:

• National Judiciary School (ENJ) (Dominican Republic)
• Virtual University of Quilmes (Argentina)
• Fundación Universitaria - CEIPA (Colombia)
• Inter-American University of Costa Rica and Panama
• Technical Private University of Loja (Ecuador)
• Instituto de Empresa (Spain)
• Instituto para la Euskaldunización y Alfabetización de Adultos (HABE)
• Instituto de Neurociencias y de la Salud Mental (INSM) (Spain)
• Institut Municipal d'Educació de Barcelona (IMEB)
• Direcció General de Política Lingüística
• Department of Welfare and the Family of the Generalitat de Catalunya
• Centre d'Iniciatives i Recerques Europees a la Mediterrània Foundation (CIREM)

Finally, and within the framework of a strong internationalisation drive, the UOC has taken part in projects in which it has collaborated with South East Asia institutions, in accordance with the line of co-operation between the EU and various South East Asian countries with the aim of defining a model of online training for the area.

Developing EU-China e-Learning Models and Capacities (DEC e-LEARN), co-ordinated by the International Council for Distance Education (ICDE), aims at developing a common model of online training for China and the EU. Apart from the UOC –which contributes with its experience in the sphere of distance training through the Internet, translated into its pedagogical model and its concept of didactic materials– there also participate the Chinese National Educational Exams Authority (NEEA), and the University of Sao Paulo (Brazil), as an assessing institution. This project forms part of the first phase of a global programme geared to redesigning a model of virtual autolearning for China.

Connecting Southeast Asia and Europe e-Learning Models (CAE e-LEARN), a project which started in December, has as its objective to establish an effective co-operation between Europe and the region of South East Asia to define a model of virtual learning based on the needs, priorities and requirements of the countries involved. The design of this pedagogical model has as its main premise to make it possible for citizens to overcome the barriers of time and space in learning and, at the same time, to facilitate that this learning be lifelong. It is a project of co-operation within the framework of the Asia IT&C European programme, with the participation of the ICDE, the South East Asia Ministers of Education Organisation (SEAMEO) (Thailand), SEAMEO SEAMOLEC (Indonesia), SEAMEO VOCTHCH (Brunei), the University of Fern (Germany), the European University of Montpellier and Languedoc-Roussillon (France), and the University of Tilburg (Holland).

Life Long Learning through IT&C in Environmental Education for Sustainability (LITES), a project which aims to develop digital didactic materials on education in sustainable development, to obtain a greater accessibility to, and exchange of, information through the co-operation between Europe and the Asian region in the environmental sphere, training, and the information and communications technologies. The following institutions take part in the project, the University of Twente, the Institut Cartesius, Franeker (Holland), Centre for Environmental Technologies, CETEC (Malaysia), the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), together with the Network for Preventive Environmental Management (NetPEM) (India). A workshop on the project was organised for all of them in Barcelona last May.

Research: Some Figures

Annual evolution of the economic volume
of the new projects (in millions of euros)

Year	Value
1995	0.05
1996	0.50
1997	0.58
1998	1.42
1999	0.68
2000	1.15
2001	3.62
2002	3.59
2003	4.58
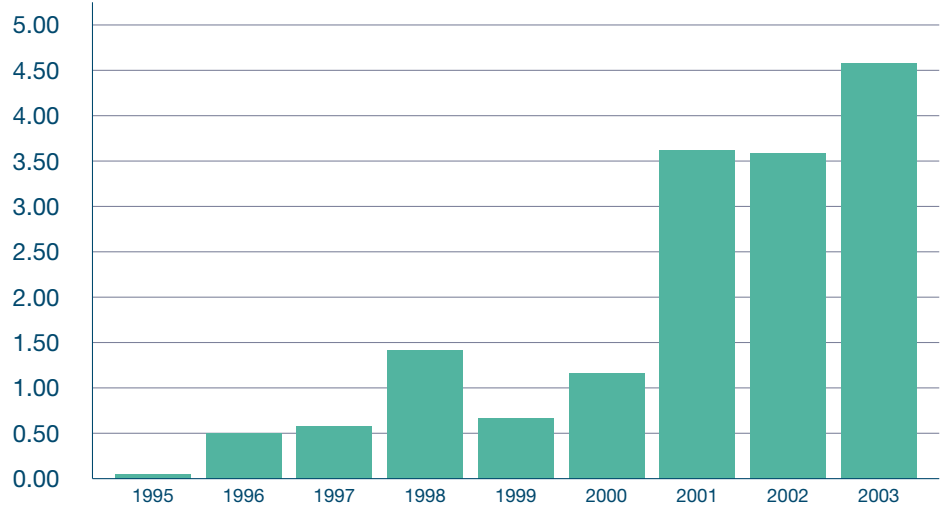
Annual evolution of the number of new
projects granted during the period 1995-2002

Year	Value
1995	1
1996	10
1997	23
1998	25
1999	27
2000	42
2001	78
2002	70
2003	85
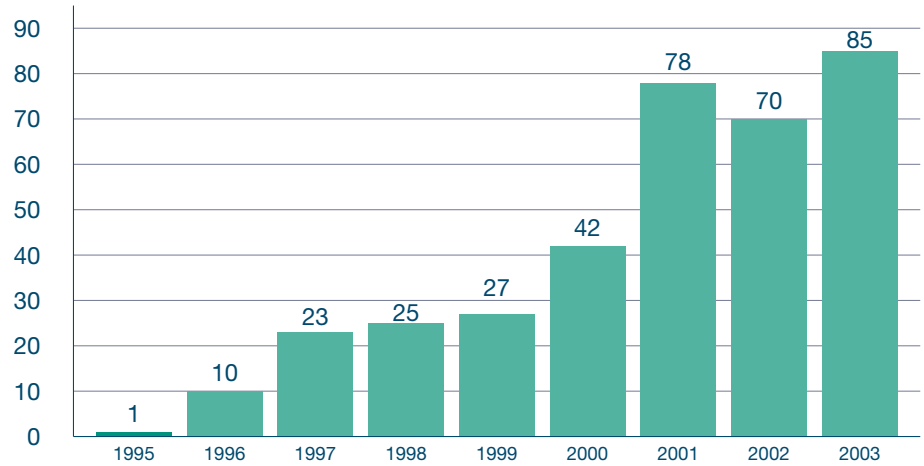
Evolution of the funding of the IN3 activities during
the period 1995-2002 (in thousands of euros)

Year	Value
1995	90
1996	468
1997	1,087
1998	781
1999	1,069
2000	2,091
2001	3,895
2002	3,989
2003	5,700
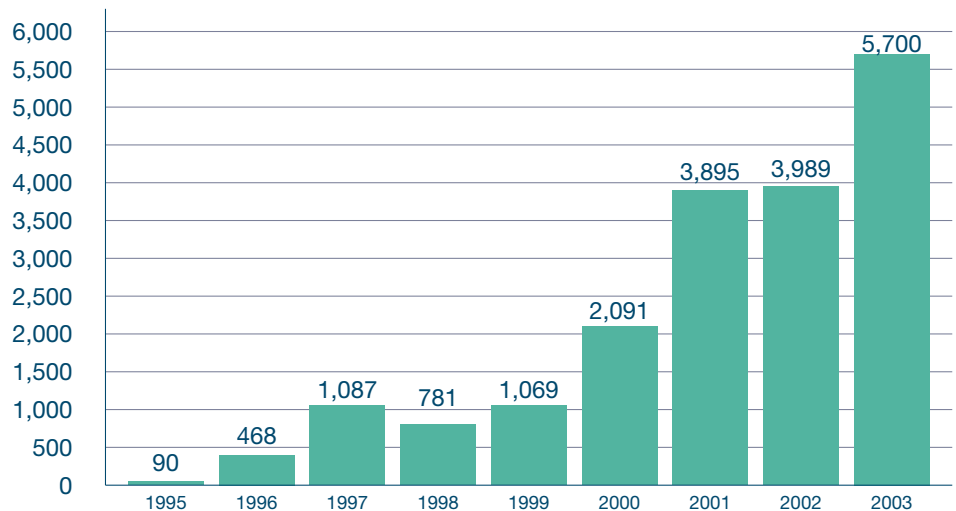
Dissemination and transfer of knowledge and technology

Introduction

The UOC is a pioneering university in virtual learning (e-learning) and an active agent in the transition towards a new culture –the one generating the same development of the information and knowledge society.

A decided will to disseminate this new culture finds expression in various initiatives, like the University's portal (www.uoc.edu), the publication of the research results, the publishing activity, the cultural and dissemination activities, as well as the knowledge transfer services which the University makes available to enterprise and institutions.

The UOC has a special interest to make known the activity of its researchers and the results of the research projects which they carry out. For this reason, it encourages the publication of the scientific production generated (work documents, articles, doctoral work, papers, etc.), in order to achieve the dissemination of its activity. Thus it contributes to the understanding of the phenomenon of the information and knowledge society from all the spheres.

The UOC on the Internet

During the academic year 2002-2003, the UOC has reinforced its commitment to the Internet as its natural channel to disseminate knowledge, not only maintaining initiatives like *Lletra* (www.uoc.edu/lletra), about Catalonian literature, or promoting new ones, like *ArtNodes* (www.uoc.edu/artnodes), which explores the connections among science, art and technology, but also posting on the network hundreds of articles, and content, derived from university research and activity, among which we could single out the first results of the Internet Catalunya project (www.uoc.edu/in3/pic), headed by Professor Manuel Castells.

In all, more than 5,000 pages of university content made freely available to society.

The Website www.uoc.edu has become a relevant tool not only as social disseminator of knowledge for the content generated by the UOC members, but also as a digital loudspeaker for the people who relate to the UOC but belong to other institutions. Thus, the UOC has published work signed by members from other Catalonian universities, like the University of Barcelona, the Polytechnic University of Catalonia, the Autonomous University of Barcelona, the Pompeu Fabra University, and the Ramon Llull University, as well as from universities from all over the world, like the University of California, the New York State University, the University of Illinois, the University of British Columbia, the Technical University of Denmark, the University of Malaysia, the University of Minho (Portugal), Francisco Gavidia University of El Salvador, the University of Guadalajara (Mexico), the University of Trento, the University of Lancaster and the University of Manitoba of Canada.

Similarly, the website has published content elaborated by authors linked to the cultural and business fabric of society, of entities like the Institut de Cultura de Barcelona (ICUB), La Vanguardia Digital, Softcatalà, the Catalonian High Court, the Institut Cerdà, the Corporació Catalana de Ràdio i Televisió (Catalonian Radio and Television), the Societat Digital d'Autors i Editors, the PNUD, Forrester Research, and the European Union. In this respect, we should single out names like Peter Anders, Tony Bates, Joaquim Bayó, Xavier Berenguer, Andreas Broeckmann, Manuel Campo Vidal, Manuel Castells, Alfons Cornella, Donna J. Cox, Claudio Dondi, Josep Laporte, Erkki Liikanen, Joan Majó, Lev Manovich, Antoni Muntadas, Ismael Nafría, Vicent Partal, Michael Punt, Artur Serra, Juan Manuel Suárez del Toro and Vicenç Villatoro.

This activity has meant that this academic year has been the year of the consolidation of the UOC portal as one of the most important cultural websites of the world, with more than 250,000 different users visiting the site each month, an hourly average of 2,800 visits and 13,500 pages served. Taking into account that the University has approximately 35,000 registered users (among students, lecturers, other staff, and collaborators), the indicators of the UOC portal show that its proposal and content deserve the attention of its environment, a fact which would confirm it as a powerful tool of university dissemination and broadcast of its activity and offer.

One of the most-often used and referenced Internet rankings is Alexa (www.alexa.com), which uses three quantitative parameters for its results: number of visitors, number of pages per visit, and number of sites with link to the page in question. Using these data, a unique qualitative rate is elaborated, sorting all the web sites. The www.uoc.edu site started this academic year below the position 30,000, yet on finishing it, it already was one of the leading 3,000 websites of the world, a fact which places it among the first five educational sites in the world, and the first in Europe and Latin America. For the Catalonian sphere, Alexa places the UOC portal above other services, like the Generalitat de Catalunya, the City Council of Barcelona or Catalonian Television.
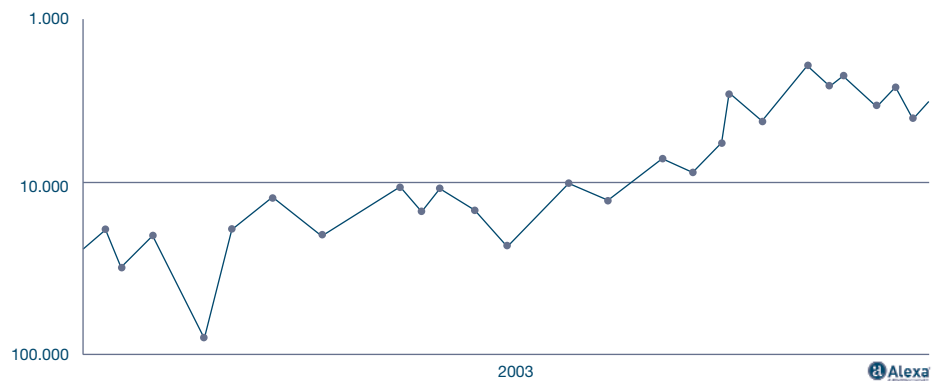
Another indicator of the activity on the State's network is the contribution by the Association for Media Research (AIMC), which through its *Estudio general de medios* measures regularly the evolution of use of the Internet in Spain since 1996. The fifth edition of this study was made public in 2003, a study conducted between the months of October and December 2002, with the participation of 54,498 visitors. One of the questions was "Try to remember the last five websites you have visited". With these results, a list is made of the hundred top of mind Internet websites of the State. With regard to this, the UOC is shown in position 21, above other suggestions like Páginas Amarillas, Microsoft, El Periódico or BBVA. According to this same study, the profile of the Internet user visiting the UOC site is a man (60%), aged between 25 and 44 (79.9%). He is a university graduate (65.1%), and an active professional (90.7%), and has been using the Internet for more than five years (47%). He lives in Catalonia (79%) and not in a provincial capital (52.6%).

The activity of UOC on the Internet has also deserved the recognition of the Spanish Internet Users Association (AUI), which recognised the UOC in 2003 as the entity which has best integrated the Internet into its strategic development, with an award presented to the Rector, Gabriel Ferraté, by the then Minister of Science and Technology in Madrid.

Territorial Activities and Dissemination

Institutional Activities

• 10 July 2002
Inaugural lecture of the VIII Meeting for Computer Teaching at University
The inaugural speech of the meetings was delivered by Gabriel Ferraté, Rector of the UOC.
Venue: Caceres

• 18 July 2002
Signing of the collaboration agreement
Presentation of the OPINA space of the Virtual Forum by Jaume Pagès and the Rector, Gabriel Ferraté.
Venue: Forum 2004 Headquarters

• 19 July 2002
Signing of the collaboration agreement for the creation of the Barcelona Institute of International Relations.
Venue: Fundació CIDOB headquarters

• 7 August 2002
Seminar of Technological, Economic and Social Innovation
A conference on the information society technologies by Rector Gabriel Ferraté.
Venue: Madrid

• 7 September 2002
Closing conference of the 14th edition of the European University Public Relations and Information Officers Association (EUPRIO) by Rector Gabriel Ferraté: "To communicate, to educate, to learn in a global world".
Venue: Barcelona

• 17 September 2002
Signing of the collaboration agreement between the DURSI and the Catalonian public universities
The agreement is signed by the Department of Education, the Department of Universities, Research and the Information Society, and the Catalonian public universities.
Venue: Barcelona

• 3 October 2002
35a. Meeting of the Board of CINDA
Meeting of Rectors of Latin American universities members of CINDA (academic institution which establishes links among universities and studies the economic and social problems of Latin America).
Venue: Barcelona / UOC

• 5 October 2002
2002 Graduation ceremony of UOC students held in Lleida
The following attended: Gabriel Ferraté, Rector of the UOC; Antoni Siurana, Mayor of Lleida; Antonio Franco, Editor, *El Periódico de Catalunya*, and patron of the group; Xavier Aiguadé, representative of graduate students; Santi Roig, of Lleida Television, compare of the event.
Venue: Lleida

• 9 October 2002
Signing of the agreement between the UOC and Microsoft Iberica
The agreement is signed by Rector Gabriel Ferraté and Rosa María García, Managing Director of Microsoft Iberica.
Venue: Madrid

• 16 October 2002
ICEM-CIME 2002 Congress (Granada)
A conference delivered by Rector Gabriel Ferraté.
Venue: University of Granada

• 25 October 2002
Signing of the agreement between BBVA and the UOC
The agreement is signed by Pedro Fontana, Director General of BBVA in Catalonia and Balearic Islands, and the Rector Gabriel Ferraté.
Venue: Barcelona

• 4 November 2002
Signing of the agreement of the UNESCO Chair.
Venue: UNESCO Paris

• 19 November 2002
Tribuna Tot Terrassa
Attended by Rosa García, Managing
Director of Microsoft Iberica.
Venue: Terrassa

• 28 November 2002
Spanish Congress of Managers and
Executives (CEDE)
Organised by CEDE.
Venue: Madrid

• 10 December 2002
Signing of the agreement between
the UOC and the Regional Council of
Maresme (CCM).
Venue: Mataró

• 16 January 2003
Presentation of RuralCat (the
agricultural and food virtual portal of
the rural world)
A conference by Rector Gabriel
Ferraté organised by the Generalitat
de Catalunya.
Venue: Barcelona

• 20 February 2003
Presentation of the Honorary Award
to Rector Gabriel Ferraté
Organised by the Catalonian
Association of Telecommunications
Engineers.
Venue: Barcelona

• 24 February 2003
Presentation of PortalSocial.Net
Organised by the Generalitat de
Catalunya.
Venue: World Trade Center of
Barcelona

• 3 March 2003
Conferral of the UOC Doctoral
degree *Honoris Causa* to Doctor
Laporte
The act was attended by Jordi Pujol,
Gabriel Ferraté, Josep Laporte i
Salas, and Ramon Pla.
Venue: Central building of the UOC

• 13 March 2003
Award Association of Internet Users
(AUI)
The UOC receives the award as the
Spanish enterprise which has best
integrated the Internet into its
strategic development.
Organised by the Association of
Internet Users (AUI).

• 21 March 2003
Graduate Evening
Venue: Barcelona

• 24 March 2003
David Snowden, Director of IBM's
Cynefin Center, pays a visit to the UOC.
Venue: UOC Barcelona

• 25 March 2003
Signing of the agreement between
the City Council of San Sebastian
(Donostia) and the Provincial Council
of Gipuzkoa.
Venue: San Sebastian (Donostia)

• 26 March 2003
A delegation from Guandong
University visits the UOC

• 27 March 2003
Framework agreement between the
UOC and the AECA
The agreement is signed by the
President of the AECA and Rector
Gabriel Ferraté.
Venue: Madrid

• 2 April 2003
Inaugural lecture at the EducaRed
International Congress
A conference by Rector Gabriel
Ferraté. Event organised by
Fundación Telefónica.
Venue: Madrid

• 3 April 2003
A conference "The Knowledge
Society" by Rector Gabriel Ferraté.
Venue: Seville

• 9 April 2003
Presentation of the Asian Studies
A conference by Ion de la Riva,
Director General of Asia House, and
by Rector Gabriel Ferraté.
Venue: Barcelona Asia House

• 5 May 2003
The UOC welcomes Roberto Amaral,
Brazilian Minister of Science and
Technology

• 5 May 2003
International Conference of
Education and Training Based on the
Educa BCN Online Technologies.
Venue: Hotel InterContinental
Princesa Sofía, Barcelona

• 8 May 2003
Graduation ceremony of the UOC
Continuing Education students
Attended by Gabriel Ferraté, Rector
of the UOC; Fernando Villalonga,
General Director of Fundación
Telefónica; Antoni Fernández,
Minister of Employment, Generalitat
de Catalunya; and Rosa M. Cornet,
journalist and presenter of the event.
Venue: Gran Teatre del Liceu

• 26 May 2003
Signing of the agreement between
the UOC and Sun Microsystems for
the creation of the Center of
Excellence (CoE)
The agreement was signed by Sun's
Director, Josep Fígols, and the
Rector of the UOC, Gabriel Ferraté.
Venue: Central building of the UOC

• 29 May 2003
Appointment of Professor Mitchell as
Honorary Member of the Societat
Catalana de la Comunicació

Activities Involving Dissemination of Knowledge across the Territory

The territorial services, as UOC services and resources centres, bring the University closer to the various geographical spheres, with the aim of coming closer to the social fabric, promoting cultural and academic activities, and promoting the information and knowledge society around it.

These centres of local relation, apart from being a direct support service to students, contribute in an important way to the activity of dissemination and presence of the UOC in the territory.

Conferences and Round-tables

• 14 September 2002
"Jacint Verdaguer, a la recerca de l'absolut romàntic"
Speaker: Pere Farrés, Professor, University of Barcelona
Organised by the Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature of the UOC.
Venue: Faculty of Economics of the Autonomous University of Barcelona

• 14 September 2002
Round-table "La Llei 34/2002, d'11 de juliol, de serveis de la societat de la informació i de comerç electrònic (LSSICE), a debat"
Speakers:
– Dr. Amadeu Abril,
  Lecturer, ESADE
– Dr. Óscar Morales,
  Lecturer in Penal Law, UOC
– Sr. Miquel Peguera,
  Lecturer in Mercantile Law, UOC
Organised by the Faculty of Law and Political Science of the UOC.
Venue: Auditorium, UAB

• 8 November 2002
Conference "What Is Digital Literature?"
Speaker: Rainee Koskimaa, of the University of Turku (Finland)
Organised by the Hermeneia research group of the Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature of the UOC.
Venue: Auditorium UOC

• 11 December 2002
Round-table "Diversitat i convivència a Premià de Mar"
Speakers:
– Joan Garcia, Councillor Social Services, City Council of Premià de Mar
– Abdelilah, representative of the Al Attauba Muslim Association
– Josep Guerra
– Felip Laborda, Barri Antic Neighbours' Association
– Toni López de Haro, Co-ordinator, Premià per la Convivència
Organised by the Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature of the UOC.
Venue: Centre Cívic de Premià de Mar

• 18 December 2002
Conference "Les relacions entre empresa i Administració pública a través de les noves tecnologies"
Speaker: Josep Piqué, Spanish Minister of Science and Technology
Organised by the Chamber of Commerce of Sabadell and the UOC.
Venue: Sabadell

• 18 December 2002
Conference "Visions d'actualitat"
Speaker: Josep Piqué, Spanish Minister of Science and Technology
Organised by the Chamber of Commerce of Sabadell and the UOC.
Venue: Sabadell

• 30 January 2003
Conference "La construcció del coneixement en entorns electrònics d'ensenyament i aprenentatge"
Organised by the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences.
Venue: Barcelona

• 17 February 2003
Conference "La política científica i tecnològica espanyola"
Speaker: Josep Piqué, Spanish Minister of Science and Technology
Organised by the Chamber of Commerce of Sabadell and the UOC.
Venue: Sabadell

• 20 February 2003
Conference "Treballar en xarxa i a la xarxa: cultura de pau a Internet"
Speaker: Carlota Franco, Co-ordinator, Oneworld Spain portal
Organised by Campus for Peace and the Support Point of Sabadell.
Venue: Sabadell

• 24 February 2003
Round-table "Catalunya: situació de la llengua"
Speaker: Miquel Strubell, Director of Programme, Faculty of Humanities
Organised by the UOC.
Venue: San Sebastian (Donostia)

• 1 March 2003
Round-table "Un nou ordre internacional?"
Speakers:
– Dr. Joan Prats, Head, Faculty of Law and Political Science
– Jaume Giné, Secretary General, Asia House Barcelona
– Dr. Clàudia Jiménez, Titular Lecturer in International Public Law
Organised by the Faculty of Law and Political Science of the UOC.
Venue: Auditorium, Faculty of Law, UAB

• From 10th March to 6th November 2003
Cycle of conferences "L'Hospitalet, espai de debat: democràcia i participació"
Speakers: Josep Ramoneda; Xurxo Souto, Nunca Máis platform; Àngel Aznar, Defensa de l'Ebre platform, among others
Organised by Tres Quarts per Cinc Quarts opinion group, Perutxo bookshop, Centre d'Estudis de l'Hospitalet, Fundació Akwaba, Cine Club L'Hospitalet and El Taller de Pubilla Kasas, with the collaboration of the City Council of L'Hospitalet and the UOC.
Venue: L'Hospitalet

• 20 March 2003
Cycle of conferences on the new technologies and the culture of peace
Speaker: Juan Antonio García, Head of Distance Training, Spanish Red Cross
Venue: Support Centre of Sabadell

• 22 April 2003
Conference "La guerra que ha canviat el món"
Speaker: Lluís Foix, journalist specialising in international politics
Organised by Sabadell Universitat and the UOC.

• 28 April 2003
Conference "Afganistan, Iraq... i després?"
Speakers: PAUOC members, and members of the Plataforma per l'Aixecament de les Sancions a Iraq
Organised by the UOC Plataforma Antiguerra.
Venue: Sant Feliu de Llobregat

• From 5th to 7th May 2003
Conference Online Educa Barcelona
Speakers: Gabriel Ferraté and Albert Sangrà

• 8 May 2003
Conference "L'agenda internacional de l'OMPI en matèria de drets d'autor" by Geoffrey Yu, Deputy Director General of WIPO and Head of the Copyright and Related Rights sector, with the collaboration of ALADDA, the Spanish section of the Association Littéraire et Artistique International (ALAI), and the Authors' Rights section of the Barcelona Association of Barristers
Organised by the Faculty of Law of the University of Barcelona, and the Faculty of Law and Political Science of the UOC.
Venue: Auditorium, UOC

• From 30th May to 20th June 2003
Cycle of conferences "5a. edició d'art i creativitat: activisme"
Organised by the Art and Design School of Tortosa and the UOC.
Venue: Tortosa

Seminars, Meetings and Congresses

• 18 October 2002
Seminar on Personalisation and
Digital Libraries
Speaker: Marta Enrech
Organised by the Open University
and the UOC.
Venue: Milton Keynes (United Kingdom)

• 26 October 2002
Meetings "Ecologia i comportament
dels homínids africans"
Speakers: Jordi Serrallonga, Director
of HOMINID (Grup d'Orígens
Humans - Parc Científic de
Barcelona) and Lecturer in Prehistory
and the Evolution of Human Behaviour
at the University of Barcelona
Organised by Aula Ægyptiaca and
the UOC.
Venue: Barcelona

• 7 November 2002
Meetings "Cartografies de l'hipertext.
Un recorregut pels models literaris i
teòrics hipertextuals"
Speakers: Rainee Koskimaa,
University of Turku (Finland); Joan
Elies Adell (UOC); Laura Borràs
(UOC), and Isabel Moll (UOC)
Organised by the Hermeneia
research group of the Faculty of
Humanities and Language and
Literature of the UOC.
Venue: Auditorium, Universitat Oberta
de Catalunya (Barcelona)

• 7 November 2002
Meetings "Cartografies de l'hipertext.
Un recorregut pels models literaris i
teòrics hipertextuals"
Meetings "Literatures electròniques
europees: el cas de França", by Joan
Elies Adell Pitarch
Organised by the Hermeneia
research group of the Faculty of
Humanities and Language and
Literature of the UOC.
Venue: Auditorium, Universitat Oberta
de Catalunya (Barcelona)

• 7 November 2002
Meetings "Cartografies de l'hipertext.
Un recorregut pels models literaris i
teòrics hipertextuals"
Conference "Teories literàries i reptes
digitals", by Laura Borràs Castanyer
Organised by the Hermeneia
research group of the Faculty of
Humanities and Language and
Literature of the UOC.
Venue: Auditorium, Universitat Oberta
de Catalunya (Barcelona)

• From 14th to 15th November 2002
II Congrés Internacional de
Tecnoètica
Speaker: Israel Rodríguez
Organised by the Faculty of
Psychology and Educational
Sciences of the UOC.
Venue: Barcelona

• 23 November 2002
Meetings "De la creença a la
plasmació arquitectònica. Doctrines
cosmogòniques i tombes reials a
l'Egipte dels faraons"
Speakers: Josep Cervelló, Lecturer at
the UOC and at the Institut d'Estudis
del Pròxim Orient Antic at the UAB,
and Head of the Aula Ægyptiaca
foundation; David Rull, Lecturer at
the Institut d'Estudis del Pròxim
Orient Antic at the UAB, and Lecturer
of Postgraduate Education at the
UOC, and Secretary of the Aula
Ægyptiaca
Organised by the Aula Ægyptiaca
and the UOC.
Venue: Central building of the UOC

• 11 February 2003
Meeting "Les noves professions
lingüístiques i literàries"
Presentation by Joan Pujolar,
Programme Director, Catalan
Language and Literature
Speakers:
–Ignasi Olivé, Copy Editor at the
 International Sound Studio
 dubbing studios
–Jaume Cabré, writer
–Oriol Camps, linguistic advisor,
 Catalunya Ràdio
–Juan Alberto Alonso, Head of the
 Linguistic Department,
 Comprendium España, SL
–Francesc Vallverdú,
 editor at the Grup 62
–Vicent Partal, Director, Vilaweb
–Joan Vall Calrà, Director
 of El Punt group
–Marc Sagristà, Gran
 Enciclopèdia Catalana
–Mercè Solé, Head of Education
 Service, Consorci per a la
 Normalització Lingüística
–Marcel Fité, Lecturer, Institute
 of Educational Sciences, UB
–Laura Borràs, Lecturer at the
 Faculty of Humanities and Language
 and Literature of the UOC
–Joana Alba Cercós, student
 at the UOC
Conclusions by Isidor Marí, Head of
the Faculty of Humanities and
Language and Literature of the UOC
Closing speech by Gabriel Ferraté,
Rector of the UOC
Organised by the Faculty of
Humanities and Language and
Literature of the UOC.
Venue: UOC Support Centre of the
Barcelonès

• From 25th March to 13th May 2003
Meetings "Ensuring the Rule of Law
in Uncertain Times"
Organised by the Institut de la
Governabilitat, GRES, and the
Faculty of Law of the UOC.
Venue: Barcelona

• 29 March 2003
Meetings "Ecologia i comportament dels homínids africans"
Organised by the Aula Ægyptiaca and the UOC.
Venue: Sant Feliu de Llobregat

• 26 April 2003
Meetings "De la creença a la plasmació arquitectònica. Doctrines cosmogòniques i tombes reials a l'Egipte dels faraons"
Organised by the Aula Ægyptiaca and the UOC.
Venue: Sant Feliu de Llobregat

• 26 April 2003
I Meeting Empresa i Negoci a Internet de les Terres de l'Ebre
Inaugural address by Rector Gabriel Ferraté, and Jordi Vilaseca, Head of the Faculty of Economics and Business Studies of the UOC
Presentation by Joan Torrent, Lecturer at the Faculty of Economics and Business Studies of the UOC
Venue: Tortosa

• 23 May 2003
Seminar "L'educació per la pau i els drets humans: significats, abast i reptes a Mèxic"
Speakers: Dr Gloria Ramírez, Head, UNESCO Chair on Human Rights, Autonomous University of Mexico
Organised by the Faculty of Law and Political Science, with the collaboration of the Institut de Drets Humans de Catalunya.
Venue: Sala Witsa, Central building of the UOC

• 29, 30 and 31 May 2003
Simposi Joaquim Ruyra. Als cent anys de l'eclosió literària de Joaquim Ruyra: *Marines i boscatges*
Conference "Ruyra i el classicisme", by Narcís Figueras Capdevila, Lecturer at the UOC
Organised by the University of Perpignan, the University of Alacant, the Associació d'Escriptors en Llengua Catalana, the Universitat Catalana d'Estiu, the University of Girona, and the Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature of the UOC.
Venue: Biblioteca Comarcal de Blanes

• 20 June 2003
Seminar "Les tecnologies de la informació i la comunicació en el món del treball"
Speakers: Jordi Vilaseca, Head, Faculty of Economics and Business Studies, and Rector Gabriel Ferraté
Organised by the Consell de Treball Econòmic i Social de Catalunya (CTESC) and the UOC.
Venue: Central building of the UOC (Barcelona)

• 26 June 2003
Working seminar on the new perspectives outlined by the didactics of literature in its convergence with the information technologies
Organised by the Hermeneia research group of the Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature of the UOC, and the LETHi research group (Literaturas Españolas y Europeas: del Texto al Hipertexto), of the Complutense University of Madrid.
Venue: Auditorium, central building of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

• 26 and 27 June 2003
Meetings: "Copyright i drets d'autor: convergència internacional en un món digital?"
Speakers:
–Professor Jane C. Ginsburg (Columbia University Law School, New York)
–Professor Alain Strowel (Foc. Univ. Saint Louis, Brussels)
–Professor Ramon Casas (University of Barcelona)
–Agustín González (Uria & Menéndez, Madrid)
–Juan José Marín (Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha)
–Dr. José Carlos Erdozain (Gómez Acebo & Pombo, Madrid)
–Marta Malmierca (CEDRO, Madrid)
–María Martín-Prat (IFPI, Londres)
–Javier Ramírez (Hewlett-Packard, Madrid)
–Dr. Raquel Xalabarder (UOC, Barcelona)
–Dr. Mario Sol (Sol Muntañola & Asociados, Barcelona)
Organised by the Faculty of Law and Political Science of the UOC and the IN3.
Venue: Auditorium, Societat General d'Autors i Editors (SGAE), Barcelona

<u>Workshops and Exhibitions</u>

• 2002
Virtual workshop "L'economia del coneixement: paradigma tecnològic i canvi estructural. Una anàlisi empírica i internacional per a l'economia espanyola"
Authors: J. Vilaseca, J. Torrent, A. Diaz
Portal of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

• 2002
Virtual workshop "The ICT and the Strategic and Organizational Changes in Catalan Business.
A Review of Select Evidence for Catalonia, Spain and Internacional Data"
Authors: J. Vilaseca, J. Torrent, A. Diaz
Portal of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

• April-May 2003
Virtual exhibition "Imatges de pedra. El mosaic a Tunísia"
Author: César Carreras Monfort
Organised by the Museu d'Arqueologia de Catalunya and the Òliba project of the Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature of the UOC.
Venue: Museu d'Arqueologia de Catalunya

• 24 and 25 April 2003
Workshop "Textualitats electròniques. Nous escenaris per a la literatura"
Speakers:
–Patrizia Calefatto (University of Bari)
–Tiziana Terranova (University of Essex)
–Alain Vuillemin (University of Artois)
–Manel Ollé (Pompeu Fabra University)
–Raffaele Pinto (University of Barcelona)
–Meri Torras (Autonomous University of Barcelona)
–Susana Pajares (University of Copenhagen)
–Margarida Aritzeta (Rovira i Virgili University)
–Oriol Izquierdo (Ramon Llull University)
–Laura Borràs Castanyer, Joan Elies Adell Pitarch, Narcís Figueras Capdevila, Jaume Subirana Ortín and Roger Canadell Rosiñol (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya)
Organised by the Hermeneia research group of the Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature of the UOC.
Venue: Auditorium, Central building of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

• 24 and 25 April 2003
Workshop "Textualitats electròniques. Nous escenaris per a la literatura"
Paper "Ficció o dicció? Una aproximació a la poètica de la literatura electrònica", by Joan Elies Adell Pitarch
Organised by the Hermeneia research group of the Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature of the UOC.
Venue: Auditorium, Central building of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

• 24 and 25 April 2003
Workshop "Textualitats electròniques. Nous escenaris per a la literatura: problemes, reptes i horitzons de literatura en l'espai digital"
Speaker: Laura Borràs Castanyer
Organised by the Hermeneia research group of the Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature of the UOC.
Venue: Auditorium, Central building of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

• From 29 April to 29 May 2003
Photographic exhibition
Talk "L'Índia de Vicente Ferrer"
Organised by the Ferreries - Sant Vicent Neighbours' Association and the UOC.
Venue: Tortosa

• 12 and 13 June 2003
Workshop "Teixir la xarxa"
Attended by: Agnès Vayreda Duran, Elisenda Ardèvol Piera and Francesc Núñez Mosteo
Organised by the GIRCOM research group of the Faculty of Humanities and Language and Literature of the UOC.
Venue: Support Centre of the Barcelonès, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (Barcelona)

<u>Courses</u>

• From 7 to 11 July 2003
Sabadell University Summer Courses
Organised by Sabadell University, the City Council of Sabadell, the UAB and the UOC.
Venue: Sabadell and Barcelona

Publishing Activity

During the year 2002-2003, Editorial UOC continued its activity with the publication of 40 new products, grouped as follows:

Collections resulting from the exploitation of the UOC subject holdings:

– "Manuals" collection, books in Catalan 8 titles
– "Manuales" collection, books in Spanish 11 titles
– "Biblioteca Multimèdia" collection, books with CD-ROM in Spanish and Catalan 5 titles
– "Biblioteca Oberta" collection, books in Catalan 7 titles

Collections in which the books do not proceed from the UOC holdings:

– "Educación y Nuevas Tecnologías" collection, books in Spanish 1 title
– "Biblioteca Multimedia de la Industria" collection, CD-ROM in Spanish 3 titles

Similarly, new collections or series have been launched:

– "Nuevas Tecnologías y Sociedad" collection 3 titles
– "Biblioteca Multimèdia" collection. "Instal·lacions" series 2 titles

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Services for Institutions and Enterprise

The UOC is a university connected to the cultural, social and scientific reality of its environment, and is committed to the needs of the economic, industrial and services fabric. Out of this social and economic environment, the University has created a number of firms which form the UOC Group, whose mission is the transfer of innovation, knowledge and know how from University to society. These services and transfer activities can be specified as follows:

Design, implementation and management of integral online training systems (e-learning)

The UOC works to disseminate its experience in virtual learning environments, and to make its innovating model available to those institutions all over the world which have an interest in the incorporation of ICTs into their activities, in accordance with the nature, the priorities and the possibilities of each institution. The model involves a number of aspects: organisational, pedagogical, technological, documentary and related to its presence on the network.

Elaboration and Production of Didactic Materials

In direct relation to the importance which the UOC awards to the design and elaboration of didactic materials adapted to its innovative learning process, the University generates its own on-line and off-line content, and makes use of the experience obtained to offer its services as a specialised producer of multimedia supports.

Customised Training to Organisations

The UOC wants to contribute to the competitiveness and efficacy of organisations, and for this motive understands that the needs requested by its customers are customised and made-to-measure solutions.

Some important examples of these customised solutions are the spaces created for the knowledge and training management addressed to the pharmaceutical, petrochemical, aeronautical and defence industries, and the spaces created for the banking, car, insurance, sports and health sectors.

Knowledge Management and Generation of Virtual Communities

In order to create, manage and galvanise projects seeking to attract, link and earn the loyalty of people in spaces of communication, participation and exchange of experiences and knowledge, work is under way in the following concepts:

• Knowledge Management
• Virtual spaces for communication and participation
• Communities for practice
• Learning communities
• Networked collaboration
• Virtual libraries

The UOC has been a leading institution in the creation of virtual communities in the following sectors: education, agriculture and the rural world, social and judicial services, as well as in professional exchange environments for business executives.

Training for Enterprise

Through the GEC company, very important initiatives have consolidated firmly, like projects with Caja Navarra, Andbanc, RuralCat, Audi and Mossos d'Esquadra (Catalonian Police), and the relations with various departments of the Generalitat de Catalunya. These are some of the customers which GEC worked with during this exercise:

- **RuralCat.** The aim of the project is to build a virtual community in order to become a referent in rural Catalonia, and to apply the new information technologies to key spheres like agriculture, livestock breeding, the agricultural industry, and food safety.

- **Caja Navarra.** The project, divided into three phases, aims to launch the platform and the building of the first training resources; the consolidation of the virtual learning environment within the organisation, with the generation of new courses and knowledge pills, and the galvanisation, development and monitoring of the environment through the generation and sharing of knowledge.

- **Caifor.** The aim of the project is the implementation of a virtual learning platform to manage the training of the Caifor staff and facilitate knowledge within the company.

- **INTI.** The objective of the project is to launch the platform and to carry out a pilot test, and later to extend the use of the environment to the highest possible number of users, and to consolidate it through new training actions, galvanisation of the community of users, and so on.

- **Asociación de Industrias de Navarra.** The objective of the project is to explain the opportunities offered by online training, and to elaborate a work plan to develop some initiatives suggested by the customer.

- **CIDEM.** The project involves the design, the building and the launch of a platform of CIDEM virtual communities which will contain specific services which will contribute an added value to Catalonian small enterprise and to the innovation of business in general.

- **UGT de Catalunya.** This project consists in the development of a virtual environment or service portal named *e-UGT*, which will promote communication and digital services among the organisation, its affiliated members and workers in general.

- **Department of Justice and Interior of the Generalitat de Catalunya.** The project consists in the development of a programme of higher training in the administration and management of public safety for senior officers of the Catalonian Police (Mossos d'Esquadra) and of the local police forces working in the Catalonian territory, with the aim of turning these police forces into organisations that learn, develop constantly, and evolve from experience.

- **Mútua Asepeyo.** This project has various phases: on the one hand, the structure of the current training offer into knowledge pills and the development of a form to respond more efficiently to the needs of customers; and on the other, the design and development of training itineraries lasting 80 hours each.

- **AECI.** The project consists in the creation of a virtual space for the follow-up of former grant holders from abroad, especially those from countries which receive official development aid (AOD), who have done their studies in Spanish universities and in other grant-awarding official institutions.

- **Spanish Ministry of Science and Technology.** This project, named *Funciona*, partly funded by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Technology, consists in the design and construction of an intranet platform to help support public institutions regarding professional development.

- **Provincial Council of Gipuzkoa (Basque Country).** The objectives of the project are to create and maintain a virtual community for senior citizens in Gipuzkoa, so that they may access specific services and content through the Internet; to train the final users of these services and content so that they may enjoy them fully; and to promote user participation in the community through the use of the new information and communications technologies.

- **Andbanc.** The aim of the project is to provide this financial institution with the training activities best suited to its staff, according to their competence profile and career plans, as well as to favour the flow of knowledge within the organisation, and the creation of learning, knowledge and practice communities.

Attention to the Public

The various UOC mechanisms for attending the public have experimented a volume of activity during the last period similar to last year's, with an increase in the diversity of consultations owing to the great diversity of training lines and of the UOC's activity itself. This has called for a greater co-ordination of the mechanisms, with the elaboration of lists of arguments about common issues and the launch of various improvements regarding the information management tools and the compilation of data.

Some modifications have been introduced in the data-gathering form of the CRM tool (Customer Relationship Management) which has allowed us to know the motivation to continue studying in the people who are keen to do so, the reason for having chosen the UOC, their professional profile and the type of Internet connection they use.

The Online Training Assessment service (Assessorament Formatiu On-Line (AFOL)) has abandoned the activity it had been working on to date in order to re-orientate itself as a communication channel with the public, who has a need of a more personalised assessment. This public is given the chance to have a personal interview at a support centre.

The distribution of consultations for each mechanism was the following:

Information mechanisms	Number of consultations attended
Support Centres and Links	63,000
902 141 141	34,423
902 372 373	4,900
informacio@uoc.edu	3,771
informacion@uoc.edu	2,300
Total	**108,394**

Solidarity Co-operation

Campus for Peace

The Campus for Peace, as a UOC development co-operation programme, seeks to place the information and communications technologies (ICTs) at the service of development co-operation.

During this third year of life of the Campus for Peace (C4P), we should single out the launch of the UOC's volunteering programme through which the UOC community makes its expertise available to solidarity and co-operation projects.

Thanks to the Campus for Peace volunteers the following projects have been possible:

• AbSoo - Sharing in Education

The team of voluntary experts in virtual training carries out the tasks of methodological design and the teaching of courses. This educational project is an initiative of the IWith.org foundation, which takes university education to rural communities in Guatemala, Mexico and the Dominican Republic.

• Design of the web for the World-wide Campaign to Reform the International Institutions

Students of the Distance Degree in Multimedia Studies did the work voluntarily, within a virtual workshop and with the support of the UOC faculty.

• UOC Solidarity Community

The galvanisation tasks of this virtual community, a community specialising in Community Services and Galvanisation, are carried out by a Campus for Peace volunteer.

• Training of the management personnel and volunteers of the NGOs to use the Campus for Peace platform

The team of virtual trainers undertakes to teach an introductory virtual workshop to the use of the Campus for Peace intranet.

During the academic year 2002-2003, there have also been awareness-raising campaigns:

• Solidarity Campaign "SidAfrica. Change its History"

With Doctors Without Borders and "la Caixa" Foundation there took place "SidAfrica. Change Its History", an awareness-raising campaign about the impact of this epidemic in Africa and fund-raising.

• Interactive game "Forgotten: Poor and With No Access to Treatment"

Also with Doctors Without Borders the UOC collaborated in the elaboration of a multimedia game to give support to the photographic exhibition "Forgotten: Poor and With No Access to Treatment". The work was done by students of the Degree in Multimedia Studies.

Within the sphere of development online training, Engineering Without Borders is offering, within the C4P's virtual learning environment, two courses:
– "Educating in Technology for human development" course.
– "Co-operation and Technology for Human Development"

Moreover, throughout this academic year two further members have joined its platform:
– IWith.org Foundation
The aim of this entity is to help organisations in their solidarity projects placing at their disposal the information technologies and the necessary knowledge to use them.
– UPC - Terrassa Campus - Co-operation Group
It is a university voluntary organisation made up for students, former students and faculty.

Along the work lines of lending support to the university community and raising its awareness, the C4P undertook the following actions:

• Launch of the virtual initiative "War and Peace" about the war in Iraq.
• Organisation, together with the Faculty of Humanities, of the talk by Arcadi Oliveres "Citizen Responsibility in the Face of War Situations" at the UOC synthesis meeting.
• Participation in the virtual exhibition "Memories from Our Childhood: The Children of War", by the Òliba research group.
• Collaboration with the Support Centre of Sabadell in the organisation of the cycle "The Role of the New Technologies in the Culture for Peace".

With the mission of disseminating the use of ICTs for co-operation, it has taken part in the following activities:

• Debate: "The Network at the Service of Co-operation, or Co-operation at the Service of the Network?"
Venue: UOC Portal
Dates: from 14 to 31 October 2002
Moderation of the debate conducted within the framework of the inaugural lecture for the UOC academic year 2002-2003, given by Juan Manuel Suárez del Toro, President of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Foundation, under the title "The New Technologies: An Opportunity for Humanitarian Action".

• I Andalusian Congress of University Volunteering
Venue: Pablo de Olavide University, Seville
Dates: 9 and 10 April 2003
Presentation of the Campus for Peace virtual volunteering model.

• Internet Global Congress
Venue: Palau de Congressos de Barcelona
Dates: 12 to 15 May 2003
Presentation of the paper "Networked and on the Network Social Action: Knowledge Management + e-Volunteering + e-Learning".

• Activities Day and Multimedia Exhibition
Venue: Centre Golferichs de Barcelona
Date: 31 May 2003
Presentation of the projects "Afghanistan: A Hidden War" and "Forgotten: Poor and With No Access to Treatment".

• First Sessions about Internet and Solidarity
Venue: Un Sol Món Foundation at Caixa de Catalunya de Barcelona
Dates: 18 and 19 June 2003
Workshop "Internet: A Communication and Work Tool for NGOs".

Campus for Peace: Some Figures	
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Projects Carried Out	16
Members of the Campus for Peace	21
Collaborating Entities	7

Resources

Financial Report

Introduction

In the section that follows we are detailing the financial data of the Foundation for the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya corresponding to the fiscal year 2002.

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 17 July 2003.

After a 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 2002 has been done separately for recognised studies (contract programme), for other training activities, and for IN3.

• The ordinary budget for the fiscal year 2002 increased with respect to that of the previous fiscal year by 14%, in order to cover the increase in activities.

• Investments totalled 7,190,938.43 euros. The most important items were destined to teaching modules, to construction works, and to computer applications, which represented 36%, 23% and 22%, respectively, of total investment for the fiscal year. The strong increase of the item of construction works as compared to that of previous years responds to the construction of the Castelldefels building destined to the IN3.

• The cash flow generated was 703,486.64 euros, which was destined to the financing of investments without specific funding.

Audit Report

Budget

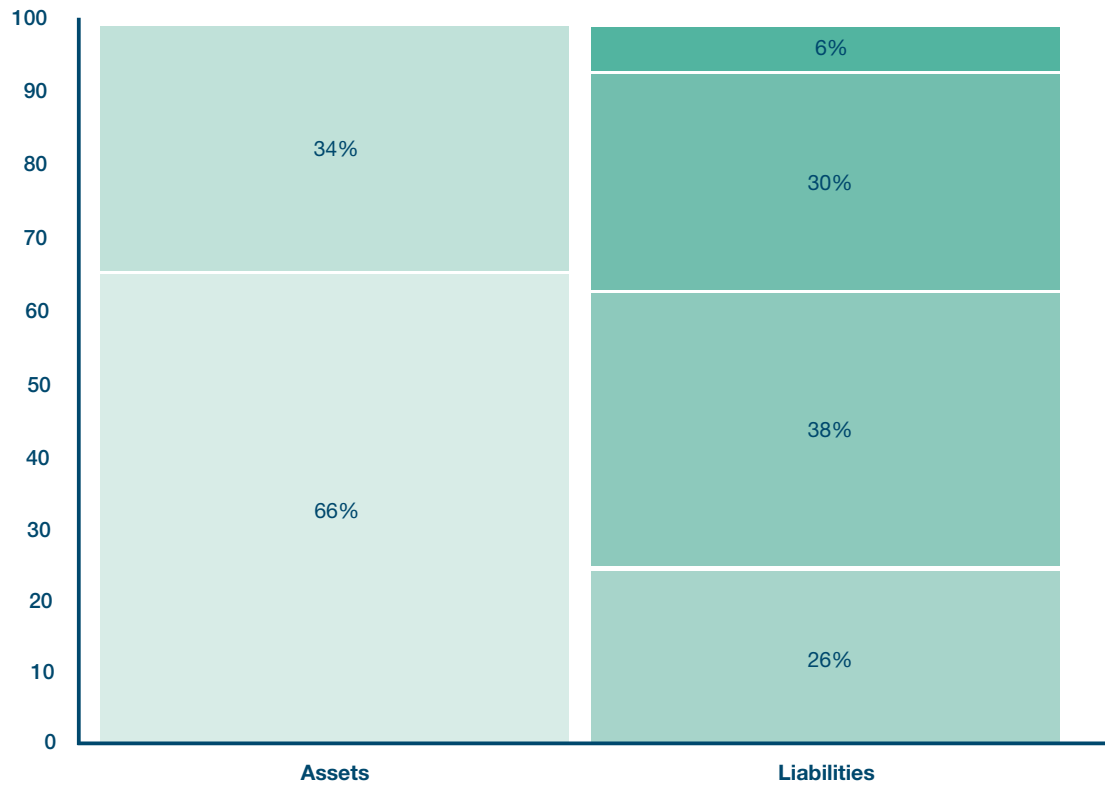| Type	1999 (1)	2000 (1)	2001 (1)	2002 (1)	2003 (2)
Ordinary	21,440,340.31	28,986,634.49	33,836,534.97	38,705,615.86	37,312,317.25
Investments	4,536,908.22	4,765,386.21	4,839,289.18	7,190,938.43	11,236,519.17

(1) Settled budgets, with amortisations.

(2) Approved budget, excluding amortisations.

Balance Sheet

Assets	euros
Founders for disbursements underwritten and not yet demanded	**0.00**
Establishment expenses	65.12
Immaterial assets	21,385,927.03
Material fixed assets	13,225,296.56
Financial assets	3,502,556.69
Total fixed assets	**38,113,845.40**
Accumulated depreciation	-19,193,535.09
Net Fixed Assets	**18,920,310.31**
Immaterial fixed assets in process	**1,291,249.33**
Expenses to be distributed over various years	**80,593.38**
Inventory	136,915.20
Receivable	36,570,552.84
Temporal financial investments	480.81
Cash	1,784,705.15
Deferred Income	89,147.25
Current Assets	**38,581,801.25**
Total Assets	**58,873,954.27**

Liabilities	euros
Share capital	188,793.14
Voluntary reserves	3,437,581.43
Net Income	3,261.23
Own Funds	**3,629,635.80**
Capital grant	17,509,281.00
Other revenue to be distributed over various fiscal years	46,911.32
Revenue to be distributed over various fiscal years	**17,556,192.32**
Long-term debt	22,254,471.67
Long-term liabilities	**22,254,471.67**
Short-term debt	612,545.86
Debt with companies of the group and associated companies	2,865,981.25
Suppliers	7,101,524.62
Other non-commercial debt	3,103,554.82
Deferred Income	1,750,047.93
Short-term Liabilities	**15,433,654.48**
Total liabilities	**58,873,954.27**

Balance Sheet Structure on 31st December 2002

Assets	**Liabilities**

Assets:
- 34% — Net Fixed Assets
- 66% — Current Assets

Liabilities:
- 6% — Own Funds
- 30% — Capital Grants
- 38% — Long-term Liabilities
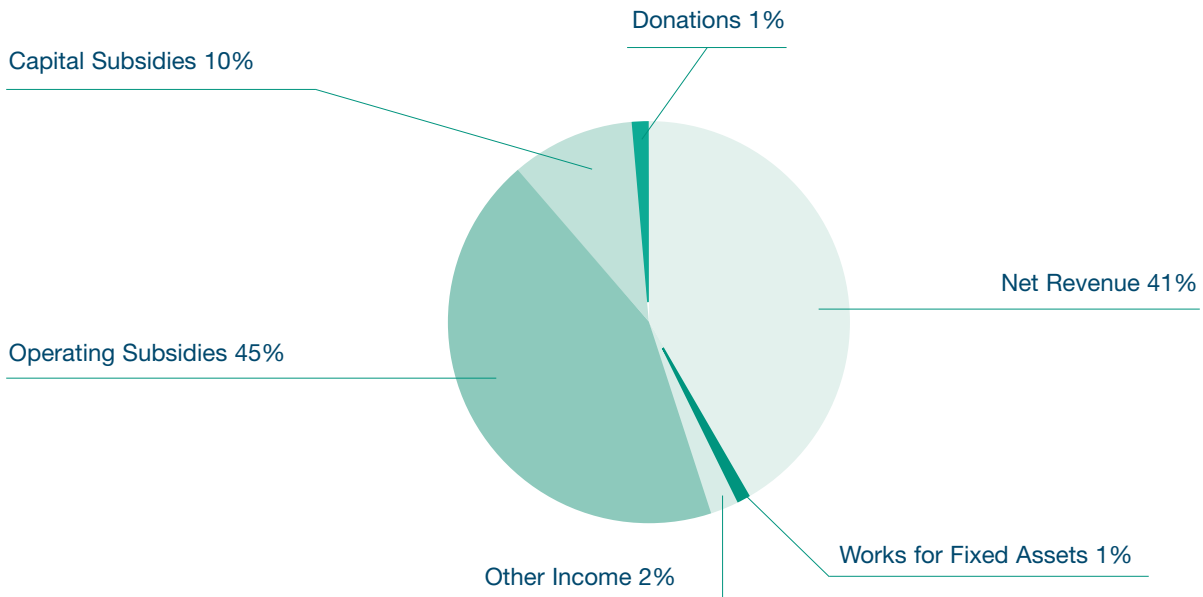- 26% — Short-term Liabilities

Legend:
- Own Funds
- Capital Grants
- Long-term Liabilities
- Short-term Liabilities
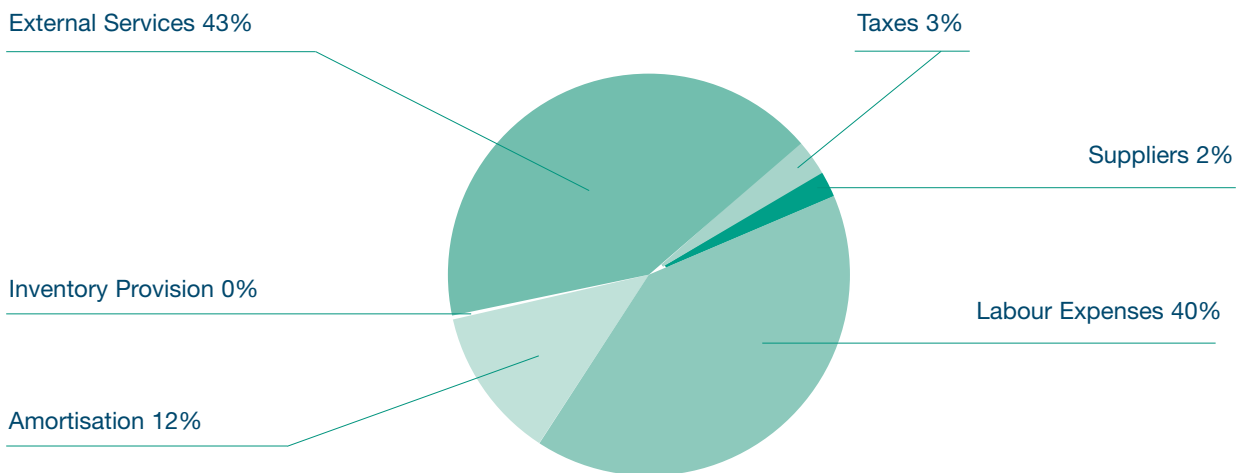- Net Fixed Assets
- Current Assets

Profit and Loss Statement

Revenue	Recognised Studies	Other training activities	IN3	Total FUOC
Net Revenue	11,944,397.80	2,653,246.84	1,759,556.71	16,357,201.35
Works for fixed assets	8,355.18	276,557.16	0.00	284,912.34
Other Income	50,792.01	916,209.89	0.00	967,001.90
Operating subsidies	14,697,473.07	588,522.55	2,856,084.23	18,142,079.85
Capital subsidies	3,757,871.01	72,709.47	34,681.80	3,865,262.28
Donations	330,604.14	29,703.45	0.00	360,307.59
Accrual in excess	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total operating revenue	**30,789,493.21**	**4,536,949.36**	**4,650,322.74**	**39,976,765.31**

Expenses

	Recognised Studies	Other training activities	IN3	Total FUOC
Monetary aid and others	8,969.26	139,925.73	2,579.99	151,474.98
Suppliers	596,453.31	0.00	2,770.75	599,224.06
Labour Expenses	12,380,678.18	1,370,267.68	1,928,742.50	15,679,688.36
Amortisation	4,031,353.76	435,495.18	98,638.76	4,565,487.70
Inventory provision	577.37	29,795.78	40,898.24	71,271.39
External services	12,897,625.39	2,488,225.73	1,914,615.99	17,300,467.11
Taxes	617,835.06	260,822.82	125,918.11	1,004,575.99
Total operating expenses	**30,533,492.33**	**4,724,532.92**	**4,114,164.34**	**39,372,189.59**
Operating results	**256,000.88**	**-187,583.56**	**536,158.40**	**604,575.72**
Financial Income	90,997.74	0.00	0.00	90,997.74
Financial expenses	691,373.88	4,925.82	17,252.76	713,552.46
Result	**-344,375.26**	**-192,509.38**	**518,905.64**	**-17,979.00**
Extraordinary Income	231,068.35	-6.01	30,638.24	261,700.58
Extraordinary expenses	151,487.18	52,970.85	31,841.83	236,299.86
Margin transfer from IN3 to PES	0.00	35,120.01	-35,120.01	0.00
Pre-tax results	**-264,794.09**	**-210,366.23**	**482,582.04**	**7,421.72**
Tax on profits	4,160.49	0.00	0.00	4,160.49
Result	**-268,954.58**	**-210,366.23**	**482,582.04**	**3,261.23**

The result of the fiscal year is destined to financing non-subsidised investments.

Distribution of Elements
for the Operating Revenue 2002

Donations 1%

Capital Subsidies 10%

Net Revenue 41%

Operating Subsidies 45%

Other Income 2%

Works for Fixed Assets 1%

Distribution of Elements
for the Operating Expenses 2002

External Services 43%

Taxes 3%

Suppliers 2%

Inventory Provision 0%

Labour Expenses 40%

Amortisation 12%

Data of closing

Concept	Recognised Studies	Other training activities	IN3	Total
Non-financial investments financed through own funds	0.00	461,016.95	242,467.40	**703,484.35**
Cash flow of the financial year	4,528.17	152,419.47	546,539,.00	**703,486.64**
Result	-268,954.58	-210,366.23	482,582.04	**3,261.23**

Investments

Investments for 2002 (without financial fixed assets)

1) Investments made

	Recognised Studies	Other training activities	IN3	Castelldefels building	Total FUOC 2002
Establishment expenses	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
Licences, brands and similar	15,174.18	2,636.50	0.00	0.00	17,810.68
Computer applications	828,909.19	687,379.44	46,293.84	0.00	1,562,582.47
Didactic Modules	2,066,996.68	458,021.26	97,702.96	0.00	2,622,720.90
Other immaterial assets	42,470.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	42,470.46
Total immaterial assets	**2,953,550.51**	**1,148,037.20**	**143,996.80**	**0.00**	**4,245,584.51**
Building Work	144,328.24	0.00	0.00	1,507,303.27	1,651,631.51
Other facilities and furniture	145,487.23	0.00	11,179.26	0.00	156,666.49
Hardware and Other Material Assets	687,089.13	131,002.24	87,291.34	231,673.21	1,137,055.92
Total material assets	**976,904.60**	**131,002.24**	**98,470.60**	**1,738,976.48**	**2,945,353.92**
Total fixed assets (without amortisation fund)	**3,930,455.11**	**1,279,039.44**	**242,467.40**	**1,738,976.48**	**7,190,938.43**
Expenses to be distributed over various years	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	**3,930,455.11**	**1,279,039.44**	**242,467.40**	**1,738,976.48**	**7,190,938.43**

2) Investment finance

	Recognised Studies	Other training activities	IN3	Castelldefels building	Total FUOC 2002
Debt authorised by the Generalitat (Autonomous Govt.)	3,906,578.68	0.00	0.00	1,210,153.40	5,116,732.08
Investment subsidies from Generalitat (Autonomous Govt.)	7,200.00	818,022.49	0.00	0.00	825,222.49
Other Investment Subsidies	16,676.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	545,499.51
Investment subsidies from MCyT - Feder Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	528,823.08	0.00
Cash flow applied to financing of investments	0.00	461,016.95	242,467.40	0.00	703,484.35
Total	**3,930,455.11**	**1,279,039.44**	**242,467.40**	**1,738,976.48**	**7,190,938.43**

Distribution of Elements
for the Fixed Assets 2002

Other Fixed Assets 1%

Computer Applications 22%

Hardware and Other
Material Assets 16%

Other Facilities
and Furniture 2%

Building Work 23%

Didactic Modules 36%

Investment Finance 2002

Own Funds 10%

European Projects 7%

Investment Subsidies from
Generalitat (Autonomous
Government) 11%

Debt Authorised by the
Generalitat (Autonomous
Government) 72%