

UdGImpact

2021-2022

Universitat
de Girona

30
ANYS



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Rector's introduction

Impact 2021-2022, like so many others at the University of Girona, is celebrating its 30-year history. And this year, more than a report, a close look at what the University community has lived through, more than a review of the policies pursued, this *Impact* is a tribute to the resilience of the University and its community. It shows how capable everyone at the UdG has been in resuming academic activities in the "new" normality and after a two-year pandemic that shook many firmly held assumptions. Then, just as the Covid-19 health crisis was subsiding, a humanitarian crisis erupted in Europe. The Russian government's aggression against Ukraine is an affront to each of us and to the University. We continue to express our solidarity with Ukrainian society, institutions, and students, and our firm commitment to a culture of peace.

This return to normal has little to do with what we left behind. After two crises – financial in 2008 and health beginning in 2019 – and a new humanitarian crisis and the ongoing climate emergency, we now know that getting back on track doesn't mean going back to doing what we did before. Many things must be done differently. Take time to reflect and to separate what is extra from what is necessary. Identify the many challenges we face and rise to them. In fact, every four years, how we meet challenges becomes an election issue, as the University chooses the government project it believes is best suited to do that.

On 25 November 2021, I was elected rector for a second term. I am honoured to have once again earned the confidence of the UdG. It is a great responsibility, for me and for the members of my team. Things will be done differently. We can only move forward if there is a strong will to innovate. We presented the government project for the next four years with the slogan *#InnovaUdG* and the conceptual framework for institutional change called *UdGXXI*.

The *#InnovaUdG* project has three main pillars: innovation, people and impact. Innovation means providing support and resources and creating research partnerships; rethinking and making teaching more creative and meaningful; reorganising governance to be more effective, efficient, agile and accountable in all the decisions taken by the University; and seeking new and better environments in which to develop our work. Prioritising people at the University means attracting and retaining the talent that makes us grow and remain a point of reference. It means promoting university life on campus and in the city, and continuing to develop the many social engagement, activities and projects – both local and international – with special emphasis on diversity, inclusion and gender equality. Finally, this project aims to "make a difference", to have an impact. This relies on the capacity to transfer the knowledge generated within the University for the benefit of the community, civil society, businesses and public administrations, and – with this capacity – to position the UdG nationally and internationally as a key player in the development of our territory.

The *UdGXXI* framework recognises that the society as we have known it will disappear in coming years. There will be longer life expectancies and an inverted population pyramid; a more stratified social structure; a more diverse cultural and ethnic composition; and a more internationalised and globalised world. This future presents many challenges. Among them, the interests and motivations of new students and how their competencies and capacities can be developed in a broad, open and less hierarchical learning ecosystem. This period of transition will require something that we as an institution have failed to provide: open and creative activities, with an emphasis on continuing education and lifelong learning.

As you will see in these pages of *Impact*, we have much to celebrate. We have initiated the reversion of the Science and Technology Park, we now have more than forty chairs, we have established the foundations of Girona, Region of Knowledge, and we have successfully achieved the rankings that validate our drive and our collective effort.

Quim Salvi

Rector of the University of Girona
September 2022

The UdG in numbers



Campuses and infrastructure

161,496 m² of building space
3 campuses
9 faculties and schools
1 school of doctoral studies
6 affiliated centres
24 departments
12 research institutes
3 research institutes with UdG participation (CERCA programme research centres)
41 chairs

Budget

€100,898,065 - 2021 budget
€106,636,989 - 2022 budget
€59,023,000 - Core financing from the Catalan Government in 2021
€61,395,591 - Core financing from the Catalan Government in 2022



University community

15,376 students
1,459 teaching and research staff
612 administration and service staff



Teaching

BACHELOR'S DEGREES
46 bachelor's degrees
14 double bachelor's degrees*
5 international double degrees
10,828 undergraduates – UdG faculties and schools
2,757 undergraduates – affiliated centres
1,745 graduating students – UdG faculties and schools (2020-2021)
664 graduating students – affiliated centres (2020-2021)

MASTER'S DEGREES
25 UdG master's degrees
22 joint master's degrees
16 agreements for international double master's degrees

*2 newly implemented in 2022-2023

Research

ONGOING PROJECTS
323 ongoing research projects in 2021 (81 international)
67 SGR research groups

RESULTS
59 research books
263 book chapters
1,124 ISI indexed articles
219 pre-doctoral contracts
102 doctoral theses defended at the UdG (2021)

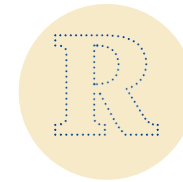
29 theses with international mentions / 70 theses by videoconference and 3 industrial doctorates

913 UdG master's students
587 UdG master's graduates

DOCTORATES
14 doctoral programmes (8 UdG and 6 joint)
878 doctoral students

LIFELONG LEARNING
35 UdG master's degrees
712 UdG master's degree students
2,762 students enrolled in lifelong learning activities

OTHER LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMMES
83 students in the Josep Torrellas Learning Programme for students over 50

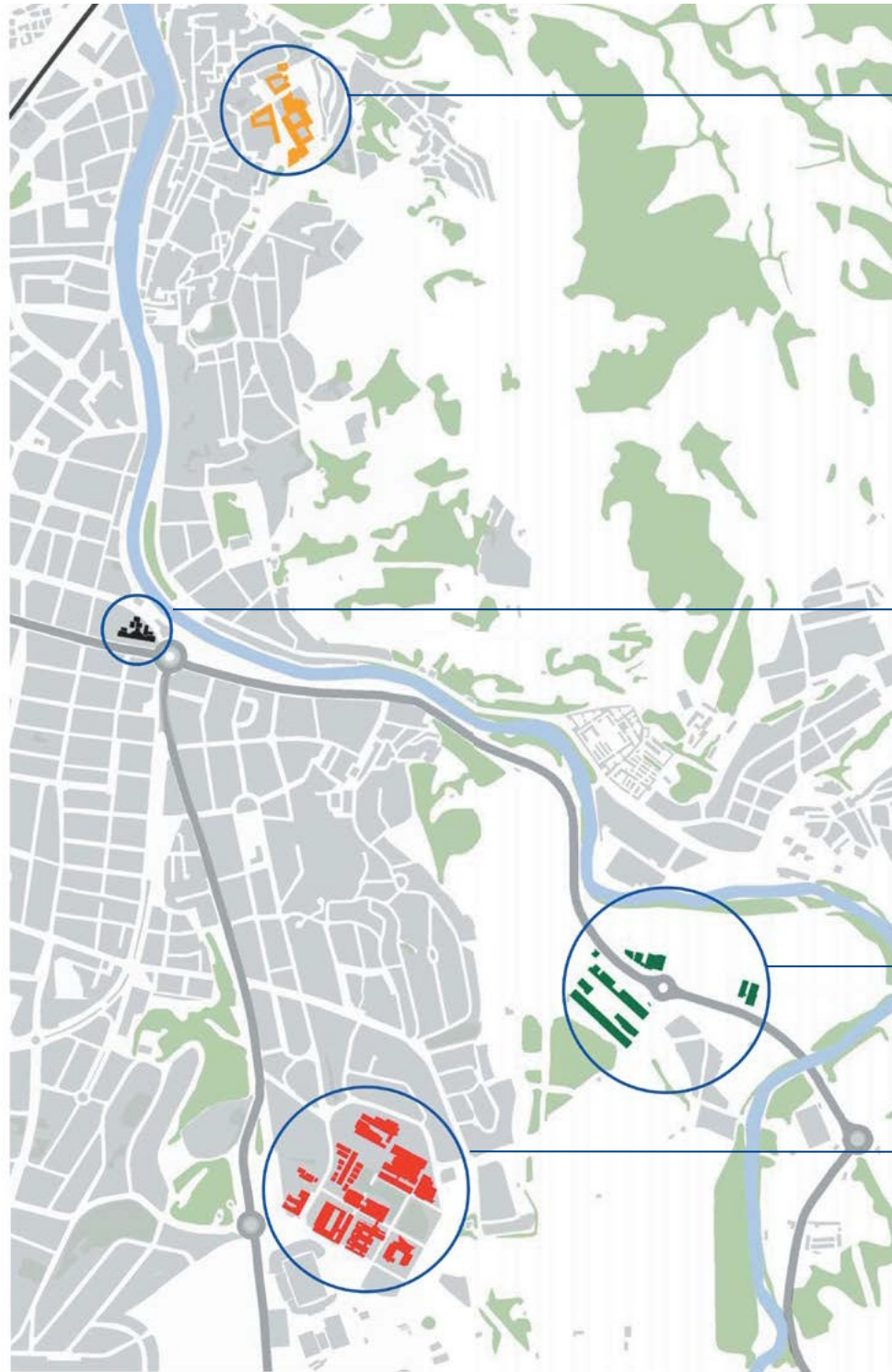


RESEARCH TALENT
41 ICREA, Ramón y Cajal, Beatriu de Pinós, Juan de la Cierva, Marie Skłodowska-Curie, Beatriz Galindo and Techniospring researchers

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER
7 TECNIO groups
1 European patent
1 American patent
2 licences

7 technology-based companies with UdG participation

Campuses and centres



Barri Vell Campus

- Faculty of Arts
www.udg.edu/fl
- Faculty of Education and Psychology
www.udg.edu/fep
- Faculty of Tourism
www.udg.edu/ft

Girona Centre Campus

- Faculty of Medicine
www.udg.edu/fm
- Faculty of Nursing
www.udg.edu/fi

Science and Technology Park

- UdG Science and Technology Park
www.parcudg.com
- University of Girona Foundation: Innovation and Training
www.fundacioudg.org
- Girona, Region of Knowledge Foundation
www.udg.edu/ca/coneix/grup-udg/fundacions/fundacio-girona-regio-de-coneixement

Montilivi Campus

- Faculty of Science
www.udg.edu/fc
- Faculty of Law
www.udg.edu/fd
- Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences
www.udg.edu/fcee
- Polytechnic School
www.udg.edu/eps
- Student Information and Advice Centre
www.udg.edu/ciae
- School of Doctoral Studies
www.udg.edu/ed

Affiliated centres and schools

University School of Health and Sport (EUSES)
www.euses.cat

Euroaula School of Tourism
www.euroaula.com


University College of Hospitality Management and Culinary Arts Sant Pol de Mar (EUHT StPol)
www.santpol.edu.es

ERAM University School
www.eram.cat


Formatic BARCELONA School for Higher University Studies
www.formaticbarcelona.com


University School Mediterrani
www.mediterrani.com


Rankings 2021-2022



1,406 universities, 106 countries **101-200**


17t


46t


63r



956 universities worldwide **120**



539 universities worldwide **190**



79 Spanish universities **8**



1,662 universities in 99 countries **601-800**



1,800 universities **801-900**



2,000 universities **768**



77 Spanish universities **14**



75 Spanish universities **8**

2022 Budget – Summary of sections

INCOME	euros
SECTION 3 – Fees, public prices and other income	24,501,894
SECTION 4 – Current transfers	72,040,113
SECTION 5 – Equity income	1,172,830
Current subtotal	97,714,837
SECTION 6 – Sale of real investments	0
SECTION 7 – Capital transfers	7,170,104
Capital subtotal	7,170,104
SECTION 8 – Financial assets	1,752,048
SECTION 9 – Financial liabilities	0
Financial subtotal	1,752,048
TOTAL INCOME	106,636,989

EXPENSES	euros
SECTION 1 – Staffing expenses	79,603,387
SECTION 2 – Current expenses of goods and services	18,062,469
SECTION 3 – Financial expenses	10,000
SECTION 4 – Current transfers	1,663,982
SECTION 5 – Contingency funds	0
Current subtotal	99,339,838
SECTION 6 – Real investments	7,119,710
SECTION 7 – Capital transfers	0
Capital subtotal	7,119,710
SECTION 8 – Financial assets	45,000
SECTION 9 – Financial liabilities	132,441
Financial subtotal	177,441
TOTAL EXPENSES	106,636,989



UdG2030 Strategic Plan

UdG2030 Strategic Plan: The sum of intelligences

The *UdG2030 Strategic Plan: The sum of intelligences* was approved by the governing bodies of the University of Girona in early 2019 (session 3/2019 of the Senate of the UdG, 14 March; session 2/2019 of the Governing Council of the UdG, of 21 March; session 2/2019 of the Board of Trustees, of 11 April). The *sum of intelligences* is the synergistic combination of natural intelligence, artificial intelligence and collective intelligence. The aim of this plan, which is organised in seven strategic lines, each containing between two and four objectives, is for the UdG to stand out in the sum of intelligences.

The Strategic Plan includes the creation of a working group of people from the University and from its economic and social environment. They are responsible for its implementation and are a driving force behind the plan, promoting strategic lines and specific actions to achieve its objectives. This working group has established 4 pillars of action and 20 individual actions (see attached table). The Governing Council has been regularly informed of the implementation process.

The Plan's implementation was affected by the Covid-19 pandemic during 2020-21 and 2021-22. Some actions were delayed by the need to prioritise the response to the pandemic, while the implementation of others has accelerated, decisive progress has been made in the University's digitisation. At the end of 2021, the consulting firm that had assisted in defining the strategic outlook updated both the context and the proposals for possible actions. Some of these proposals have been incorporated into the planned actions.



Axes and measures linked to the *UdG2030 Strategic Plan: The sum of intelligences*

<p><i>Axis 1</i> Using the sum of intelligences for social impact to foster sociocultural and socioeconomic innovation in the territory</p>	<p>1.1 Promote innovative projects, based on the sum of intelligences, for the social sector in Catalonia. 1.2 Promote the knowledge and use of artificial intelligence (AI) and big data analysis among Catalan companies. 1.3 Attract to Girona large events (conferences, fairs) that are national or international references in AI or the sum of intelligences. 1.4 Generate and lead debate on the economic and social implications of AI, and attract the Catalan Observatory for Ethics in Artificial Intelligence to the UdG, as indicated in the Artificial Intelligence Strategy of Catalonia (Government of Catalonia). 1.5 Seek and establish alliances with companies in the AI sector, with universities that have similar approaches to those of the UdG, and with associations, clusters and networks.</p>
<p><i>Axis 2</i> Using the sum of intelligences to offer learning that is comprehensive and valuable to the students</p>	<p>2.1 Promote teaching innovation conferences to include sessions, workshops, committees or posters on the sum of intelligences. 2.2 Organise specific training in artificial intelligence and sum of intelligences for administrative service, and teaching and research staff. 2.3 Create teaching innovation groups or networks, integrated into the Institute of Education Sciences, that experiment with artificial intelligence tools in teaching. 2.4 Add an activity on the sum of intelligences to the offer of cross-disciplinary training for researchers-in-training. 2.5 Incorporate artificial intelligence competencies in studies and promote the sum of intelligences between different fields, focusing on the organisation and design of programmes.</p>
<p><i>Axis 3</i> Conducting research based on and ensuring talent for the sum of intelligences</p>	<p>3.1 Detect lines of research that have high potential to attract externally funded projects, including partnerships with centres of excellence or benchmark companies. 3.2 Incorporate young research talent able to catalyse research activity based on the sum of intelligences. 3.3 Align the personnel recruiting and job security policy with the <i>UdG2030 Strategic Plan: The sum of intelligences</i>. 3.4 Organise internal funding (for teaching, research, or staff training) in line with the plan. 3.5 Integrate the University's databases, ensuring they are complete and reliable, to be able to use them in university management.</p>
<p><i>Axis 4</i> Raising awareness about the University of the sum of intelligences</p>	<p>4.1 Establish a permanent call among the University community for proposals to promote internal communication channels. 4.2 Rethink management tools for the University's digitisation, promoting those that facilitate teamwork and communication among the community. 4.3 Share the Strategic Plan and the actions and projects derived from it between universities and university structures with which the UdG usually works. 4.4 Create, disseminate, and promote the "UdG: the University of the sum of intelligences" brand and raise awareness, especially among present and future students. 4.5 Reinforce different channels of contact with the surrounding area to detect needs and provide answers.</p>

One of the UdG chairs, the Catalan Observatory for Ethics in Artificial Intelligence (OEIAC), is supported by the Directorate-General for Innovation and the Digital Economy, and the i2Cat Foundation. Launched in the last quarter of 2020, the Observatory is now well established. It has presented a framework position paper on the ethical aspects and social implications of AI and completed the first series of OEIAC seminars on artificial intelligence in everyday life. It has a regular presence at events related to artificial intelligence and well on social networks. Outreach and dissemination materials are being produced, especially for secondary school students. At the end of June, the paper "Principles, Indicators and Observables (PIOs): A general approach to the evaluation of artificial intelligence data and systems" was presented. It promotes self-assessment as one of the steps to improve the development, implementation and ethical use of AI in both the public and private sectors, and has organised training seminars on the use of this tool.

To continue aligning itself with the priorities and initiatives established by the Government of Catalonia, the UdG was instrumental in ensuring that Girona – specifically, the UdG Science and Technology Park – host the headquarters of the Blockchain Centre of Catalonia (CBCat). Created by the Barcelona Chamber of Commerce, the centre disseminates and promotes the use of blockchain technology among Catalan companies and institutions, and trains present and future professionals. The CBCat offers initial training in blockchain through online seminars, in which a large number of UdG students have participated. It has also organised the BxCat Fair in Girona. There the UdG participated in a round table on blockchain in education and was represented by a research group. The CBCat organised the second "Blockchain for SDGs" challenge on the topic of reclaimed water. Students from the UdG participated in the challenge and made up the winning team. The CBCat is also setting up the Catalan metaverse (Catvers), which the UdG has joined.

During 2021-22, the Girona, Region of Knowledge Foundation has promoted regional initiatives for knowledge transfer, innovation and socio-cultural and socio-economic development. Financial support in the form of grants has been secured from the Girona Provincial Council and the UdG. As a result, the Foundation has a team of four who provide support for the tasks carried out by the Sectoral Campuses of the UdG. In particular, they have intensified the search for funding for territorial projects that require the knowledge and innovation that the UdG can provide. And, in accordance with the desire to take account and take advantage of collective intelligence, local companies, entities and administrations participate.

Several projects and actions financed with European Next Generation EU funds are consistent with our Strategic Plan. For example, the actions resulting from the "Unidigital Plan". Some are the UdG's own (DatawareHouse), while others are consortiums with other universities in the Catalan system. These projects contribute to the digitisation of various university activities, both teaching and administrative. Other examples are several projects presented to the Government of Catalonia: "Territorial economic growth based on innovation and knowledge: research, transfer, innovation and training in blockchain"; "Territorial economic growth based on innovation and knowledge: strengthening the connection between universities, businesses and citizens"; and notably, "Girona-Salt Health Park: the new integrated epicentre of training, research, transfer and innovation for cutting-edge health". In addition, a recent call for proposals for Chairs in Artificial Intelligence by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Digital Transformation was well received by various structures of the UdG: five proposals have been submitted, positioning the UdG well for a future call for proposals with funding.

Other important actions linked to and consistent with the Strategic Plan are detailed in the rest of the sections. These include:

- Participation in the SHEFCE project on the University's community engagement.
- The *UdGXXI* model and reflection on teaching at the UdG.
- The collaboration agreement with the Eurecat Technology Centre of Catalonia for digital manufacturing (3DML Girona space).
- Consolidation of the Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) teaching innovation network and its adoption in subjects in various programmes of study.



Teaching,
learning and
employability



Bachelor's degrees

Degree programmes

Business Administration and Management
 Architectural Technology and Building
 Construction
 Biology
 Biotechnology
 Environmental Science
 Political and Administration Sciences
 Cultural Communication
 Accounting and Finance
 Criminology
 Design and Development of Video Games
 Law
 Economics
 Social Education
 Agri-food Engineering
 Biomedical Engineering
 Electrical Engineering
 Automation and Industrial Electronics Engineering
 Computer Engineering
 Mechanical Engineering
 Chemical Engineering
 Industrial Technologies Engineering
 Architectural Studies
 Catalan Philology
 Spanish Philology
 Philosophy
 Geography, Town and Country Planning and
 Environmental Management
 History
 History of Art
 Nursing
 Food Innovation and Security
 Medicine
 Early Childhood Education
 Primary School Education
 Pedagogy
 Psychology
 Advertising and Public Relations
 Chemistry
 Social Work
 Tourism

Double degree programmes

- Business Administration and Management / Law
- Biology / Biotechnology
- Biology / Environmental Science
- Law / Political and Administration Sciences
- Law / Criminology
- Economics / Business Administration and Management
- Economics / Philosophy
- Automation and Industrial Electronics Engineering / Electrical Engineering
- Industrial Technologies Engineering / Business Administration and Management
- Early Childhood Education / Primary School Education
- Advertising and Public Relations / Tourism*
- Tourism / Geography, Town and Country Planning and Environmental Management *

*New programmes in 2022-2023

Bachelor's degrees at affiliated centres

Performing Arts
 Physical Activity and Sports Sciences
 Audiovisual and Multimedia Communication
 Audiovisual and Multimedia Communication (*taught in English*)
 Physiotherapy
 Physiotherapy - Physiotherapy Barcelona (joint degree)
 Hotel and Tourism Management
 Business Logistics
 Marketing
 Tourism

Physical Activity and Sports Science/ Physiotherapy
 Tourism / Marketing

Master's degrees

University master's degrees

Molecular Biology, Biomedicine and Health

- Molecular Biology and Biomedicine
- Health Promotion
- Re-adaptation to Physical Activity and Competitive Sports (EUSES affiliated centre)

Human Sciences, Heritage and Culture

- Teaching Spanish and Catalan as Second Languages
- Research in Humanities

Law

- Advocacy
- Tort Law
- Administrative Management

Economics and Business

- Business Economics

Education and Psychology

- Inclusive Education – Addressing Diversity
- Teacher Training for Compulsory Secondary Education, Upper Secondary Education, Vocational Training and Foreign Language Teaching
- Migratory Movements in the 21st Century: Concepts, Realities and Actions
- General Health Psychology

Environment and Chemistry

- Environmental Change: Analysis and Management
- Advanced Catalysis and Molecular Modelling

Technology

- Architecture
- Food Biotechnology
- Data Science
- Water Resources Science and Technology
- Medical Image Computing
- Industrial Engineering
- Intelligent Robotic Systems
- Mechanics of Materials and Structures (MMS)

Tourism

- Tourism Management and Planning
- Cultural Tourism

Joint master's degrees

Human Sciences, Heritage and Culture

- Cognitive Science and Language
- Citizenship and Human Rights: Ethics and Politics
- Analytical Philosophy
- Applied Philosophy
- European Medieval Identity

Law

- Criminology and Criminal Justice System

Education and Psychology

- Social Policy and Community Action
- Women, Gender and Citizenship Studies
- Cultural Management
- Psychosocial Intervention (MIPS)
- Youth and Society (MIJS)
- Educational Psychology (MIPE)

Economics and Business

- Labour Economics

Environment and Chemistry

- Applied Chromatographic Techniques
- Management of Mountain Areas

Technology

- Integrated Crop Protection (ICP)
- Medical Imaging and Applications (MAIA)
- Agronomic Engineering (IU)
- Erasmus Mundus Joint Master in Intelligent Field Robotic System (IFROS)

Tourism

- Erasmus Mundus European Master in Tourism Management (EMTM)

New programmes 2022-2023

- Erasmus Mundus European Master's in Advanced Structural Analysis and Design using Composite Materials (FRP++)

- Biomedical Data Science (joint degree coordinated by the URV).

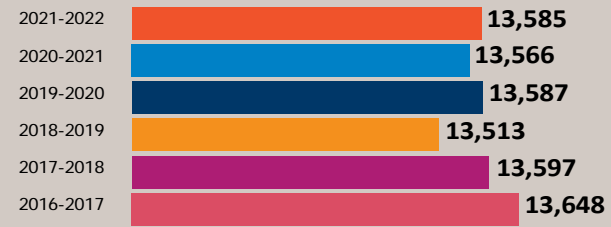
International Double Bachelor's and Master's Degrees

International Double Bachelor's Degrees		
UdG degree	International degree	Collaborating university
Law	Single-cycle degree programme in Law	Palermo University (Italy)
Design and Development of Videogames	Double degree in Design and Development of Videogames	University of Talca (Chile)
Nursing	Nursing	Andrés Bello University (Chile)
Euroaula Tourism		BBI (Luxemburg)
Audiovisual and Multimedia		UDI Bucaramanga (Colombia)

International double master's degrees		
UdG master's	Participating university	Country
Advanced Catalysis and Molecular Modelling	University of Guanajuato	Mexico
Advanced Catalysis and Molecular Modelling	Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú	Peru
Tourism Management and Planning	Universidad Tecnológica de Bolívar (Cartagena de Indias)	Colombia
Tourism Management and Planning	Trade Co-operative University of Moldova	Moldavia
Tourism Management and Planning	Universitatea de Stat din Moldova	Moldavia
Tourism Management and Planning	University Perspectiva-Int.	Moldavia
Tourism Management and Planning	The Voronezh State University	Russia
Tourism Management and Planning	Externado de Colombia University	Colombia
Tort Law	Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú	Peru
Tort Law	Centro Universitario Curitiba – Unicuritiba de Brasil	Brazil
Mechanics of Materials and Structures	Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana	Bolivia
Mechanics of Materials and Structures	Universidad Austral de Chile (Valdivia)	Chile
Cultural Tourism	Universidad Tecnológica de Bolívar (Cartagena de Indias)	Colombia
Cultural Tourism	Universidad de San Martín de Porres (Lima)	Peru
Medical Image Computing (MAIA)	University of Cassino / University of Burgundy	Italy/France

Bachelor's

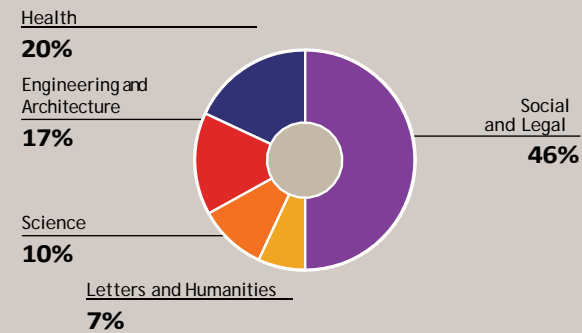
STUDENTS ENRIOLLED



STUDENTS GRADUATED



STUDENT ENROLMENT BY SECTOR 2021-2022



Master's

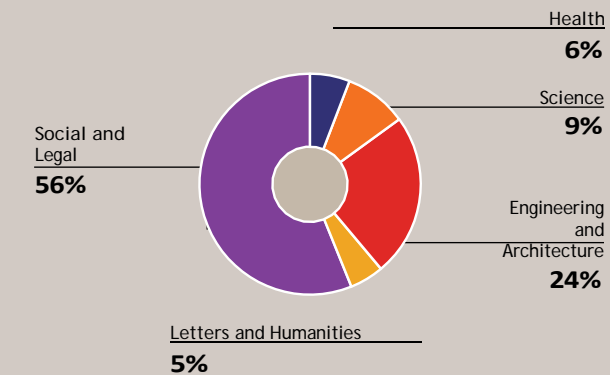
STUDENTS ENRIOLLED



STUDENTS GRADUATED



STUDENT ENROLMENT BY SECTOR 2021-2022



Doctorate

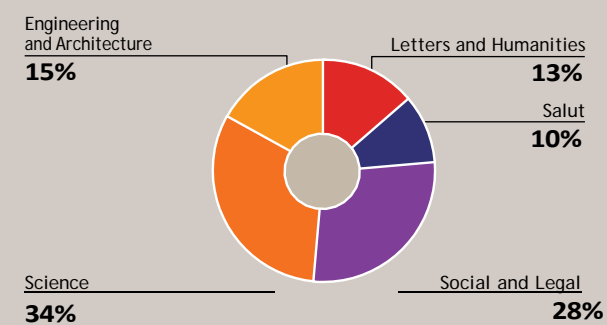
STUDENTS ENRIOLLED



THESES READ

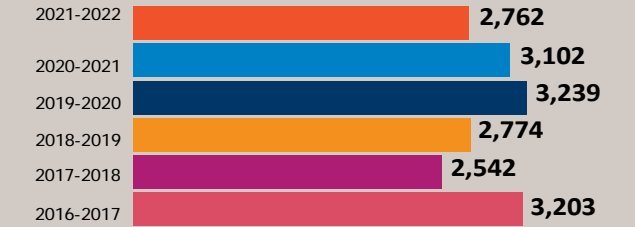


STUDENT ENROLMENT BY SECTOR 2021-2022

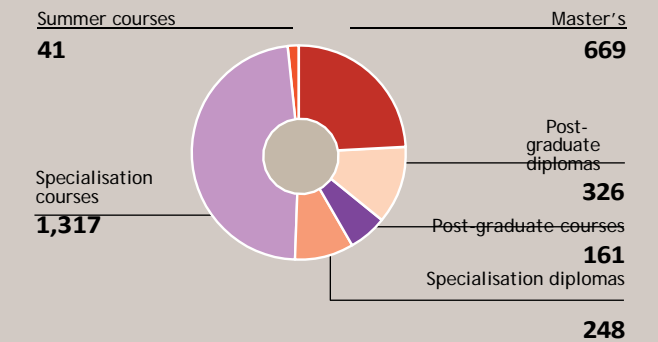


Lifelong learning

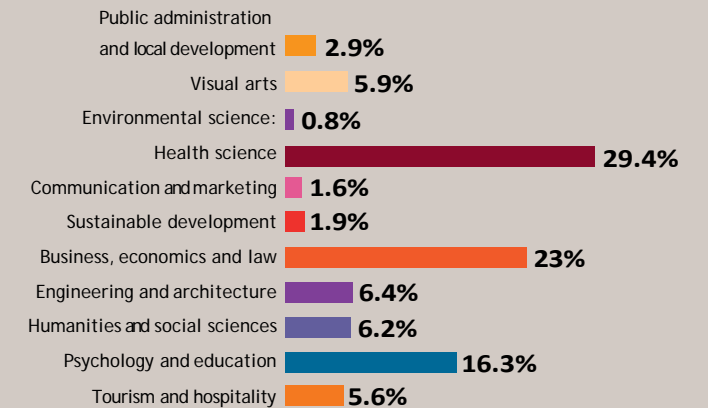
STUDENTS ENRIOLLED *



STUDENTS ENRIOLLED 2021-2022*



STUDENTS BY AREAS 2021-2022*



* Includes UdG master's degrees, post-graduate diplomas, post-graduate courses, specialisation diplomas and courses. Data up to June 2022.

Doctorate

Doctoral programmes

- Molecular Biology, Biomedicine and Health
- Water Science and Technology
- Humanities, Heritage and Culture
- Education
- Environment
- Psychology, Health and Quality of Life
- Chemistry
- Technology
- Joint programme in Arts and Education
- Joint programme in Bioinformatics
- Joint programme in Law, Economics and Business (coordinated by the UdG)
- Joint programme Gender Studies: Cultures, Societies and Policies
- Joint programme in Educational Psychology (DIPE)
- Joint programme in Tourism (coordinated by the UdG)

Pre-doctoral research grants

UdG grants:
€1,158,895.04 Researcher training (IFUdG) / IFAE

Grants from the Government of Catalonia:
€720,008.25 Researcher training (FI)
€319,284.77 (FI-SDUR)

Grants from the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports
€463,031.24 Training of teaching staff (FPU)
€582,329.44 Training of research staff (FPI)

Grants for Master's

€445,300

UdG – Banco Santander – UdG Board of Trustees grants for students from Spain
€164,200

UdG – Banco Santander grants for international students
€86,000

UdG – Banco Santander “Becas Santander Erasmus” grants
€12,500

Calonge-Sant Antoni Chair of Gastronomy, Culture and Tourism of the UdG, for master's degree students in the food sector
€21,000

UdG – Banco Santander grants to contract visiting professors
€60,000

UdG – Carolina Foundation, Costa Brava Pirineu Girona Tourist Board, Calonge-Sant Antoni Chair of Gastronomy, Culture and Tourism grants
€101,600

Industrial doctorates Main results 2012-2021

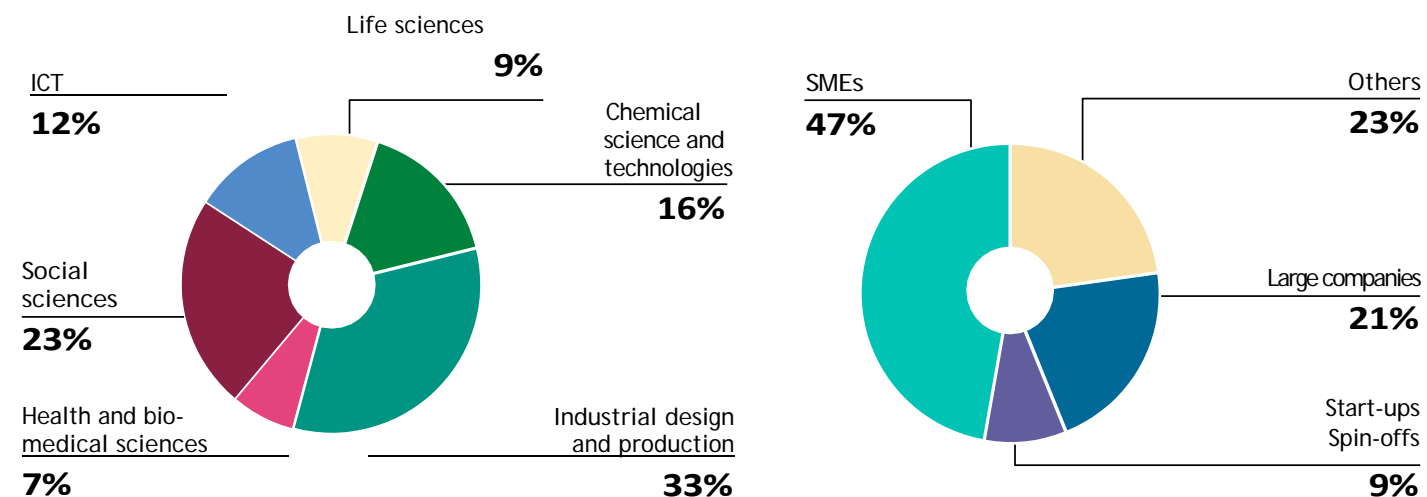
47 projects

43 companies

34 researchers

18 SGR groups

12 doctoral theses read



UdG studies and lifelong learning

The University of Girona Foundation: Innovation and Training organises and manages the University of Girona's studies and lifelong learning programmes: master's degrees, postgraduate courses, specialisation diplomas and courses adapted to regional economic and social needs. Student enrolment, including the summer courses, is 2,762.

UdG programmes

- UdG master's
- Postgraduate diplomas and courses
- Specialisation diplomas and courses

Conference Centre (Conferences, congresses and organised meetings)

In 2021-22 the Foundation collaborated in organising the following activities:

- 1st Michele Taruffo Girona Evidence Week
- 12th Iberoamerican Congress on Pulp and Paper Research (CIADICYP)
- 5th Congress EU-ISMET (European Meeting of the International Society for Microbial Electrochemistry and Technology)
- XIV Girona Seminar
- Conference on Happiness in Autism
- Round Table: Labour relations in times of pandemic in the territorial districts of the province of Girona
- III Seminar on Teaching Experiences in Engineering Operations Management

Language learning and accreditation

- Cambridge English Exams (Centre ES448): KET, PET, FCE, CAE, CPE and YLE
- Preparation courses: FCE, CAE 1.1 and CAE 1.2
- Official DELE examinations in Spanish - Cervantes Institute

Other activities

- Summer University
- Subsidised training
- Customised training for companies and institutions

The different activities carried out and managed by the Foundation are grouped into 12 areas of knowledge:

- Physical activity and sport
- Public administration and local development
- Visual arts
- Environmental sciences
- Health sciences
- Communication and marketing
- Sustainable development
- Business, economics and law
- Engineering and architecture
- Humanities and social sciences
- Psychology and education
- Tourism and hospitality

Notable events

● New bachelor's and master's degree programmes for 2022-23

- Erasmus Mundus Master's in Advanced Structural Analysis and Design using Composite Materials (FRP++)
- Biomedical Data Science (joint degree coordinated by the URV)
- A group taught entirely in English in the Bachelor's Degree in Audiovisual Communication and Multimedia

● Accreditation of studies

- During the 2021-22 academic year, the following bachelor's and master's degree syllabuses have been accredited:
- Faculty of Science: bachelor's degrees in Biology, Biotechnology, Environmental Sciences, Chemistry and master's degrees in Advanced Catalysis and Molecular Modelling and in Environmental Change: Analysis and Management.
 - Polytechnic School: bachelor's degrees in Design and Development of Video Games, Architectural Technology and Building Construction, Architectural Studies, master's in Industrial Engineering and in Architecture.
 - Faculty of Nursing: master's in Health Promotion.
 - University School of Health and Sport EUSES: bachelor's degrees Physiotherapy, Physical Activity and Sport Sciences and Physiotherapy (joint degree).
- The Master's in Tort Law, the Master's in Advocacy and the Master's in Food Biotechnology have achieved accreditation with excellence; and the accreditation of the Bachelor's Degree in Medicine has been the first in Spain (together with the International University of Catalonia) to obtain the seal of the World Federation in Medical Education.
- Accreditations are underway, at different stages of the process, for the following studies:
- Faculty of Education and Psychology: bachelor's degrees in Psychology, Social Education, Pedagogy, Primary Education, Early Childhood Education and Social Work
 - Faculty of Arts: master's degrees in Teaching Spanish and Catalan as a Second Language and in Humanities Research
 - Faculty of Science: master's degree in Water Resources Science and Technology
 - Faculty of Law: bachelor's degrees in Law, Criminology and Political and Administrative Sciences
 - Faculty of Economics and Business Sciences: bachelor's degrees in Business Administration and Management, Accounting and Finance, and Economics
 - Polytechnic School: bachelor's degrees in Agri-food Engineering, Computer Engineering, Industrial Technologies Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Automation and Industrial Electronics Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Chemical Engineering
 - Faculty of Tourism: bachelor's degrees in Advertising and Public Relations and Tourism
 - EUHT Sant Pol: bachelor's degree in Hotel and Tourism Management
 - Euroaula School of Tourism: bachelor's degree in Tourism
 - Formatic Barcelona University School: bachelor's degree in Tourism
 - Mediterrani University School: bachelor's degree in Tourism
 - ERAM University School: bachelor's degree in Audiovisual and Multimedia Communication

● Approval of the new regulations governing double degrees at the University of Girona

These regulations allow students to study in two different programmes in the same academic year and obtain more than one official qualification. They apply to students of the University of Girona who meet the requirements for access to official university bachelor's or master's degree programmes and who wish to simultaneously study two or more programmes leading to official degrees.

● Promoting innovation in teaching

Actions to promote innovation in teaching include the coordination of 15 teaching innovation networks and 12 teaching innovation groups; the call for the 3rd edition of the ICEberg Teaching Innovation Award; the organisation of the 2022 UdG ICEday "The university in times of platforms"; the organisation of the ICT and Education Conference "Gamifying for learning", and the co-organisation, together with the other Catalan universities, of the 12th CIDUI International Symposium "Learning in today's university: renewal or revolution".

● Joint teaching projects

The University is also active in joint initiatives and projects. These include two studies coordinated by the Association of Catalan Public Universities (ACUP), one on the impact of the pandemic on university teaching and the other on the impact of innovation actions. In addition, The UdG participates in two projects on training and the preparation of resources to improve teachers' digital competence (DigCompEdu) and in another project on the application of learning analytics at university level.

● International master's

Later in this document, the UdG International section describes several promotional actions at the master's level. Here are highlighted several master's degree proposals within the Erasmus Mundus call for February 2022. A proposal for an Erasmus Mundus master's programme in the field of tourism management (EMTM) was submitted but unfortunately, it has not been selected, even though it had received Erasmus Mundus funding until 2021-22. An Erasmus Mundus Design Measures proposal was also submitted for the development of a new master's degree in the field of innovative manufacturing systems that has been accepted for funding, creating the Master's Degree in Innovative Manufacturing Systems (MIMS). That makes the University of Girona's fourth master's degree with Erasmus Mundus funding. The other three are the Erasmus Mundus Master's Degree in Medical Imaging and Applications (MAIA), the Erasmus Mundus Master's Degree in Intelligent Field Robotic Systems (IFRoS), and the Master's Degree in Advanced Structural Analysis and Design using Composite Materials (FRP++), funded under the 2021 call for proposals.

● Employability

Job opportunities - JobTeaser. This year, 1,389 new users have registered on the UdG-JobTeaser platform and 1,865 new job offers have been published. The most sought-after profiles this year were engineering, education and ICT development.

Career guidance. A job search orientation programme has included training on CVs, cover letters, job interviews and LinkedIn, with 70 online workshops and 1,700 participants. In addition to these group activities, 78 individual counselling tutorials have been held.

Another guidance programme, Youth Guarantee (G)Innova, was run for the second time, with 24 participants. The programme offered 72 hours of training, individual tutoring, 5 company visits and 11 socio-cultural activities. In collaboration with PIMEC, the employers' association that represents micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and the self-employed of Catalonia, and AENTEG, the Association of New Technology Companies of Girona, the programme ended with 80% of the young participants in active employment.

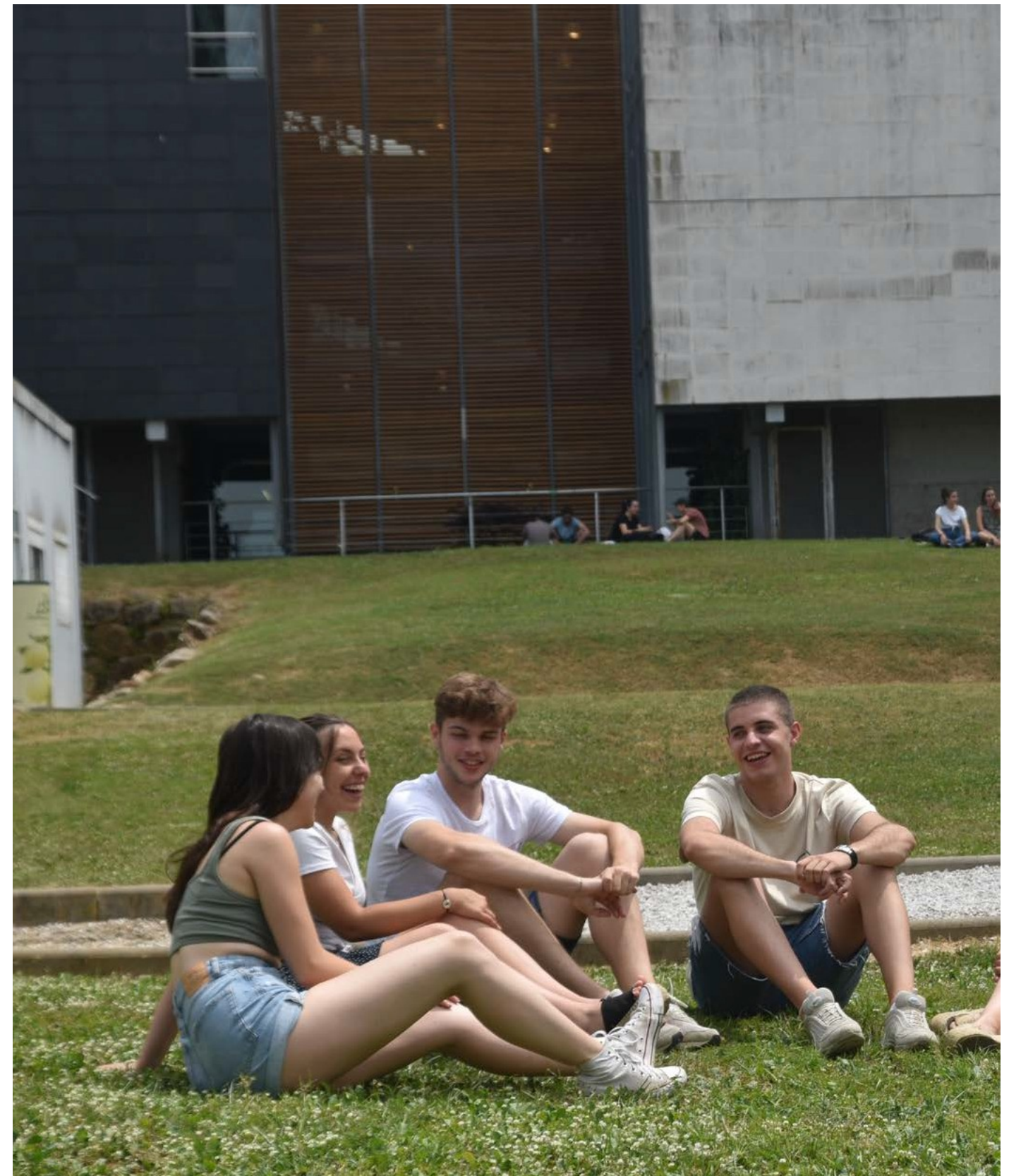
Skills School. The training programme sessions, attended by 2,850 persons, includes 49 online capsules, of which 30 have been on entrepreneurship and 18 on transversal skills: communication, networking, technology, negotiation, resilience and change management.

Entrepreneurship. In addition to the sessions of the Skills School, the University-Business Office (OUE) manages different programmes to promote entrepreneurship with the support of the Chair of Young Entrepreneurs.

Once again, the UdG has participated in the Explorer programme, promoted by Banco Santander with the collaboration of the Girona Business Guidance Association (aGOe). The 22 young people who took part received the support of specialised mentors and, for 12 weeks, an extensive training programme to help them launch their entrepreneurial projects. In the end, five projects were submitted. At the same time, the "Consolidate... boost your business" programme was run to support the consolidation, strengthening and reinvention of self-employment, with 38 participants. This programme, which ends in September, has provided 88 hours of training and foresees more than 500 hours of individual counselling.

Internships. The University of Girona has managed more than 3,000 internships, 500 of which have been extracurricular, enabling students to complement classroom training and facilitate their integration into the world of work. For the first year, 15 scholarships have been awarded in the Rural Campus programme, an initiative promoted by the Ministry for Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, in collaboration with the Ministry of Universities and the Spanish public universities. They have allowed students to complete three-month internships in companies located in towns with less than 5,000 inhabitants.

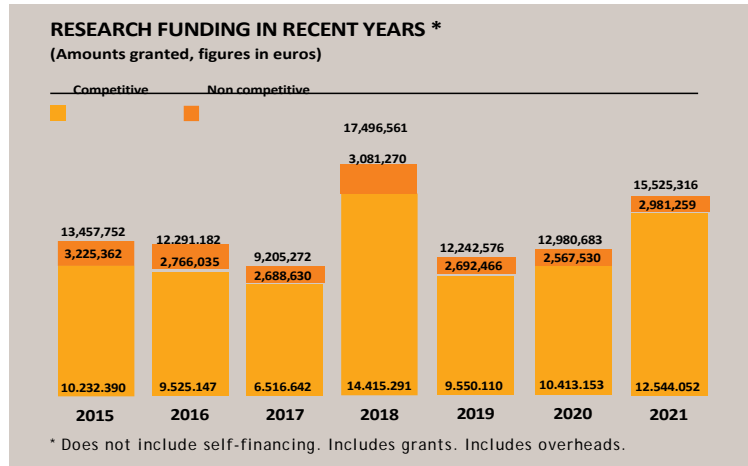
International internships. To promote internationalisation, the University-Business Office has advised 20 students and participated in different initiatives. An agreement has been signed with Girona City Council to carry out the Let's Go Europe programme, in which 13 students from the UdG have taken part in 8 training sessions, actively searched for internships abroad and learned about the experience of people who have already completed an international placement. An agreement has also been signed with AIESEC to promote companies where University of Girona students can carry out international internships. Three fellowships have been awarded under the programme organised by the Regional Academy on the United Nations (RAUN), which brings together UN organisations and outstanding master's and doctoral students. In addition, two scholarships have been awarded in the Doctoral Internship Programme in Brazil within the University-Business Consortium for Brazil and the Southern Cone (CUBOS). Once again, this year, a UNICAT ambassador has promoted and disseminated information about internships and professional opportunities in the European Union.





Research
and knowledge
transfer

Research and knowledge transfer



Research institutes

- Institute of European and Comparative Private Law
- Institute of Catalan Language and Culture
- Institute of the Environment
- Institute of Computational Chemistry and Catalysis
- Institute of Educational Research
- Institute of Tourism Studies
- Institute of Computer Vision and Robotics Research
- Institute of Historical Research
- Quality of Life Research Institute
- Institute of Food and Agricultural Technology
- Institute of Aquatic Ecology
- Institute of Computer Science and Applications

Affiliated research centres

- Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA)
- Catalan Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (ICRPC)
- Girona Institute of Biomedical Research (IDIBGI)

Active projects

- 33 H2020 projects
- 3 INTERREG projects
- 67 SGR research groups
- 20 Industrial doctorates
- 21 large-scale research projects (RIS3CAT, PECT, Retos Colaboración...)

Results

- 59 research books (2021)
- 263 book chapters (2021)
- 102 doctoral theses read at the UdG (2021)
(29 with an international mention and 3 with an industrial mention)

Researcher talent

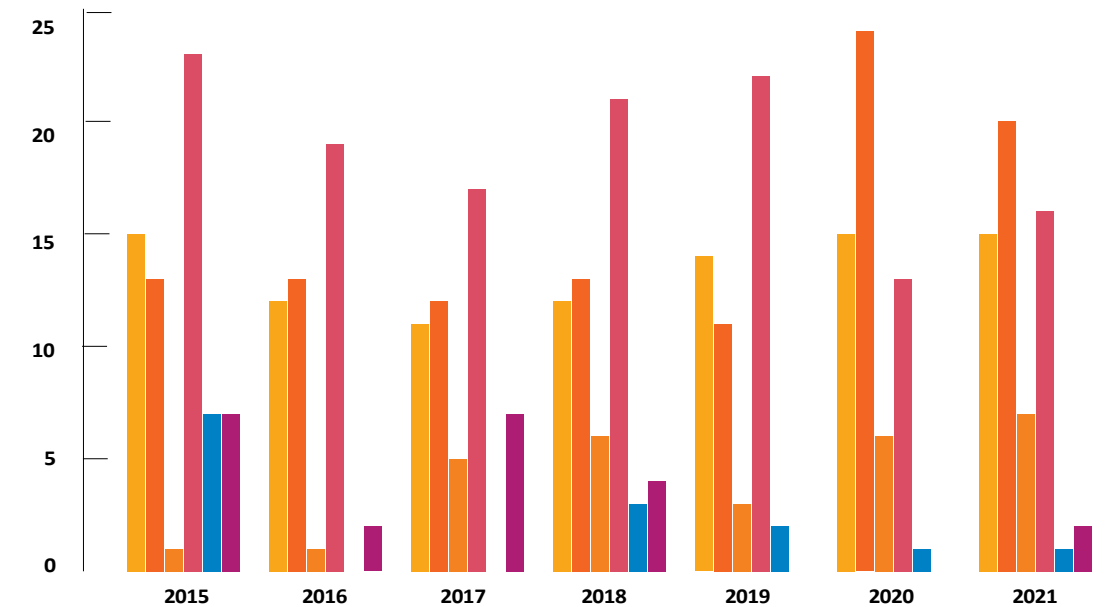
- 41 researchers: ICREA (5), Ramón y Cajal (2), Juan de la Cierva (11), Marie Skłodowska-Curie (4), Techniospring (6), Beatriu de Pinós (9), Beatriz Galindo (2), Junior Leader Retaining (1) and Requalification (1).
- 219 contracted pre-doctoral students (2021)

Technology transfer

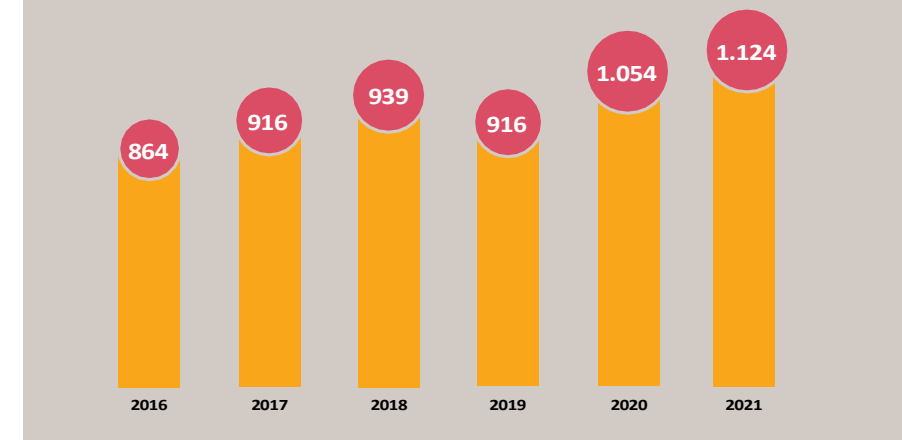
- 7 TECNIO groups
- 1 European patent
- 1 American patent
- 2 licensed patents
- 7 technology-based companies in which the UdG has a stake

ANNUAL INCORPORATION OF PRE-DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Spanish: FPI / FPU / FPI_POP	15	12	11	12	14	15	15
Govt. Catalonia: FI / FI_SDUR	13	13	12	13	11	24	20
Govt. Catalonia: Industrial doctorates	1	1	5	6	3	6	7
UdG: IF / IFAE	23	19	17	21	22	13	16
Research groups: BRGR / IFGR	7	0	0	3	2	1	1
Others	7	2	7	4	0	0	2



EVOLUTION OF ISI INDEXED ARTICLES



Honorary Doctorates

1997

Jerome S. Bruner, psychologist
Fred M. Utter, ichthyologist
Jaume Aragall, tenor

2002

Miquel Batllori, historian

2004

Robert Brian Tate, historian
Joan Bertran, chemist
Jaume Gil Aluja, economist

2008

Raimon Panikkar, philosopher
Carmina Virgili, geologist
Joan Rodés, doctor
Eric J. Hobsbawm, historian
Miquel Roca Junyent, jurist

2010

Ferran Mir, economist
Joan Roca, chef

2012

Encarna Roca, jurist
George Steiner, philosopher
Josef Havel, chemist

2013

Josep Fontana, historian
Ramon Garrabou, historian
Jordi Nadal, historian

2014

Juan Carlos Tedesco, educator
David Jou, physicist and poet

2015

Ilona Kickbusch, health promotor

2016

Peter J. Balsells, engineer and entrepreneur

2017

Miquel Martí i Pol, poet
(in memoriam)
Lluís Llach, singer

2018

Narcís Comadira, poet and painter

2019

Evert Jan Baerends, chemist
Sovan Lek, ichthyologist

2021

Josep Maria Casasús, journalist and essayist
Daniella Tilbury, educator
Marina Subirats, sociologist

2022

Pere Portabella, filmmaker
Anna Ferrer, activist and aid worker



Daniella Tilbury



Marina Subirats



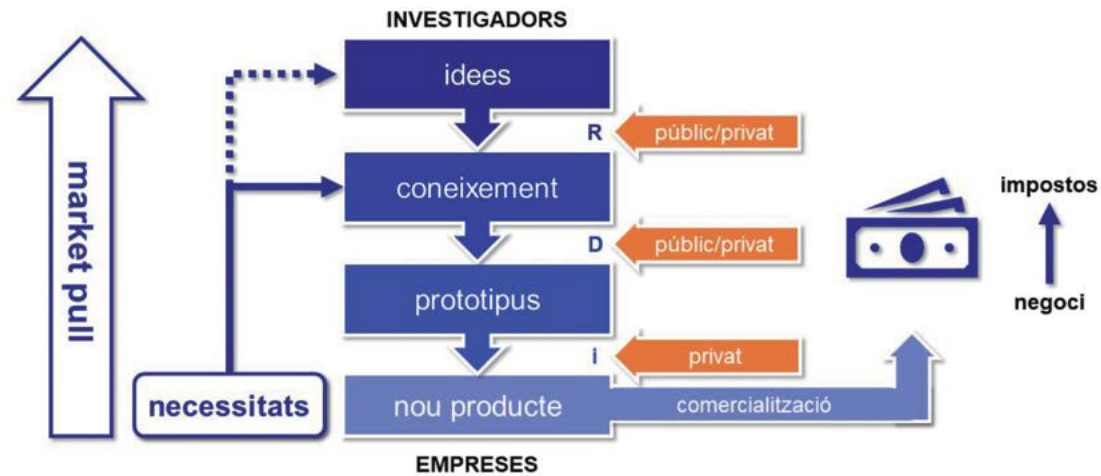
Pere Portabella



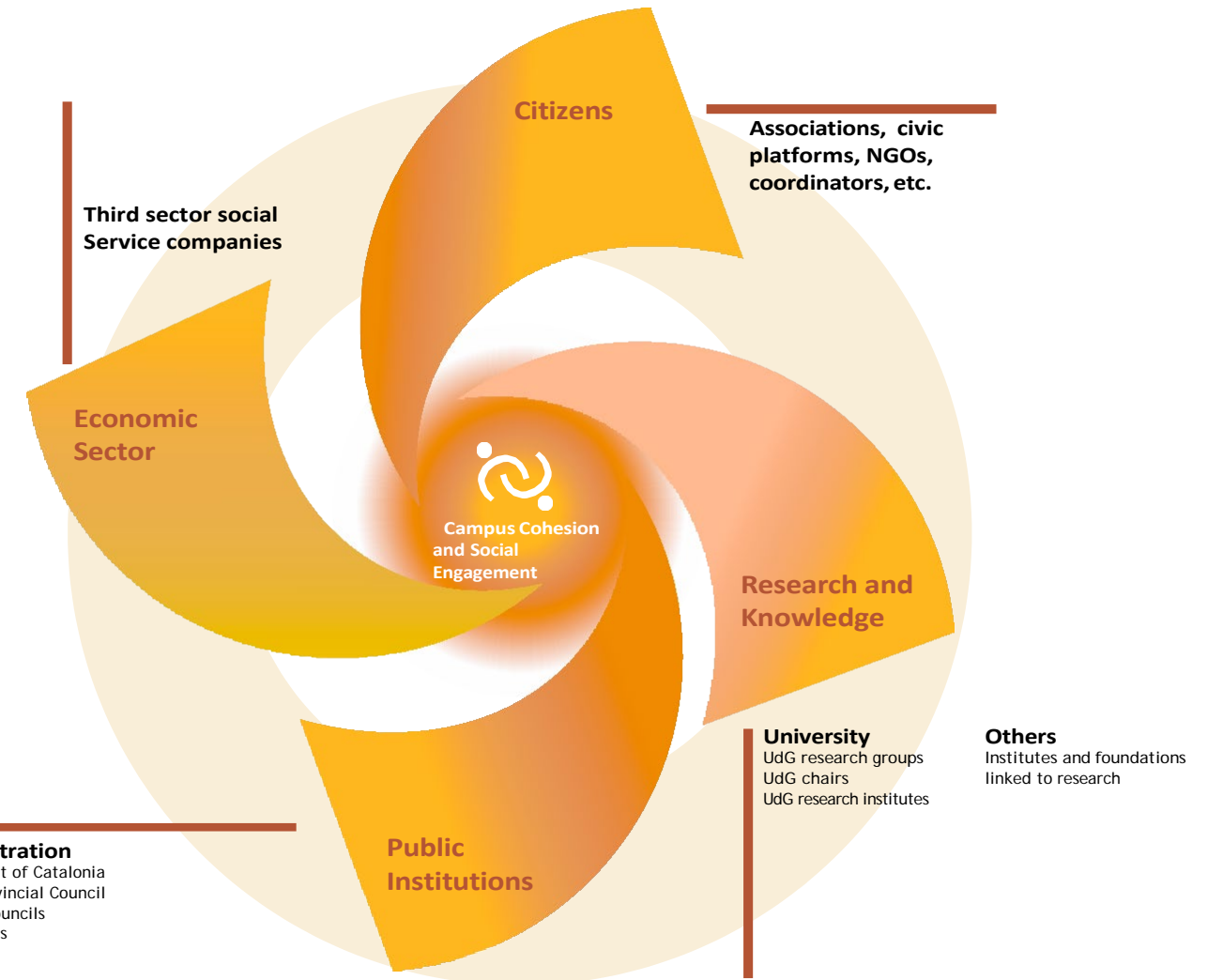
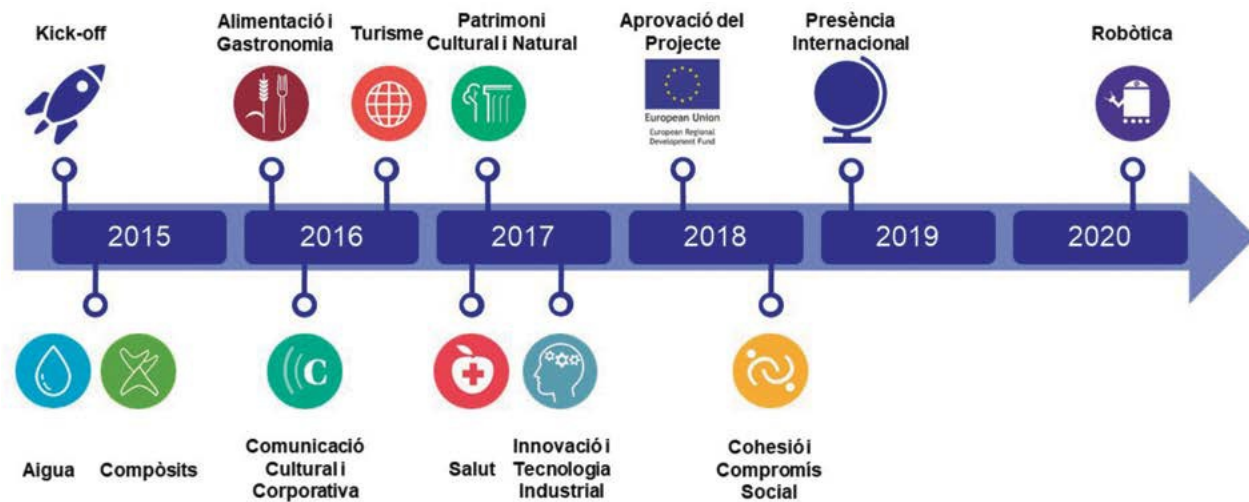
Anna Ferrer

Sectoral Campuses

The University of Girona's Sectoral Campus Programme is a strategy with a clear market-driven approach, whose main objective is to proactively facilitate relationships between companies, institutions and the University of Girona through the transfer of technology and knowledge.



In accordance with the research and innovation strategy for smart specialisation in Catalonia (RIS3CAT), the Sectoral Campuses propose collaborative leadership, involving all stakeholders: public administration, the private sector, citizens and research centres, the so-called "quadruple helix". The first sectoral campus, the Water Campus, was launched in 2015, and the most recent one is the Robotics Campus (2020). The sectoral campuses promote innovative ecosystems in 10 priority areas for the territorial districts of the province of Girona and count on the University of Girona's strong research potential.



Between 2018 and 2021, the Specialisation and Territorial Competitiveness (PECT) Girona project for an innovative ecosystem (Government of Catalonia, Girona Provincial Council and FEDER, European Union), has consolidated the sectoral campuses, achieving the involvement of:

- >130 members of sectoral advisory councils
- >300 external companies and institutions
- >140 UdG research groups, institutes and chairs
- >700 UdG researchers

As of January 2022, the Girona, Region of Knowledge Foundation takes over and, with a team of people hired thanks to the contributions of the Girona Provincial Council and the UdG itself, will continue to promote the Sectoral Campuses.

Project leadership

Projects applied for through the Sectoral Campuses

- Two projects of the *Fundación Biodiversidad* – FB: GiroNat (approved) and *Girona4Rius* (pending approval) for €8.4 M
- Project of the Ecological and Digital Transition call for proposals (pending approval)
- Two Horizon Europe proposals on the topic HORIZON-CL4-2022-RESILIENCE-01-11 Advanced lightweight materials for energy efficient structures (RIA) (pending approval)

The *Fundación Biodiversidad* urban greening project – "*GiroNat: Giro hacia la renaturalización para una Girona más resiliente y saludable*" ("A shift towards urban greening for a more resilient and healthier Girona") – has been approved. Project partners are the Girona City Council (coordinator), the UdG, *Asociación La Sorellona*, *Asociación Red por la Naturaleza*, SEO/Birdlife, and ICRA. The total budget is €3M, including €603,000 for the UdG. In addition to SIGTE, six groups from the University are taking part (Animal Biology, Botany, GRECO, Architecture, LEQUIA and ERIQDVI).

In previous years, the Sectoral Campuses have been key to obtaining up to seven PECTs for Girona. In various stages of development and involving almost €19 million, they are:

- Girona, Innovative ecosystem: €2.5 M
- Girona, Water-sensitive region: €2.6 M
- Girona, Smart tourism: €1.5 M
- Girona, Healthy region: €2.9 M
- Girona, Sustainable food system: € 3.1 M
- Girona, Social and Digital Innovation: New responses to the challenges of the millennium i digital: €3.3 M

- Girona, Active Heritage: €3.3 M

The Sectoral Campuses have also implemented joint projects and promoted collaborative initiatives with other organisations in the region:

- Official Medical Association of Girona (COMG) e-Health grant for health technology research and innovation projects in health technologies (organised by the Health Campus and the COMG)
- CatNord *Col·laboratori Catalunya*, supported by i2Cat (the Social Commitment and Cohesion Campus is part of the group driving the initiative)
- Roundtable: research niches in alternative proteins (organised by the Food and Gastronomy Campus and the Agency for Business Competitiveness (ACCIO))
- Cycle of exploratory sessions: agri-food sector challenges in the Girona region (with the leading organisations in the agri-food sector in the Girona area)

InnovaGirona

With funding from the Girona Innovative Ecosystem PECT, the companies Muutos Consulting and Copernic have been developing an open innovation platform, InnovaGirona. It is currently operational and work is being done to publicise it and to get the actors involved in the innovative ecosystems to join it. The objective of the open innovation platform is to connect businesses, public administrations, civil society and research and innovation actors to raise innovation challenges and propose solutions. When different actors share their knowledge, they collaborate in response to challenges. More information at: www.InnovaGirona.cat.

Conferences on sectoral challenges and other events or seminars

During 2021-22, the Sectoral Campuses have been able to resume some face-to-face events, while maintaining online activities in other areas. They have been focused on maintaining contact with different actors and responding to the demands and needs that have arisen. Many of the promotional activities still have a strong international focus.

Organised activities:

- New Perspectives on Tourism and Heritage series
- Series of hands-on workshops to promote research and innovation in Healthy Ageing
- Webinar "Technology x Heritage: Innovative Solutions for the Conservation of Cultural and Natural Heritage"
- Conference "First Water Campus Conference: Research and Territory"
- Information session "European funding opportunities in the agri-food sector"
- Webinar "Challenges and innovations for the promotion of the circular bioeconomy"
- Conference "The evaluation of public policies"
- University conference "Forest Fires: Challenges and Opportunities for Landscape Management"

Events in which the UdG has participated:

- Marc 2022 *Mobile World Congress – 4 Years from now*
- Abril 2022 Food Fair
- May 2022 JEC World Paris show
- June 2022 Conference of the Advanced Materials Cluster of Catalonia
- June 2022 University Industry Innovation Network (UIIN) Conference *Ideate, Innovate, Inspire, Interact* in Amsterdam
- June 2022 University-Business Cooperation Skills Accelerator. UIIN Training Programme
- June 2022 Visit to the University of Groningen
- June 2022 Union for the Mediterranean (UNIMED) general assembly in Amman, Jordan



11

webinars



536

registrants



51

speakers



254

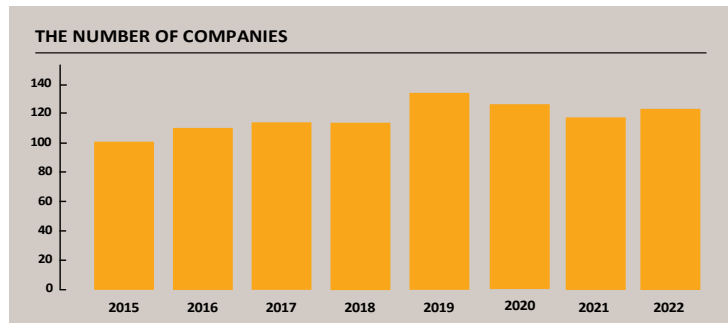
displays

Participation in platforms, associations, networks or clusters

The University of Girona, thanks to the Sectoral Campuses, is present in platforms, associations, networks and clusters of the different sectors, notably the following:



The UdG Science and Technology Park



The liquidation of the former *Fundació Parc Científic i Tecnològic* of the UdG is almost completed. At the request of the bankruptcy administration, a judge has ordered the transfer of all assets and activities to the University of Girona, at no cost, given that at the time the UdG had also ceded free of charge the surface rights where the park's buildings have been constructed.

Through its Board of Trustees, the UdG accepts this reversion and, consequently, all the buildings in the park will be the property of the UdG, except for the Giroemprende-Business Centre (owned by Banco Santander) and 65% of the H2O building (owned by the Catalan Institute for Water Research). The new *Fundació Parc Recerca i Innovació Universitat de Girona* will be created to ensure efficient management of the park's activities. Supported by the Girona Chamber of Commerce, the Association of the Board of Trustees of the Polytechnic School of the University of Girona, and the University of Girona itself, this new foundation will keep on all the staff of the previous one, and by virtue of the corresponding collaboration agreements, be responsible for managing and maintaining the park's spaces. The *Fundació Parc Recerca i Innovació UdG* hopes to contribute to the economic development of territorial districts of the province of Girona through maximum synergies with other entities of the UdG group (Girona, Region of Knowledge Foundation, UdG Innovation and Training Foundation) and with government administrations and companies.



Some figures

75,000 m² of land

40,000 m² of buildings

6 buildings: Jaume Casademont, Business Centre, Narcís Monturiol, H₂O, Underwater Robotics Research Centre, Centre for New Food Technologies and Processes (CENTA)

36 research groups and research and technology centres, including:

- > 5 UdG TECNIO centres
- > 1 centre with participation of the UdG: ICRA
- > UdG Research Technical Services
- > 1 technology centre: EURECAT

10 institutions and service entities, such as the Association of Companies of New Technologies of Girona (AENTEG), the Catalan Water Cluster (CWP) or the UdG Foundation: Innovation and Training.

117 businesses, including:

- > Spin-offs from the UdG
- > Hewlett Packard's Centre for Innovation and Application Modernisation
- > High-tech foreign companies

2,230 people working in the Park

Services: **2** restaurants, **2** auditoriums, **12** meeting rooms

1 seminar room **8** classrooms **1** networking spaces for 50

Innovation in action in the Park

- > Technological opportunities and technology transfer services
- > R&D and technology financing
- > Access to qualified staff
- > Entrepreneurial environment
- > Technology platforms
- > Networking
- > Dissemination of science and technology
- > Access to national and international park networks

UdG Library

The library in numbers



Spaces and equipment

409,311 visits to the three Campus libraries
3,704 hours of spaces occupied for acts and conferences
123 institutional acts recorded and deposited in the repository
10,347 m² / 1,876 places / 12,368 km of shelves
269 computers
59 laptops



Use of the resources and services

56,621 document loans
281 laptop loans
1,250 documents loaned to users of other libraries
438,412 database queries
293,668 scientific articles downloaded from the digital library



Training and advice on bibliographic research

3,459 students (1 in 4 of bachelor's, master's and doctoral students) have completed a training course
58 courses given, corresponding to 240 hours of instruction
940 cases of individualized attention to students



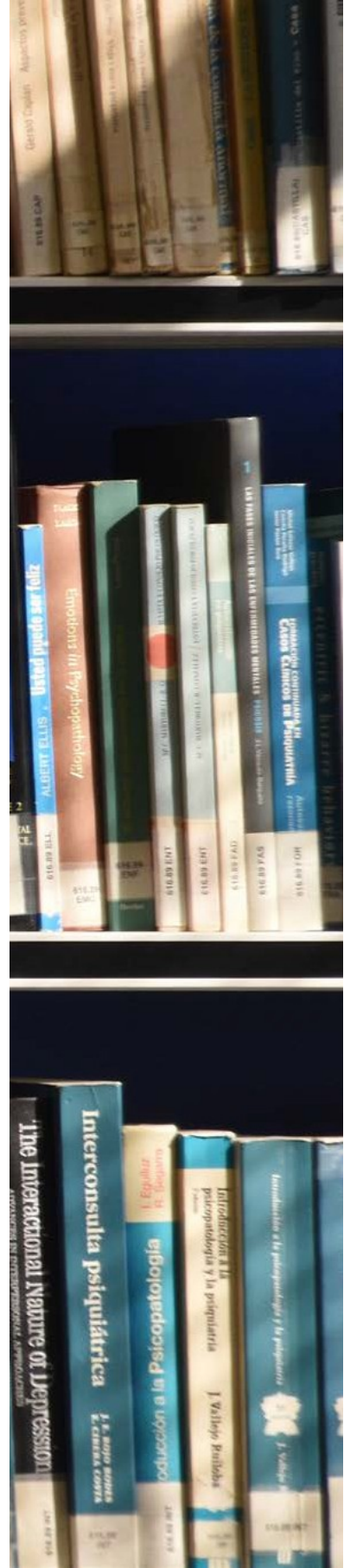
The collection

Half a million books: 467,613 in paper and 25,451 electronic
24,574 journals: 6,700 in paper and 17,874 electronic
23,837 maps
42 databases



Digital repositories

18,447 documents, 5,366 audio visual archives, 13,069 heritage fund documents and 8,921 images that are a product of academic, research and teaching activity of the University
1,475 theses on TDX



Main actions undertaken within the *Òrbita 18-22 Strategic Plan*

We are Library

- Omnia, the new search engine for scientific information that improves the user's search experience, goes into production in September.
- New document acquisitions have swung back and forth between electronic and paper formats. During these times of living with the pandemic and of virtual teaching and services, the digital collection has been expanded to offer more effective support to teachers and students.
- The remote services website and the home lending service have been kept operational to provide services to members of the university community in view of the still present Covid-19 pandemic.

We are Institution

- The Governing Council approves the Open Access Mandate of the University of Girona to regulate the deposit of the scientific production of researchers in the institutional digital repository, DUGiDocs.
- A new Library and Research website is launched to bring together all the resources and services offered researchers.
- A new system for correcting multiple-choice tests has been developed to increase the reliability of the results of scanned documents and to improve the chain of custody of paper documents.
- The Open Educational Resource Kit developed by the Rebiun Repositories working group, in which the UdG Library actively participates, has won the Open Educational Award for Excellence.
- Six data uploads have been made to the Catalan Research Portal.

We are territory

- The Cassià Costal collection has been augmented by the donation of the personal library of the jurist Michele Taruffo, and many other donations: Ramon Canals, Josep Maria Fuses, Enric Mirambell, Jaume Curbet and a selection of books from the Narcís-Jordi Aragó Collection.
- The cataloguing of the Joaquim Garriga and Fons Mariàngela Vilallonga collections has been completed, and the cataloguing of the Maria Lluïsa Borràs Fund, Muntaner-Aramon Donation is progressing nicely.
- The Ramir Medir Documentation Centre of the Cork Museum of Palafrugell is a new affiliated library.
- The library's website has a list of people who have donated bibliographic collections to the University of Girona over the years.

We are professionals

- Participation in three library congresses and workshops and attendance at nineteen virtual professional meetings.
- Publication of *Portada23*, the library's quarterly news bulletin with a focus on information. It will include information about current show projects, make reading recommendations on a specific topic, provide tips on how to search for information on the web, and show the library's rich heritage collections.
- A table-top calendar on 30 years of special collections and affiliated libraries to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the University.



Notable events

● Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R)

In response to HRS4R, approved in June 2020 by the European Union, progress has been made in the development of 22 actions, grouped into 6 areas. In June 2022, the European Commission gave a favourable assessment of the interim report, which reviews the implementation status of actions, reformulates their focus, defines new actions, where appropriate, and makes explicit the timeframe in which they are expected to be carried out.

Progress is noteworthy in OTM-R to review the selection and recruitment processes for research staff at the UdG, which must follow the OTM criteria (open, transparent and merit-based). In another response to HRS4R, a web-based researcher's guide has been launched to guide researchers to all that the UdG can offer in support of their research. Progress has been made on open science (detailed below) and on the contracting process for a new research and transfer management tool, known as CRIS (Current Research Information System).

● Open science

Since 2010 when the university of Girona signed the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities, it has always been committed to progress towards open access. In April 2021, the Governing Council approved the institutional mandate for open access, which requires researchers to: deposit in the institutional repository (DUGi) the full text of any publication that has been accepted for publication and which has been produced by staff of the institution, whether or not financed, in whole or in part, by other public funds; deposit in a data repository specific to the area of knowledge the open data obtained in the research and the data used to produce the articles and which are FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable); have the ORCID identifier and make use of it; publish publications and research data under an open licence; and support publication in open access journals characterised by scientific rigour and quality, and which have a business model based on article processing charges (APC).

The criteria for the distribution of APC vouchers at the UdG have been approved. It is estimated that sufficient APCs are available for the expected needs, so they will be provided on demand, if the corresponding author has UdG affiliation, the work is deposited in the institutional repository and the voucher is recognised in the acknowledgements. Quarterly monitoring will be carried out by the Library Service and action will be taken only if necessary. A series of information sessions have been held for researchers.

In addition, in February 2022 the Governing Council approved the Research Data Management Policy, establishing guidelines for the correct, complete, unadulterated and responsible storage of research data, and for publication of the data produced in FAIR form. It also sets out the responsibilities of the institution and researchers with regard to research data.

● ICREA Acadèmia awards

This year, six UdG researchers from different fields have received ICREA Acadèmia awards. They are Dr Míriam Cabré (Department of Philology and Communication, Institute of Catalan Language and Culture), Dr Moisès Esteban (Department of Psychology, Institute of Educational Research), Dr José Manuel Fernández-Real (Department of Medical Science, IDIBGI), Dr Joaquim Fort (Department of Physics), Dr Xavier Lladó (Department of Computer Architecture and Technology) and Dr Marc Yeste (Department of Biology, Institute of Food and Agricultural Technology). UdG researchers have obtained 20% of the ICREA Academia 2021 awards, a noteworthy figure.

● Calls for applications for grants for researchers-in-training

The Government of Catalonia Support for University Departments and Research Units (SDUR) programme has continued to recruit pre-doctoral staff through the FI-SDUR call for applications. In 2020, 15 FI-SDUR grants were obtained; in 2021, 9 grants; and in 2022, 11 grants, which represents 9% of the grants awarded to the 12 Catalan universities.

The 2019-2021 UdG IFuDG grant programme for researchers-in-training ended. In three editions, 45 grants were awarded, nine of which corresponded to special actions co-financed by companies, external institutions or UdG research groups. Overall, 27% of the applications submitted received funding. Up to 35 beneficiaries (78%) have taken advantage of the possibility to participate in teaching to complement their research training. This allows them to qualify for a mobility grant for stays of up to 3 months in faculties or schools of interest to their research (IF-MOB), facilitating an international mention for the doctorate, if applicable.

The terms and conditions of the grant programme to hire researchers-in-training at the UdG, IFUdG 2022-2024, have been approved. They seek greater stability with respect to the previous programme. Some modifications foster even more the relationship of researchers-in-training with companies and other entities. And others facilitate external co-funding, which increases the number of beneficiaries of the programme (by introducing modality 5, or by increasing the weight of industrial theses and special actions). In the IFUdG 2022, 19 full grants have been awarded. Of the 61 applications submitted, 7 were for special actions and 32 were from foreigners.

● Calls for applications for postdoctoral research grants

Participation in the INVESTIGO programme

The UdG has participated in two calls of the INVESTIGO programme, of the EU Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan. They recruit young jobseekers to carry out research and innovation activities mainly in the fields of health, ecological transition, green economy and the environment (renewable energies, water and waste treatment and agri-food industry), and the digitisation of services and data science. Each entity may submit a single application for all the contracts requested. They are awarded on a non-competitive basis, first-come, first-served basis until the budget is exhausted.

In the call managed by AGAUR, 16 grants have been obtained for contracts for postdoctoral, technological and technical positions that should strengthen the central research departments and services (STR and OITT). In the call, 56 contracts of the same positions recognised in 2017 were requested to support the SGR groups again in 2022.

POSTDOC-UdG programme of grants to recruit postdoctoral researchers

The POSTDOC-UdG programme offers up to two-year postdoctoral contracts that reward candidate participation in external competitive calls, such as com Beatriu de Pinós, Juan de la Cierva, Ramón y Cajal, Marie Skłodowska-Curie, etc. This programme supports the addition of this type of staff, especially in departments that foresee a need to increase teaching and research staff, even before any competitive grants are awarded, and offers a contract to improve any proposal that does not receive funding. In the second call, POSTDOC-UdG2021, eight grants were awarded. All of them joined UdG departments to develop research activities of international impact, and reinforce the skills acquired in their first stage of research training.

Researchers at the UdG are recruited through competitive postdoctoral grant programmes (in addition to POSTDOC-UdG, Ramón y Cajal, Juan de la Cierva, REQ, etc.). They gain teaching experience while co-financing their contracts without any financial expenditure by their research units.

Calls for REQ postdoctoral grants

As part of the EU Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan to support Covid-19 post-crisis recovery, the Ministry of Universities announced direct subsidies to public universities of the Spanish university system. The University of Girona received €3,717,309 to finance a call for postdoctoral grants, in three modalities, established by the Ministry. At the UdG, the REQ2021 call for proposals called for a minimum of 23 and awarded 25 Margarita Salas grants, for two-year training stays, aimed at young doctoral students (mainly those who have obtained their doctorate at the UdG), at a university or research centre other than the one where they have written their thesis. Three grants have been awarded for the requalification of civil servant or contracted teaching and research staff, consisting of one-year training stays for UdG staff (mainly with a lecturer or interim attaché contract) at another university or research centre. And 15 Maria Zambrano grants have been awarded: postdoctoral contracts at the UdG, for two years, aimed at people with more than two years of doctoral studies and who live abroad. Of these, 10 have been proposed as a new POSTDOC-UdG call. With this, the UdG has met the Ministry of Universities' requirements. Some grants were turned down, and most of the vacancies were filled from the reserve list. However, two Maria Zambrano grants have been left vacant. To cover these grants, a new call for proposals, REQ2022, has been launched with the same characteristics. Fifteen applications have been received from 10 departments, which are prioritised as new POSTDOC-UdG solicititudes.

These calls allow attract research talent, improve the research curriculum of the PDI of the UdG, and increase interactions and collaborations with other national and international universities and research centres.

● Call for Promoters

A second edition of the grant programme for the hiring of UdG research and transfer service staff has been announced (PROMOTORS2021). They will complement the activity of the Office of Research and Technology Transfer (OITT), the Sectoral Campuses and the Girona, Region of Knowledge Foundation. Their close proximity to the research groups of the UdG help them attract resources and support research management and communications. Fifteen grants have been awarded for two-year contracts, co-financed by the research groups (or groupings of research groups).

These support staff persons will join or continue to form part of the UdG's R&D&I Promotion Network, formed by technical staff at the UdG who manage and promote research and transfer to the UdG, from the OITT, the Sectoral Campuses and the research groups themselves. They work to coordinate the technical staff, to strengthen their technical expertise through lectures by highly relevant and experienced people in specific subjects, and to consolidate relationships between them. The network has now entered its third year of activity and is coordinated by the OITT.

● Success in international and national calls for proposals

The UdG has made significant progress in attracting European funds from the Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation. During FP7 (2007-2013) the UdG received funding for 54 projects, and in the next programme, Horizon 2020 (2014-2020), it received funding for 60: 24 collaborative projects, 20 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, 4 individual projects in the European Research Council (ERC) programme, and 12 in other calls.

In 2021, 11 proposals submitted to calls for proposals in 2020 and 2021 with the participation of the University of Girona received funding from different European and international research, development and innovation (R&D&I) programmes. The total was almost €3M. Six of the projects will receive Horizon 2020 funding: three Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Actions, a collaborative project coordinated by the UdG to develop a platform for the early detection of melanoma using artificial intelligence (iToBoS), and two collaborative projects also coordinated by the UdG in the "European Green Pact" call. Of these two, one proposes new solutions for post-fire environmental assessment, monitoring and restoration (DRYADS), and the other is developing and validating a cross-sectoral climate-change adaptation framework to accelerate the transition to a climate neutral economy (IMPETUS). The UdG also coordinates the Colourful Childhoods project, which seeks to empower LGTBI+ children in vulnerable settings to fight against violence in Europe. An ERA-Net BiodivERsA project on biodiversity, ecosystem services, and nature-based solutions has also been implemented. In addition, a project has received funding under the international EEA&Norway Grants call for proposals, which aims to reduce social and economic disparities in the European Economic Area. Currently, the UdG has 51 active R&D&I projects with European funding, and 57 additional applications are pending approval.

During 2021, the research grants section of the OITT handled 95 applications for research projects in 24 different national and regional calls for proposals. Forty-seven projects received funding for almost €5.3M.

In response to the 2021 call for Knowledge Generation Projects, from the Ministry of Science and Innovation, the OITT provided information sessions and published a guidebook. The library contributed with information on open science. The 2020 call provided funding for 29 UdG projects, for €3.3M. Women head eight of them, and the UdG is the lead entity in two coordinated projects. This is higher than in the previous two years. In addition, the AGAUR call *Pandemics 2020 - Scale back to grow: the impact of pandemics in a world without visible borders*, with European funds, awarded two projects to the UdG.

In 2021, the Spanish Agency for Innovation (AEI) published a new type of call for proposals: Proofs of Concept aimed at applying in society the results obtained from research funded by National Plan Research Projects. In this first call, UdG researchers participated actively. A conference was organised by experts to present this type of project. The event highlighted – with specific examples – that this type of instrument is not exclusive to science or technology fields. The conference probably contributed to the greater number of applications from the UdG: 17. In the end, seven grants received €572,700 in funding. Four of the awards went to researchers in technology, two in science and one in social sciences.

Overall, the funding obtained in 2021 by the UdG in all calls for proposals for the financing of research projects (excluding aid granted to clusters, networks and special and complementary actions), with state or regional funding, has increased compared to the two previous years (€3.2M, €2.6M and €4.6M, respectively).

● Grants to acquire scientific and technical equipment for joint research services

The State Sub-programme for Research Infrastructures and Scientific-Technical Equipment (State Plan for Scientific and Technical Research and Innovation 2017-2020) is part of the EU's Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan. It aims to provide high-performance equipment for joint research services. At the UdG, €1,193,661.41 has been awarded for the acquisition of an equipment for the development, testing and operation of fleets of underwater robots.

Moreover, an analysis of the conditions and use (both internal and external to the UdG) of the different large apparatuses of the Technical Research Services has highlighted the need to acquire a field emission scanning electron microscope with X-ray microanalysis detector. Funds obtained mostly obtained through the external use of the electron microscope will contribute to paying for it.

● European Cross-Border Doctoral Conferences

The University of Girona belongs to the consortium of universities that have organised European Cross-Border Doctoral Conferences in recent years. Preparations are currently underway for the 2022-2023 conference, in partnership with the University of Perpignan Via Domitia, the University of the Balearic Islands and the Languedoc-Roussillon Doctoral College.

● Completion of the electronic administration of doctorates

Without introducing any changes to the doctoral regulations updated in 2021, the transition to e-government was completed for 2021-22. All processes, from pre-registration to electronic deposit or electronic voting for the *cum laude* award, can now be carried out online.

● Course on management of research groups and doctoral theses

The fourth edition of the course "Management of research groups and doctoral theses" started on 17 January 2022. This is an eight-session course offered by the School of Doctoral Studies in collaboration with the Institute of Education Sciences (ICE), designed especially, but not only, for young (potential) supervisors of doctoral theses at the UdG (postdocs, Ramón y Cajal researchers, lecturers, associate professors and young tenured professors). Topics covered include leadership, tutoring, time management, public and private funding (technology transfer), research project management, gender perspective in research, publication and dissemination of research and outreach, and the administrative functioning of the doctoral programme at the UdG.

● Present your thesis in 4 minutes

Once again, in 2022, the preliminary phase of the competition "Present your thesis in 4 minutes" was held at the UdG, organised by the School of Doctoral Studies and the Catalan Foundation for Research. This year it took place on site and 10 doctoral students participated. The jury decided to award the following researchers-in-training.

First prize: Alba Codina Le Boudal, for "Study of debonding in CFRP-strengthened beams and contribution of anchorage systems".

Second prize: Adrià Duran Sidera, for "New tumour markers for pancreatic cancer based on abnormal glycosylation of overexpressed proteins in tumours".

Third prize: Natalia Ormeña Cano, for "Graphene-based electrodes for the electrochemical removal of antibiotics and antibiotics resistance genes (ARGs) from water".

● ISPAS European project

On 28 February 2022 the Horizon 2020 project (SwafS-08-2019-2020) within the *Science with and for Society* programme, called "ISPAS: Paths to Successful Innovations" took place. The UdG participated in it with the University of Stavanger (Norway), the University of Turin (Italy), the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, the 1563 Foundation (Italy), the Bellvitge Institute for Biomedical Research, and the European Business and Innovation Centre of Burgos. The project proposes a cross-disciplinary training courses on innovation and open science. Between 2021 and 2022, it offered the following: *Storytelling*, *Entrepreneurship and open innovation*, *Open science A to Z*, *FAIR data basics*, and *Computer science essentials for digital humanities*.

● #HiloTesis

In 2022, the second edition of the contest "Your Doctoral Thesis in a Twitter Thread: #HiloTesis", promoted by *Crue Universidades Españolas*, was announced. The UdG jury selected and submitted four threads to the final in which more than 400 threads from all the universities were competing. The UdG representative in the Inclusion category, Maialen Beltran Arreche, from the Doctoral Programme in Education, was the winner with the thread "Women with intellectual disabilities and their affective and sexual relationships". The award was presented on 29 June.

● Extraordinary Doctoral Awards

In June 2022, ten eligible doctoral programmes received Extraordinary Doctoral Awards for 2021.





University
community:
students and
teaching,
research,
administrative
and service staff

UdG Associations

Àligues i Aligots University of Girona Rugby
Senior Students Association from the Josep Torrellas Programme
UdG Batucada Association
Catalan Engineering Without Borders
Aula Manga UdG (AMUdG)
Friends of the Christian Centre of the University Students of Girona
Alumni and Friends of the Polytechnic School of Girona
University of Girona Debating Society
UdG Health Sciences Students' Association (AECS-Girona)
Political Science and Administration Students' Association of the UdG
Medicine Students' Association of the UdG
Psychological Research and Advocacy Students' Association ARPP
Industrial Engineering Students' Association (AEI)
Kodama Youth Association
<i>Multicapacitats</i>
<i>Bitxacs</i> Naturalist Association
UdGeeks
Occitan Cultural Association of the UdG
Early Childhood Education Students' Association of the UdG (ASEM)
<i>Els Xoriguers</i> Human Tower Group
Student Coordinator of the Catalan Countries
Erasmus Student Network-Girona (ESN)
Association of Researchers-in-Training of the UdG (UdGdoc)
VENS Have New Social Experiences
Association of Chinese Students and Researchers
The European Law Students' Association (Girona-UdG)



Notable events

● Research and Teaching Staff (PDI)

In 2021-22, the normalisation phase of the temporary status of the university's full-time teaching staff was completed. One of the achievements is the end of interim recruitment of the PDI (109 teaching posts established since 2018). This allows the UdG to use the replacement rate allowed by current legislation and to commit to stabilise the number of positions established through recruitments under competitive programmes. These programmes are the Serra Húnter programme, currently with 27 participants and 9 new recruits planned for the coming months, the Beatriz Galindo programme, currently with 4 positions, or other programmes associated with I3 (R3) certification, such as Ramon y Cajal, or other competitive programmes with funding, such as the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grants. A multiannual estimate will ensure the viability of the stabilisation commitments represented by these positions in the coming years. In addition, during 2021-22 the UdG has had up to 12 people as full-time lecturers, thanks to the flexibility of the hiring guidelines in the departments, and another 18 with its own POSTDOC-UdG programme. Four people have also collaborated as full-time visiting lecturers in teaching and research activities. At the same time, the promotion of professors and associate professors to full professorships has begun. In particular, two promotions to full professorship were made at the end of 2021 to meet structural needs, two additional promotions are scheduled for 2022 for the same reason, and 18 merit-prioritised promotions will be made in two calls: one by the end of 2022 and one scheduled for summer 2023.

● Administrative and Service Staff (PAS)

The most important actions of the Stabilisation and Promotion Plan for Administrative and Services Staff (PAS) are the following:

-For PAS Civil Servant, there have been two calls for internal transfer competitions, corresponding to 20 group E positions and 1 group A2 Librarian position. There have also been six access calls: 1 restricted (with three C2 positions) and five open calls involving 40 positions (13 group E positions; 22 group C1; 1 A2 OSL position; 1 A1 archive and library staff position; 3 A2 archive and library assistant positions).

-For PAS Laboral, there have been five internal competitions for transfer and promotion. There have also been 14 calls for new recruits, involving 23 positions: 5 OITT specialist positions; 1 ACRI position; 1 GPA position; 5 STR positions; 3 SIGTE positions; 1 Library position; 3 external internship specialist positions; 1 translation specialist; 1 French language position; 1 ICE position, 1 head of Research Technical Services position.

On 31 December 2021, Royal Decree Law 32/2021, of 28 December, on Urgent Measures for Labour Reform, the Guarantee of Employment Stability and the Transformation of the Labour Market, came into force. One of its main objectives is the simplification of contracts and the reduction of the temporary employment rate in accordance with the requirements committed to with the European Union in the framework of the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan. The RDL clearly establishes the prevalence of permanent contracts over temporary contracts. To implement this new regulation in the Catalan public universities and to adapt the Sixth Collective Agreement of the administrative and services staff of the Catalan public universities to the new legislation, on 6 April it was agreed with the trade union representatives to amend the collective agreement with the inclusion of transitional provision 18a.

To adapt the job exchange of the interim administrative and service staff to current regulations and new organisational systems, an agreement was signed between the Management and the Civil Servant Administrative and Services Staff Board on 20 January 2022, approving a new document on the operation of the job exchange for interim administrative and service staff.

In addition, on 1 February 2022, the Management and the Works Committee of PAS Laboral signed an agreement on the partial retirement plan for this group, given that the previous agreement of 2013 is no longer in force. In this case, the parties wished to sign a new agreement to promote and facilitate intergenerational professional mastery, as well as the exchange of knowledge and experience.

● Professional careers of PAS

The Professional Career Model for UdG Administrative and Services Staff has been approved. During the first quarter of the 2022-23 academic year, the pilot plan will be implemented. Based on the results, it is hoped to launch the first call for applications open to the entire group as of January 2023. Professional careers at the UdG have become a strategic lever for the promotion of change and the continuous improvement of people and the organisation itself. The career is the fundamental tool to facilitate, accompany and recognise the gradual and singular progress of each worker in their job, beyond the collective rights that inspire vertical career growth and beyond anything else that can be demanded by the mere fact of being a public service worker.

● e-Administration

In 2021-22, the UdG consolidated important elements of e-government, such as the use of electronic certificates and electronic signatures of documents, which was promoted during 2020-21 and is now the prevailing signature format. At the same time, the use of the University of Girona's *Portasignatures* has continued to grow steadily and this year has become the predominant signature system in all sectors of the University. The gradual implementation and improvement of the Document Manager (DocUdG_e_f) has also been continued to meet the need for a single archive and to ensure the authenticity, integrity and preservation of administrative documents. At the same time, 2021-22 has seen the launch of new projects that will become key elements in the digital transformation of the University of Girona. Examples include: the project to catalogue and characterise the administrative procedures and formalities carried out at the University; the incorporation of new integrations of proprietary applications into the ERES 2.0 registration programme; the setting up of the registration assistance office; the future implementation of an e-government platform to speed up, adapt and streamline the processing of electronic files; the implementation of a new modular application for the creation of specific electronic forms linked to the registration programme; and the project for a new agreed key signature system.

At the same time, the full digitisation of the University will be accelerated by its participation, through the Consortium of University Services of Catalonia (CSUC), in e-administration projects financed by the REACT-EU Fund, within the framework of the Next Generation EU aid package.

● Economic management

The University's economic management has developed a system that allows the authorisation of accounting movements and orders to suppliers within the same accounting programme. This system will replace the current accounting documents signed on paper and replace them with documents signed electronically in PDF format.

The system and authorisation circuits have been identified and users have been informed of how they work. From this point on, the management of all accounting documents will be gradually incorporated into the system.

Two manuals have been produced, one aimed at the teaching and research staff and the other at the administrative and service staff. This initiative is a significant step towards the much-needed e-administration.

● Transparency

This academic year, the University of Girona has continued its efforts to comply with its obligations of transparency, good governance and access to public information. Evidence of that is our first place among Catalan universities and eighth place among all Spanish universities in the latest transparency ranking of the Dynamic Transparency Index (Dyutra).

During this academic year, the Information Unit has been created to carry out tasks related to coordination, communication, support and access to public information as indicated in Law 19/2014, of 29 December, on Transparency, Access to Public Information and Good Governance. A regulation has also been approved to regulate the use of the information provided by the UdG.

Likewise, the Office of the Ombudsperson, in the last annual report, considered the UdG administration to be accessible and compliant with the obligations stemming from the right of access to public information.

● Implementation of remote working for the PAS

This academic year has been marked by the preparation and implementation of remote working at the UdG and its approval at the end of June, thanks to which 319 requests for remote working by the administrative and service staff of the UdG were approved in July for a period of up to 12 months beginning in September 2022.

It has been made possible by the Framework Agreement for the development of Remote Working of the Administrative and Service Staff in the Public Universities of Catalonia of 16 June 2021. This agreement was signed between the public universities of Catalonia and the main trade unions, and in accordance with the internal criteria of the UdG in the premises document for organising and implementing remote working among the administrative and service staff (PAS) of the UdG. It was approved in ordinary session no. 10/2021, of 13 December, of the Governing Council of the UdG, after having been drawn up in a joint committee with the workers' representatives. This process has led to the approval by the Governing Council on 30 June of the general conditions and then the call to apply for remote working by the Rector's resolution of 1 July.

During the implementation process, the PAS elaborated individual work plans defining tasks and objectives, working teams were set up, remote workers and supervisors completed specific training, monitoring agreements were established, and equipment was arranged to meet the requirements of the framework agreement and the premises.

The challenges and opportunities for change that are now opening up are also facilitated by the strong implementation of e-government, collaborative technology tools and, finally, improved internal/external communication, trust and rigour.

● A year of returning to normal

The 2021-22 academic year has seen a return to normal thanks to the improvement in general infection rates, due mostly to the high vaccination rates in the general population and a rate of 88% among members of the University community. As a result, normal capacity was restored in classrooms and laboratories, although the mandatory use of facemasks was maintained until April 2022 and emphasis was placed on improving ventilation in all crowded spaces.

The Rector's resolutions, the management's instructions and the "Health and Safety Protocol P01: Preventive measures for the risk of infection from the SARS-CoV2 coronavirus at the UdG" have been updated to adapt to the changes in protection criteria defined by the relevant public health bodies, until the repeal of the Universities Sectoral Plan to address Covid-19 on 19 April 2022. However, the UdG has maintained active health surveillance throughout 2021-22 and, therefore, the Covid incident reporting system for the entire community, and the resulting individual actions. Maintaining physical, mental and emotional health has also been an objective at our university. The active participation of all members of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee and the constitution of the Covid expert committee that has advised the Covid Contingency Committee has been key to internal decision making.

● Students

With the improvement of the Covid-19 pandemic situation, many student activities that had to be cancelled in the past two years resumed in 2021-22. Exceptionally, two UdG Day festivals have been organised this year. On 9 December 2021, the UdG Day concert "El Retorn" took place in the Girona FC VIP car park. On 21 April, the *La Glaudator* Festival took place in the Faculty of Science's car park. It was a party without masks and a great success.

This year also saw the second edition of the Merit Awards (Student Recognition for Cross-disciplinary Engagement) presented by the Student Council. Two types of awards were announced: one for UdG bachelor's and master's degree students (€200) and another for associations in the UdG register of associations (€500).

On 12 May, the Student Council also organised the Associations Fair on the Montilivi Campus, where UdG associations could promote themselves and their activities.

This year, other UdG associations have also been able to resume normal activities. The community has been lucky to enjoy again, among others, the human tower festivities of the *Xoriguers* and to see the *Batucada* in action.

● 2021-22 scholarships and grants

This year, €180,000 have been allocated to salary grants, with three new ones bringing the total number of grants awarded to 30. The Nando and Elsa Peretti Foundation has contributed €12,000 and Banco Santander €54,000 to co-finance the grants. Twenty-nine emergency aid grants have been awarded, amounting to €21,508. La Caixa Foundation and CaixaBank are providing €15,000 for these emergency grants. €48,410 was also budgeted for support activities, running costs and management support for the Student Council. As for the *Foment Associatiu* grants and the grants for the Promotion of Student Participation, €15,250 have been awarded in 12 grants. Finally, the UdG has allocated €8,000 to the Santander *Progreso* Programme and €3,850 to the Santander *Conecta* Programme.

● Alumni

The UdG Alumni community includes more than 2,500 former students who continue to enjoy the services and advantages offered by the University of Girona. The University-Business Office has organised activities aimed at the student and alumni communities, such as orientation and entrepreneurship programmes, School of Skills capsules and career guidance workshops. One of the activities organised was the second edition of the Mentoring programme. Former UdG students, who started their professional careers some time ago, act as mentors to promote the integration into the labour market of recent graduates. Promoted by UdGAlumni, a UdG service that promotes and maintains links with graduates, the initiative counted with the participation of eighteen work tandems committed to the goal of working together for six months. The Mentoring programme ended with a guided tour of the cultural heritage of the UdG and a stand-up dinner, where the participants shared their experiences.

This year, as well, a service has been initiated for former UdG students to offer their products and services, with exclusive discounts, to the entire alumni community.

● **UdG Choir and Orchestra**

Thanks to the improved pandemic situation, the UdG Choir has been able to perform on several occasions, including the inauguration of the Catalan university system, and the honorary doctorate ceremonies of Marina Subirats and Pere Portabella. Members of the UdG Choir took part in the concert of Beethoven's Ninth with the Vallès Symphony Orchestra and singers from the Girona choirs at the Girona Auditorium (12 June).

The presentation of the University of Girona Orchestra took place on 12 May in the Aula Magna Modest Prats. The University of Girona Orchestra is made up of some thirty musicians from the three collectives of the university community (students, teaching and research staff, and administrative and services). The Girona Orchestra sponsored the UdG Orchestra and performed at this concert, in a packed Aula Magna. A chamber group of musicians from the UdG Orchestra also performed at Anna Ferrer's honorary doctorate ceremony. The UdG Orchestra will return to rehearsals next September and is still open to new members.

● **Theatre Workshop**

This year the Theatre Workshop has celebrated its 30th anniversary. To celebrate, students, alumni and collaborators put on a show at the La Diva restaurant to perform excerpts from plays performed over the last 30 years. A video documentary was made with short fragments of the plays premiered over the last 30 years. In addition, a photography exhibit in the Pati del Pou highlighted memorable moments at the Theatre Workshop. They have also presented their show *Pequeñas improvisaciones por café-teatro* at the Biennial of University Theatre, organised in Alicante by the *Xarxa Vives*.

● **Sport Service**

Of the 3,192 members of the Sports Service (27.4% more than last year), 1,910 are men and 1,282 are women. In percentage terms, in 2021-22, women have increased by 4 points and now represent 40% of the membership. EUSES had the highest percentage of members in relation to the number of students with 30.2%, followed by the Faculty of Science with 28.8%.

As for the organised activities, registrations have increased by 19.2%, reaching 1,581 participants. The on-site activities and groups, especially those held indoors, have been adapted to the restrictions in place at any given time to minimise the risk of Covid-19 transmission. Twenty-three percent of the groups attended online sessions.

In competitions, the return of the Spanish University Championships has increased the total number of participants, but before international competitions normalise, there won't be a return to the level of activity in 2019.

This academic year there have been 1,694 entries: 1,233 in competitions at the UdG; 391 in the Catalan University Championships. At the latter, athletes from the UdG won six gold, four silver and nine bronze medals. At the Spanish University Championships, the UdG won 70 medals with a gold medal in tennis won by Nil Regàs Luís, a student of the Polytechnic School, who has been named the Best Catalan University Sportsman of 2022.

● **University of Girona online shop**

In December 2021, the online shop opened at www.onliudg.cat, under management of the Sports Service. It offers a wide range of UdG products in clothing, accessories and stationery.





Social
commitment

Social commitment

Social commitment and community engagement are part of the missions of the University of Girona as a public university. By extension, it is also fundamental to the experience of studying or working at the UdG. In other words, the institutional mission only makes sense if it is shared by everyone in the community, both in their life at the university and in their professional and personal life after the UdG. Commitment is an attitude, which implies willingness and adherence. It is a word that speaks of a feeling that can be both personal and institutional and that is placed at the service of an objective.

Social commitment and community engagement are not mutually exclusive terms. They are intertwined. Community engagement refers to the university's functions as an engine for transforming society, through agreements with other non-university agents. Agreements that are not hierarchical, but involve collaborative efforts in which each party contributes its expertise and all parties benefit. This community engagement encourages the University to reject the notion of itself as a temple of isolated knowledge, and pushes it to work in a network, in contact with multiple agents, without altering its specific identity and expertise.

However, this community engagement can also be social. Social commitment is usually always communitarian, but community commitment is not always social. The adjective social adds focus; it refers to all actions that have to do with inequalities, with vulnerable groups and people. In this sense, social commitment is any action that seeks fairness, equal opportunities or care for the planet.

The UdG has a vice-rectorate and a service specifically dedicated to social commitment. The Social Commitment Unit (UCS) has been in existence since 2017, and is organised into seven areas. Two of them are transversal: volunteering and university cooperation for development. The other five are more specific: inclusion, gender equality, health promotion, environmental sustainability and over-50s education. In all its activities, this service also works to achieve the 2030 Agenda and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This social commitment should permeate all dimensions of the university: teaching, research, transfer, governance, campus life, and its relationship with society. And community engagement is a way of interacting and working to achieve the different objectives that the UdG and social and community agents have set for themselves.



Notable events

● Volunteering

The University of Girona is the Spanish university with the second highest number of students who carry out volunteer activities. This is based on the IX Study on University Volunteering, carried out by the Mutua Madrileña Foundation, in which 36 public and private universities from all over Spain have participated. With 12 new collaboration agreements signed between the UdG and different social entities and NGOs in the region, 166 organisations and NGOs have participated in the Solidarity Activities Programme since 2010.

It is noteworthy that 1,593 UdG students have taken part in one of 23 training courses, or one of the 10 packs (Salutation - Girona Health Board; Language Exchanges; Health Promoters) or one of the 224 solidarity activities (25/50 hours) or one-off activities (5/10 hours) between May 2021 and April 2022. It is also worth mentioning the special volunteer operation organised by the UdG to support the Red Cross in its reception of refugees.

In total, students dedicated more than 12,920 hours to solidarity activities. Seventy-three have participated in voluntary activities of the Sports Service and 193 in reception activities (solidarity flat, friends flat and Rossinyol Project).

Twenty-three training courses related to different areas of social engagement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals have been held. They consist of more than one hundred short videos of between 10 and 15 minutes, combined to make up the courses, and always ending with a round table discussion with expert participants and with reflection by students. This database of videos on various topics related to issues of social commitment is valuable material that can be used beyond volunteering courses, for specific UdG-related needs.

The courses offered are:

1. Introduction to Volunteering (1st semester)
2. Introduction to Sustainability (1st semester)
3. Introduction to Gender Perspective (1st semester)
4. The Right to Human Mobility: Comprehensive support for refugees and migrants (1st semester)
5. Humanitarian Emergency Response Management (1st semester)
6. Introduction to the Sustainable Development Agenda (1st semester)
7. Preventing Suicidal Behaviour: Mental health gatekeepers (1st semester)
8. Caring for Life: Caring for each other in society (1st semester)
9. Caring for Life: Ecofeminism (1st semester)
10. Caring for Life: Activism for people committed to the planet and people (1st semester)
11. Development Cooperation (2nd semester)
12. Making Racism Visible: Discourses, practices and resistances (2nd semester)
13. Introduction to Sexual and Gender Diversity (2nd semester)
14. Drug Use and Drug Dependence: Divergences and intersections (2nd semester)
15. Introduction to Working with People with Disabilities (2nd semester)
16. Prevention of Eating Disorders (2nd semester)
17. Preventing Suicidal Behaviour: Mental health gatekeepers (2nd semester)
18. VI Conference on Visions of an Unequal World: Decent work and economic growth (2nd semester)
19. Caring for Each Other in Society: How we organise ourselves to enable the common good, human rights and happiness (2nd semester)
20. Turning the World Upside Down: Ecofeminism's proposals for a better life (2nd semester)
21. The state of Affairs: understanding what's going on in the world and why it affects you (2nd semester)
22. This is Burning: Understanding the links between consumption and the climate and social crises (2nd semester)
23. Eye on the Data: Understanding why digital transformation has so much to do with you and with human rights (2nd semester)

● International Volunteering

Over the past year, with the lifting of most of the restrictions on mobility between countries, international volunteering has been growing exponentially in the number of projects and participants. Thanks to the new situation, more than eighty students have had the opportunity to participate in a project abroad. Poland, Romania and Portugal have been the most frequent destinations, although the list of countries that have hosted students from the UdG is extensive: Italy, Slovenia, Morocco, Greece, Germany, France, and others.

UdG students have participated in both short-term (1-2 weeks) and long-term (up to 12 months) projects. They come from different faculties, and bachelor's and master's programmes.

These are international projects funded by the European Union, and the programme itself covers expenses for food, accommodation, activities and flights. This ensures that students can have an international experience regardless of their social and economic status.

When UdG students return from their projects, they tell us of their great satisfaction at having had the opportunity to meet people from different countries and cultures, and at being able to grow personally and professionally in a very positive environment.

List of projects subsidised by the European Union with the participation of students from the UdG:

1. Beyond hate, Morocco - 3 students
2. Bring back the love, Poland - 1 student
3. Camera eye, Poland - 4 students
4. Digital detox, Poland - 5 students
5. Let's play for change, Poland - 3 students
6. Project in day care centre, Poland - 1 student
7. Youth bike Love, Poland - 2 students
8. Youth wave project, Poland - 1 student
9. Clean, create and educate, Greece - 2 students
10. Power of time, Greece - 1 student
11. Womenity, Italy - 2 students
12. Climate for change, Italy - 5 students
13. Social lies never die, Italy - 2 students
14. Gaia project, Italy - 1 student
15. Moving my fears, Slovenia - 6 students
16. Culdive, Slovenia - 3 students
17. Love yourself first, Segovia, Spain - 1 student
18. Zero waste, France - 3 students
19. Urban agriculture, France - 3 students
20. Catch your moment, Bulgaria - 1 student
21. Building Europe, empowering children, Germany - 1 student
22. Discovering diversity, discovering fairy tales, Germany - 3 students
23. Tilt 2.0, Germany - 1 student
24. Digital revolution, Romania - 2 students
25. Seminar on addictions, Romania - 5 students
26. YE addictions, Romania - 7 students
27. Resounding citizenship, Portugal - 7 students
28. Together for SDG's, Portugal - 6 students
29. Understanding migration, Portugal - 2 students

● University Cooperation for Development

As the Covid-19 pandemic affected the projects and mobilities, the Rector decided to modify the period for carrying out the projects of the 2020 call. This meant a delay in the 2021 call for proposals. So, this year there have been two simultaneous calls for proposals.

In the 2021 call for cooperation projects, €69,987.92 were awarded to finance 11 different projects and mobilise 12 students, 21 PDI and 5 PAS.

The awarded projects are:

1. AMAZOMEM3: Decentralised membrane system for sustainable water purification in Amazonian communities. Pilot test in La Milagrosa.
2. Chajinel – Children at risk: Preventing child malnutrition in Totonicapán, Guatemala.
3. Construction of a new library in a nursing school in Kribi-Cameroon.
4. University cooperation in the field of cultural heritage and contemporary social reality in the Tindouf refugee camps.
5. Reporting and overcoming vulnerabilities on the Mexico-Guatemala border; Phase 5. Inform, educate. Anticipate and visualise LGBTIQA+ migrants, asylum seekers and refugees on Mexico's southern border in times of global pandemic.
6. Elaboration of a risk map of Puma "concolor" attack on herds, breeding of Maremma sheepdogs and socio-economic perception of the conflict between livestock and wildlife in the Torres del Paine Biosphere Reserve area, Chilean Patagonia.
7. Towards a culture of climate change observation. Empowering rural communities to propose solutions for the Brazilian Amazon.
8. Inventors4Change.

9. Landscape and sustainable development: an integrated study of land use and agriculture in the municipalities of Rancho Grande, Cuá, Dalia and Waslala (Nicaragua).

10. Project to support health centres in Smara (Sahrawi refugee camps).

11. VUDES 2021 – University Visits for Sustainable Development – Amhara, Ethiopia.

In addition, a new category has been introduced in the 2022 call for proposals to fund community engagement projects. This is aimed at supporting the active participation of members of the university community in local initiatives to combat poverty and social exclusion with regard to the most disadvantaged groups, especially in actions related to the UdG's areas of expertise.

Thus, €79,853.69 was awarded in the 2022 call for proposals to finance 13 different development cooperation projects and 2 community engagement projects, mobilising 12 students, 17 members of the PDI and 3 members of the PAS.

The Development Cooperation projects awarded are as follows:

1. Library, laboratory and learning methodologies: resources to update the teaching of nursing at the Kribi-Cameroon School of Nursing.
2. To train and educate CODES members and other association participants in the theories and methodologies of disciplines such as sociology, economics, social work, pedagogy, and help them develop analyses of the social, sociological and economic reality of the Senegalese context that contribute to improving the emigration and return of those Senegalese men and women who wish to do so and/or are considering it.
3. Chajinel – The person who accompanies (third edition).
4. University cooperation in the field of cultural heritage and contemporary social reality in the Tindouf refugee camps (II).
5. Denouncing and overcoming vulnerabilities on the Mexico-Guatemala border; Phase 6 LGBTIQ+ Archive and Memory
6. EDUSIM 2022: Creation of a teaching centre in the Emboret School and expansion of new methodologies for learning competencies in the scientific-technological field in schools in the Simanjiro area.
7. Towards a culture of climate change observation. Empowering rural communities to propose solutions in the Brazilian Amazon.
8. Childhood at risk: preventing child malnutrition in Totonicapán, Guatemala (sixth edition).
9. Inventors4Change.
10. Project to support health centres in Smara (Sahrawi refugee camps).
11. Fez Mashallah Project.
12. VUDES 2022 University Visits for Sustainable Development - Ethiopia.
13. WANA WAKE. Awakening local women's entrepreneurship in Kigoma, Tanzania.

The Community Engagement projects awarded are: 1. Expertise and Social Transformation 2. We, the MENA.

● Students and social change

This year, the UdG has participated again in the joint project Global Challenge, in collaboration with the NGO ONGAWA and 10 Spanish universities. In various training sessions, the participating students have reflected on how we organise ourselves to take care of each other in society, to make the common good possible, and to imagine their model in terms of ecofeminism. Discussions also focused on the relationship between consumerism and the climate and social crisis, and on understanding why digital transformation has a lot to do with human rights.

● Inclusion

In 2021-22 (at the closing date of this report), 216 adaptation reports have been issued for students with disabilities or educational needs (an increase of 24% over the previous year). In addition, the number of psychologically vulnerable situations that need attention has increased, specifically the number of eating disorders detected. This year, the access to disability reports has been automated, so that the teaching and research staff with students with adaptations enrolled in their subjects have the information always up to date and available.

With the pandemic throughout most of the first half of the year and part of the second half, accessible facemasks were purchased and distributed to the PDI and PAS of the faculties and schools with students with hearing impairments. Licences of the Claread© software have also been purchased and distributed to people who have certified that they have dyslexia. During this academic year, the reports of the two accessibility audits of the Montilivi Campus and the Barri Vell Campus have been presented to all the schools and faculties. The reports list all accessibility improvement points of the buildings and corresponding outdoor spaces, with a prioritisation of actions.

● Sustainability

The UdG has renewed its 2011 commitment to the Voluntary Agreements Programme for the reduction of greenhouse gases, which requires it to make an inventory of the institution's CO2 emissions. For the third consecutive year, thanks to the purchase of 100% renewable electricity with a guarantee of origin, emissions associated with electricity consumption have been reduced to zero. Other direct emission factors inventoried, such as the consumption of natural gas, refrigerant gases and the UdG's vehicle fleet, have led to the emission of around 600 tCO₂eq, 10% less than the previous year.

Daily commuting to and from the campuses together with professional and study mobility are the institution's most important emission factors; they account for almost 90% of the total. The latest annual mandatory mobility surveys indicate that the UdG's modal share of sustainable mobility has reached 53%. That means that walking, public transport and cycling options double the use of motorised vehicles; if carpooling is added, the share rises to 62%. Emissions from students, as the largest group, are the highest (around €55). If the group of students is separated from the overall data for the UdG, this share rises from 62% to 72%, as it is worth noting that 23% of students choose to commute on foot.

Despite the very unfavourable conditions for the sharing of reduced spaces, the UdG carpooling platform *Fes edit* has increased by 27 new registrations, added to the existing ones. The *Fes edit* UdG community has now reached 970 people who have saved 24 tonnes of CO₂ during this academic year.

This year the UdG bicycle loan service has made 474 one-week loans, which has meant a saving of 2.23 tonnes of CO₂ in the overall emissions of the UdG. The electric bicycle service for the mobility of PAS and PDI between campuses or to complete procedures has registered 68 loans, meaning 229 hours.

The acquisition of 688 city bus passes for students has also contributed to the reduction of CO₂ equivalent emissions. The number of students coming to the UdG by bus has increased by 32% compared to the previous academic year, but is still below the thousand or so of the pre-pandemic year.

The UdG's Ecosolidarity Garden has fully recovered its activity with the participation of 17 students from the volunteer programme, equivalent to 425 hours of organic farming related activities. Collaboration with the *Grup Fundació Ramon Noguera* has also resumed, with the participation of a group of 20 adults with intellectual disabilities in different tasks in the garden. As for organic production, the contribution of garden produce to the *La Sopa* soup kitchens amounted to around 130 boxes of organic horticultural products.

● Greening Plan

During the first half of 2021, the Technical Committee for the Revision of the Greening Plan has continued working on the design of the new greening plan of the University of Girona in order to have a definitive version at the beginning of the new academic year.

The Plan continued to develop through the co-creation process, which had begun with the thematic tables and other collaborations, and was presented as a draft document for comments and suggestions from the entire UdG community. In September 2021, once inputs were received, discussion was opened and amendments to the final document were introduced for approval.

The Governing Council of the University of Girona approved the new Greening Plan in session 7/2021, on 30 September. It sets out the following main objectives: reduce carbon emissions by 50% by 2030 (compared to 2011); and generate knowledge and awareness of environmental issues throughout the community.

The Plan is divided into three areas:

CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Objective: to measure carefully the emissions generated by the UdG and progressively reduce them to 50% by 2030, compared to 2011, and to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

Lines: Mobility, Energy, Emissions Inventory and Carbon Budgeting.

LIFE ON CAMPUS

Objective: to promote campuses as active, didactic and experimental settings for the natural integration of the environment, the adaptation of buildings, the optimisation of resources and their cycle, and climate sustainability in general (Campus Lab).

Lines: Consumption and Waste Management, and Space Management.

TRAINING AND RAISING AWARENESS

Objective: to involve the university community in environmental issues to promote a change in values, habits and attitudes, and to encourage the focus of studies and research on action for sustainability.

Lines: Training for Sustainability and Environmental Communication.

Thirty-two operational objectives are based on these lines, from which 129 actions are derived, all of them aimed at achieving the 50% CO₂ equivalent emission reduction targets. To be able to see its evolution, the UdG must have the appropriate procedures in place to accurately and quickly quantify its carbon footprint, which will be detailed in the emissions inventory and will serve as the basis for establishing the carbon budget that will determine the maximum amount of CO₂ equivalent that the UdG can emit annually until 2030.

● Health promotion

This academic year has seen the addition of the Psychological Attention Service for Addictions and the Affective and Sexual Health Service for UdG students. To operate these services properly, a space has been set up in the Shared Classrooms building (*Aulari comú*). The Catalan Network of Healthy Universities (USCAT) is holding the first call for awards for best final bachelor's and master's degree projects in health promotion in connection with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Various awareness-raising campaigns have been carried out in the university community with the different networks in which the UdG participates, such as USCAT or the Spanish Network of Healthy Universities (REUS). USCAT and the UdG's Social Commitment Unit were involved in organising the second Interuniversity Health Week, held from 6 to 8 April, together with the University of Barcelona, the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, the Pompeu Fabra University, the Universitat Rovira i Virgili, the Open University of Catalonia and the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya.

● Josep Torrellas University Studies Programme for students over 50

Eighty-three students have enrolled for 2021-22 in the Josep Torrellas Training Programme for students over 50 (29 men and 54 women), which represents an increase of 31 compared to last year, when 21 were women and 10 were men.

The programme's training plan currently offers more than 400 subjects corresponding to the syllabuses of 28 official degrees at the University of Girona. They have been reviewed by respective subject coordinators, and will be taken to the next Teaching and Students Committee of the Governing Council to be approved, if so requested, for 2022-2023.

Those interested may enrol in subjects from different degrees, without having to follow the same programme. During 2021-22, the self-registration system has been improved and a single pre-registration and registration period has been scheduled during the month of September.

● Gender equality

The University of Girona ranks 3rd among Spanish universities in commitment to SDG 5 (Gender Equality) within the Times Higher Education Impact Ranking, which assesses the contribution of all university areas (research, teaching, transfer, commitment) to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Several commitments guaranteed in the Second Equality Plan (2021-2025), approved in the session 3/2021, 29 April, of the Governing Council, have been implemented this year.

Similarly, the following actions have been prioritised:

a) The IX Meeting on Gender Equality of the *Xarxa Vives*, hosted by the University of Girona and focused on the study of the impact of gender in university regulations and gender bias in research careers in the universities of the *Xarxa Vives*.

b) Implementation of the new Gender Pay Register at the University of Girona, an instrument of pay transparency at the service of employees and civil servants in our university community.

c) Approval of the first call for grants for the organisation of awareness-raising and training activities, conferences and congresses to promote gender equality at the University of Girona (e-BOU 2542).

d) Approval of the new University of Girona Regulations for Associations (e-BOU 2394) which incorporates, for the first time, measures to promote awareness and dissemination of the provisions of the Protocol for Prevention and Action in Situations of Violence or Harassment on Grounds of Sex, Gender or Sexuality among the UdG's network of associations.

e) Incorporation of the University of Girona in the Universities for Diversity Network, a space for interuniversity collaboration to promote joint actions in LGTBI+ protection policies.

f) Training courses, seminars, conferences and workshops with a gender perspective have been offered, aimed at promoting training and critical reflection in this area for the entire university community. Particularly noteworthy are the training courses on teaching with a gender perspective, organised by the Institute of Education Sciences (ICE) in collaboration with the Gender Equality area of the Social Commitment Unit (UCS). Also noteworthy is the organisation of the fourth edition of the *Aules Obertes* (Open Classrooms) on the gender perspective as part of the commemorative events of 25 November (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women) and 8 March (International Women's Day). As part of this commemoration, a wide range of institutional events, conferences, courses and seminars have been scheduled, including a volunteer course that offers training on sexual and gender diversity, aimed at students.

g) Promotion of various institutional gender awareness campaigns.

h) Appointment of an interdisciplinary committee of experts to initiate procedures for the reform of the Protocol for Prevention and Action in Situations of Violence or Harassment on Grounds of Sex, Gender or Sexuality.

i) Approval by the Governing Council of the general rules of the prize for the best final degree project with a gender perspective of the University of Girona.

j) Conclusion of a collaboration agreement with the Ministry of Universities to guarantee the participation of the University of Girona in a study of the gender pay gap in public universities in Spain.



External relations and outreach

UdG Chairs

- **Chair of Water, Nature and Welfare**
Sant Hilari Sacalm (UdG, UVic)
- **Chair of Contemporary Art and Culture**
Girona
- **Bellapart Chair of Lightweight Structures and Glass**
Les Preses
- **Family Business Chamber Chair**
Girona
- **Dr. Bofill Chair of Science and Humanities**
Girona
- **Climent Guitart Chair in Orientation, Innovation and Competitiveness in Coastal Tourism** Lloret de Mar
- **Chair of Scientific Culture and Digital Communication**
Girona
Chair of Legal Culture Girona
- **Maria Antonia Canals Chair of Didactics of Mathematics**
Girona
- **Chair of Mediterranean Coastal Ecosystems**
Torroella de Montgrí
- **Chair of Education of the Autistic Spectre**
Castell-Platja d'Aro
- **Chair of Sport and Physical Education - Centre for Olympic Studies**
Banyoles
- **Chair of Cork Studies**
Palafrugell
- **Chair of Maritime Studies**
Palamós
- **Ferrater Mora Chair of Contemporary Thought**
Girona
- **Calonge-Sant Antoni Chair of Gastronomy, Culture and Tourism**
Calonge
- **Chair of Geography and Territorial Thinking**
Olot
- **Chair of Immigration, Rights and Citizenship**
Girona
- **Joan Vinyoli Chair of Contemporary Poetry**
Sta. Coloma de Farners
- **Josep Pla Chair of Literature and Journalism**
Palafrugell
- **Chair of Young Entrepreneurs**
Girona
- **Lluís Santaló Chair of Applied Mathematics**
Girona
- **Chair of Cardiovascular Diseases**
Girona
- **Martí Casals Chair of Rural Medicine and Health**
St. Feliu de Guíxols / Castell-Platja d'Aro / Sta. Cristina d'Aro
- **Chair of Wilderness Medicine and Clinical Simulation**
Puigcerdà
- **Catalan Observatory for Ethics in Artificial Intelligence**
Girona
- **Chair of Oceans and Human Health**
Roses
- **Maria Àngels Anglada - Carles Fages de Climent Chair of Literary Heritage**
Castelló d'Empúries / Figueres
- **Chair of Sustainable Industrial Processes**
Girona
- **Chair of Health Promotion**
Girona
- **Can Trona Chair of Pedagogical Renewal**
La Vall d'en Bas
- **Chair of Social Responsibility and Sustainability**
Girona
- **Roses Chair of Archaeology and Archaeological Heritage**
Roses
- **Smart City Chair**
Girona
- **Tekhné Chair of Creative Thinking, Technology and Learning**
Salt
- **Tom Sharpe**
Palafrugell
- **UNESCO Chair of Sustainable Human Development** Girona
- **UNESCO Chair of Cultural Policies and Cooperation**
Girona
- **Chair of Empordà Wine and Olive Oil**
Figueres
- **Víctor Català Chair of Modernist Studies**
L'Escala
- **Walter Benjamin Chair of Memory and Exile**
La Jonquera / Portbou

The Chairs: the UdG's impact in the territory

The chairs of the University of Girona support study and research by organising reflection, debate and outreach activities in their fields and in the UdG's sphere of influence. Despite their wide range of interests and fields of expertise, they are all focused on developing the University's presence in the surrounding area on a regular and continuous basis, to structure relations with its sponsors – local, regional and national institutions and private companies – and to develop active scientific and cultural outreach throughout the territory. In 2021, a year marked by the search for normality after the pandemic restrictions, the UdG's network of chairs has carried out 531 in-person and online seminars, workshops and conferences, which represents 25% more than the previous year (425), and almost equals the pre-COVID number (549). Examples include the Chair in Health Promotion and the *6th International Conference on Salutogenesis*; the Chair in Scientific Culture and Digital Communication and the *Mathematical Route*; the Chair of Mountain Medicine and the Environment and Clinical Modelling and the webinar *Mountain Safety: Hypothermia*; the Dr. Bofill Chair of Science and Humanities and the course on *Venetian Painting*; the Chair of Education of the Autistic Spectre and the workshop on *The Use and Abuse of Social Networks*; the Chair of Geography and Territorial Thinking and the *IV Seminar Saved Landscapes / Landscapes to be Saved*; the Ferrater Mora Chair of Contemporary Thought and the *Philosophy Within Reach* conference series; the Chair of Empordà Wine and Olive Oil and the *InTecAA: Innovation in Agricultural and Food Technology competition: What technology is behind food?*; and the Chair of Cardiovascular Diseases and the *1st Basic Echocardiography Course*.

These activities have had a significant impact on the media – 441 news items in printed media and 202 news items in audiovisual media – and their sponsors have contributed €712,808 to them.

The triennial evaluation of the chairs took place in 2021-22, as stipulated in the regulations. A committee was set up, an evaluation procedure was designed, the result was shared with all the Chairs and explained in detail to the Governing Board.

Three new chairs

The University of Girona's commitment to the social and economic development of the region has been strengthened by the creation of three new chairs. This milestone of 41 chairs, the highest number ever at the UdG, makes the it the Catalan university with the most chairs.

The Chair of Cork Studies, located in Palafrugell and supported by the Cork Museum Foundation and Palafrugell Town Council promotes multidisciplinary research into the world of cork, from the cork oak forests, through industries and products, to culture and knowledge.

The Maria Antònia Canals Chair of Mathematics Didactics, supported by the Ministry of Education of the Government of Catalonia and the Girona City Council, safeguards the legacy of Maria Antònia Canals in the training and innovation of mathematics teachers.

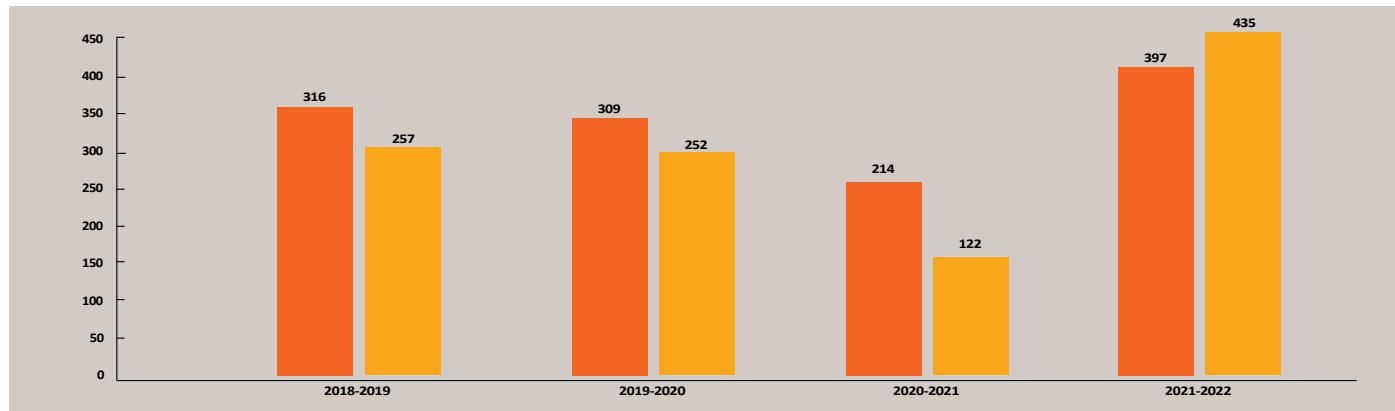
The Climent Guitart Chair of Orientation, Innovation and Competitiveness in Coastal Tourism, located in Lloret de Mar and supported by the Climent Guitart Foundation and the Lloret de Mar Town Council, promotes the transfer of knowledge to innovate future strategies and improve the sector's competitiveness.



Summary of the 2021-2022 Chairs Report

Number of chairs	41
Seminars, workshops and lectures	248
Teaching activities	109
Conferences	20
Other activities	154
Books published	33
Chapters published	48
Scientific articles	102
Popular articles	94
Papers	108
News in the print media	441
News in the audiovisual media	202

STUDENT MOBILITY



Drac, Sicue/Sèneca, Erasmus Plus, bilateral agreements and other programmes



Notable events

Communications

During 2021-22, 86 press releases have been issued; 111 news items have been published on the UdG's main website, and 283 activities have been included in the agenda. The press pack has been updated and all audiovisual contributions added. The number of videos published on the UdG YouTube channel has reached 151, with 1,100,000 impressions, representing 10,012 hours and 4,048 subscribers. A new directory of UdG experts includes 414 members of the research teaching staff.

The number of UdG social media followers are 43,500 on Twitter, 48,700 on LinkedIn, 5,327 on Instagram, 4,040 on YouTube and 17,140 on Facebook.

Dissemination

In 2021-22 the UdG organised a series of conferences, "A day at the #UdGRerca", featuring 23 online talks by 29 researchers, in which 8,000 students from 78 secondary schools in Catalonia participated.

The 9th edition of the Research Conference of Secondary School Students (CRACS), organised by the UdG, had 48 participants and 25 award winners. The 2022 CRACS videos have received had more than 45,400 views.

The 11th edition of the *Campus Prebat* took place with 60 participants from among 82 applicants.

The 14th edition of the *Jove Campus de Recerca* (Young Research Campus) received 52 applications for the 40 places offered.

The #ExpertaUdG campaign took place on 11 February with more than a hundred female researchers.

The 26th edition of Science Week, organised by the Catalan Foundation for Research and Innovation, included the UdG.

A new edition of *La Nit de la Recerca* (Research Night) was held at the *Casa de Cultura*, with the participation of some twenty researchers.

Outreach

In 2021-22, the UdG has participated in 18 fairs and university orientation days (JOU), with more than 3,000 attendees, and has held 35 virtual sessions to present the UdG in secondary schools.

During the five days of the *Saló de l'Ensenyament* (Education Fair) which took place in the third week of March 2022, the UdG's stand made of recycled and sustainable cardboard received 4,000 enquiries from secondary school students, each of whom received a personalised virtual brochure.

At the *Saló Futura* (master's and postgraduate fair) on 18 and 19 March the UdG received enquiries from 251 graduate students.

The UdG participated in *UNIferia*, virtual fairs with 53 other universities from across Spain.

Two Open House days were organised. In February, there were 5,456 participants. In May, when it was for families, there were 3,249 participants among students and their family members. The number of visitors from outside the Girona region increased.

A hundred people attended the 4th *UdG Sigues Pro! FP I Empresa* conference for adult education centres (CFA) and vocational training opportunities on 18 December 2021, held by the Area of Communication and Institutional Relations (ACRI) and the Josep Pallach Institute of Education Sciences (ICE).

SHEFCE, the European Community Engagement project

The University of Girona participates in the *Erasmus+ Steering Higher Education for Community Engagement (SHEFCE)* project. It supports efforts by universities and other actors to integrate community engagement into all aspects of higher education. Community engagement is collaboration between the university and external actors that is beneficial to all. It relates to the roots the UdG has in the territory and the resulting social commitment. Supported by the Office of the Vice-Rector for Territory and Social Commitment, the SHEFCE project is led by the LIBERI research group, and includes the Girona and Salt city councils. Other university community and territorial agents are involved in some of the project's specific activities. After the first phase received very positive reviews in mid-2021, the second phase of the project – design an action plan to strengthen the UdG's community engagement – has been completed in 2021-22. As part of this project, the UdG has shared its links with the territory in presentations in Brussels, Groningen and Rijeka, and at the UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education in Barcelona.

● The 5th Guest Country Week: Ireland

Guest Country Week is one of many activities that integrate internationalisation effectively at the University of Girona, the main objective of its Internationalisation Strategy. This year's edition, between 9 and 14 May, has maintained the digital format that had been used in previous editions, but included a live performance of Irish music in the courtyard of the *Àligues* Building. Throughout the week, various activities offered different approaches to learning more about Ireland, a country with which Catalonia enjoys long-standing, well-established relations. The Government of Catalonia has a government delegation and the UdG a long history of collaboration there.

● International Day

This year, the International Office decided to organise an International Day as a separate event from Guest Country Week. It is still being developed, considering the partners, whose collaboration is essential to achieve the #UdGlobal Strategy's main objective: Internationalisation integrated into all aspects of the UdG. To begin the academic year with an international focus, this day will now be held annually.

● Mobility and Covid-19

During 2021-22, the UdG has hosted 435 students from different exchange programmes. The number of incoming mobility students increased significantly compared to 2020-2021; from 100 to 435, an increase of 335%.

The number of outgoing students has also started to increase and has almost doubled compared to last year. As part of an *Erasmus+* programme with third country partners, 68 academic staff members have been recruited. They have come from 21 countries: Algeria, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, Georgia, Ghana, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Philippines, Seychelles, South Africa, Tunisia, Ukraine, Vietnam and Chile.

● The BIP explosion

New Blended Intensive Programmes (BIPs) from *Erasmus+* combine face-to-face placements and online sessions in a unique form of exchange and have been very popular at the UdG.

They are short, intensive programmes with innovative learning and teaching, including online cooperation. They involve a virtual component combined with a face-to-face placement of at least 5 and not more than 30 days. In 2021-22, the UdG organised three and participated in five others.

● Internationalisation of the curriculum

This year, 18 Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) activities have taken place at the UdG. More than 180 students from the Faculty of Education and Psychology, the Polytechnic School, the Faculty of Tourism, the Faculty of Sciences, the Faculty of Economic and Business Sciences and the Euroaula School of Tourism have benefited from these international collaborative teaching experiences.

Some fifteen lecturers from the UdG have taken part in specific training to internationalise their teaching curricula and incorporate intercultural learning in their classes.

The University of Girona is a member of the *Fostering Resilience through Accredited Mobility for European Sustainable Higher Education Innovation* (FRAMES) project. This year, it has published a report titled *Scenarios for the Integration of Virtual Exchange in Higher Education*, which highlights the UdG's *Euroweek* initiative.

● European Universities alliance

Within the European Universities alliance, a project focuses on the cross-border locations of the universities taking part, and what this means in terms of the training, research and innovation needs of their respective territories. In response to the European University Initiative 2021 call for proposals, the University of Girona and nine other European universities have submitted the *European Cross-Border University* project. This alliance, led by the Technical University of Chemnitz (TUC, Germany), also includes the universities of Ruse (Bulgaria), Lleida, Craiova (Romania), Perpignan Via Domitia (France), Bialystok University of Technology (Poland), Rezekne Academy of Technologies (Latvia), Nova Gorica (Slovenia) and the University of Udine (Italy).

● Priority international networks

The University is an active member of the Association of Mediterranean Universities (UNIMED). This year, the UdG participated in the general assembly in Amman (Jordan). Also, two sub-networks have been created this year. They are

Sustainable Tourism, coordinated by Dr Konstantina Zerva, jointly with the University of Jordan, and Climate and Environmental Change, coordinated by Dr Josep Vila, jointly with the Abdelmalek Essaadi University (Morocco). Webinars on specific topics have been organised in both. In April, in Budapest, the UdG attended the annual assembly and conference of the European University Association, where discussions focused on the consequences for the European university system of the Russian war in Ukraine.

● International outreach and visibility

With the relaxation of Covid-19 prevention measures across Europe, the University of Girona has been able to resume face-to-face participation in international trade fairs. The UdG has attended The NAFSA: Association of International Educators conference in Denver as part of a delegation of the Catalan university system ("Study in Catalonia") coordinated by the Interuniversity Council of Catalonia (CIC).

During May, World Higher Education Week 2022 has been held in Barcelona. The UdG has organised an international conference – "International cooperation for the training of researchers in the face of global challenges" – with representatives from the international higher education sector. During the same week, the UdG has participated in the UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education organised in Barcelona by the Association of Catalan Public Universities-Global University Network for Innovation (ACUP-GUNi), where the roadmap "Beyond Limits. New Ways to Reinvent Higher Education" has been presented.



UdG News

September 2021

13 September

Congress on Bioelectrochemical Systems

The LEQUIA research group organises the 5th edition of the European Meeting of the International Society for Microbial Electrochemistry and Technology, EU-ISMET 2021. The event was held virtually between 13 and 15 September, with more than 220 registered participants. This event places the UdG at the forefront of research in bioelectrochemical systems.

16 September

Daniella Tilbury, new honorary doctor

The University of Girona awards an honorary doctorate to educator, sustainable development leader and academic researcher Daniella Tilbury. The investiture is being held at the proposal of the Department of Specific Didactics of the UdG, and Professor Anna Maria Geli is the sponsor of the honorary doctorate recipient. The rector of the UdG, Quim Salvi, presented the award "for Daniella Tilbury's career as an academic and researcher in education for sustainable development, for the excellence and extension of her research and her international leadership, and for her unconditional support for scientific and environmental education at the UdG". In her oration for the doctor, Anna Maria Geli highlights her "generous, intense and extensive collaboration with the UdG" and her "mastery without frontiers" and reviews her "extraordinary" professional career.

In her acceptance speech, Daniella Tilbury emphasises "the honour and privilege" she feels at receiving this distinction at a university that has occupied a "very special place" in her professional career and in her heart. She stresses the "fundamental" role of education in achieving a sustainable future for the planet. "The transformation process takes time and universities committed to the future must create experiences that foster change, which must be tangible and visible", a change that she says "is happening but too slowly".

The ceremony features live music by the 4GAMI quartet of three voices and a piano.

17 September

The Catalan Society of Biology awards the documentary "My Friend the Sea".

The Catalan Society of Biology presents its awards at the 6th Biology Night, at the headquarters of the *Institut d'Estudis Catalans*. The documentary *La meva amiga la mar (My Friend the Sea)* by the Chair in Oceans and Human Health of Roses, receives the first prize for a work that focuses on the health benefits and risks that come from the sea. Over thirty minutes, the film brings together the experiences and knowledge of professionals and experts from different research centres and universities in Catalonia.

23 September

IQCC Challenges – Live Talks

The Institute of Computational Chemistry and Catalysis (IQCC) starts a new series of virtual lectures to show the challenges in the research field in which it is involved. These complementary views highlight current developments in the field, and allow for discussion of problems and future perspectives. The *IQCC Challenges - Live Talks* are conducted via the GoToMeet platform.

23 September

Opening of the academic year

The Aula Magna of the University of Girona hosts the official inauguration of the 2021-22 academic year for the entire Catalan university system. The event will be attended by the President of the Government of Catalonia, Pere Aragonès; the Catalan Minister for Universities and Research, Gemma Geis; the Mayor of Girona, Marta Madrenas; the rector of the University of Girona, Quim Salvi; and the President of the UdG's Board of Trustees, Rosa-Núria Aleixandre. The rectors of the Catalan universities, as well as the presidents and presidents of the different boards of trustees, will also be in attendance.

The theme of the inauguration is the demand for universal access to education. In recent years, the UdG has dedicated the opening of the academic year to reflection on this claim, with the conviction that knowledge must be at the service of a cause. The founder and director of the Center for Professional Development at Fordham University in New York, Roser Salavert, gives the inaugural lecture on the need for inclusion to improve education. Salavert describes the journey through different experiences of her professional career and concludes that "the commitment to an education of excellence is only sustainable through inclusion, equity and diversity".

The president of the Government of Catalonia declares the government's commitment to equitable university access policies and highlights some of the actions implemented so far, such as the reduction of master's degree fees. The president also expresses the hope that this year will see the recovery of full in-person attendance in university classrooms. Finally, Pere Aragonès points out mentions this year's commemorations of the thirtieth anniversaries of the University of Girona, the University of Lleida and the Rovira i Virgili University.

The rector of the University of Girona, Quim Salvi, reminds us that "the inauguration of a new academic year is a solemn act, probably one of the most solemn acts at an institutional level". Salvi calls for "maximum complicity" and "political and economic support so that the ship of the universities reaches a good port" in the face of a future that, in his opinion, will be marked by "the crisis and complexity". He urges us to "seek solutions" through innovation in knowledge, the quality not the quantity of university studies, the management of talent and social commitment. "Institutions are nothing without people.

During the ceremony, the Jaume Vicens Vives awards, created in 1996, are presented to recognise the quality of university teaching. The M. Encarna Sanahuja Yll mentions, which are awarded for the third year running, also recognise excellence in the inclusion of the gender perspective in university teaching practice. The Government of Catalonia awards these prizes, worth €20,000 each, which are to be used for teaching innovation and improvement projects. The emeritus professor of the UdG, Josep Maria Terricabras, and a clinical simulation project of the Faculty of Nursing will be distinguished with a Jaume Vicens Vives award. The ceremony will feature performances by the UdG Choir. The day before the inauguration of the course, 39 members of the administrative and services staff (PAS) and of the teaching and research staff (PDI) who have retired this year and last year, when the event could not be organised due to the pandemic, are recognised for their professional careers in the courtyard of the Les Àligues building.

24 September

New edition of Research Night

Research Night, which returns to in-person attendance, kicks off the UdG's programme of outreach activities for the autumn. The great science festival takes place simultaneously in more than 300 European cities and, in the case of Girona, is now in its 15th year. This is an initiative of the Chair in Scientific Culture and Digital Communication (C4D) and is an indispensable event for discovering science from an informative and fun point of view. Various workshops are held at the *Casa de Cultura* in Girona, but also in other towns such as Santa Cristina de Aro and Olot.

Coinciding with Research Night, the UdG inaugurates the series of talks "A day at the #UdGRecerca", given by scientists who explain their work from both professional and human perspectives. The cycle takes place every month throughout the academic year and consists of 23 sessions in virtual format, encouraging secondary school students to consider research-oriented vocations. The UdG is also participating in the 26th Science Week organised by the Catalan Foundation for Research and Innovation (FCRi) from 12 to 21 November throughout Catalonia. The Faculty of Science celebrates Saint Albert's Day, patron saint of science and scientists, and opens its doors to high school students on 18 November, with lectures, scientific workshops and guided tours of the faculty's facilities and services.

27 September

Citizen science at the Pletera

The LIFE Natura project "Restoration and management of the lagoons and coastal systems of the Baix Ter" is carrying out actions to improve the situation of the Spanish toothcarp at the *la Pletera* salt marsh. To know how their status is evolving in this area, studies and monitoring of the populations must be carried out. This fish, native to the Iberian Peninsula, is in serious danger of extinction. Against this background, the Chair of Mediterranean Coastal Ecosystems and the Museum of the Mediterranean are organising a citizen science monitoring activity.

30 September

Greening Plan

The Governing Council of the UdG approves the new Greening Plan, with the main goal objective of "decisively orienting the policies relating to the spaces and activities of the UdG to be consistent with the urgency of reducing carbon emissions by 50% by 2030". The plan will guide the UdG in future environmental and climate actions and is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals. The document can also be useful in "generating awareness and knowledge about environmental issues". The plan covers three areas: climate emergency, campus life, and training and awareness-raising.

30 September

Memory and history in Judaism

From 30 September to 11 November, the Institute of Nahmanide Studies and the Ferrater Mora Chair of Contemporary Thought are organising a series of five lectures under the title *Reviure el temps viscut: memòria i història en el judaisme (Reviving the time lived: memory and history in Judaism)*. The lecturers in this series, specialists in philosophy, sociology, literature or cinema, take a different approach to the past, to the need to remember and to bearing witness for future generations.

October 2021

1 October

Migratory movements

The prestigious Columbia University professor Saskia Sassen opens the first edition of the master's degree in Migratory Movements with the inaugural lecture entitled "Changing times in migratory movements". The event will take place in the Graduation Hall of the Faculty of Education and Psychology.

7 October

International Seminar on Medieval and Modern Archaeology

The Municipal Theatre of Roses hosts the 5th International Seminar on Medieval and Modern Archaeology, organised by the Roses Chair of Archaeology and Archaeological Heritage and focusing on the fortification of villages in medieval times. Discussion will focus on the causes and processes of walling in small and medium-sized urban centres, their physical configuration and evolution, as well as other elements such as their symbolic value or how they conditioned the urban planning of the towns. Ten presentations will analyse areas in the western Mediterranean.

8 October

Girona's innovation leaders contribute proposals for the creation of *InnovaGirona*

The Science and Technology Park is hosting a conference with some thirty key actors of the Girona region's quadruple helix – public and private entities, representatives of the region's strategic entities, University research staff and the technical team of the Sectoral Campuses – to implement *InnovaGirona*. This innovation platform of the Girona area is an open participatory space inviting actors of the territory to collaborate on providing answers and proposing solutions to the innovation challenges of the day. The platform will be launched in November to generate and promote new forms of collaboration. The platform will promote the exchange of ideas and knowledge through collaborative projects and the dissemination of relevant activities and events through outreach.

13 October

The UdG creates a tool for European universities to self-assess their social responsibility

The Chair of Social Responsibility and Sustainability of the University of Girona participates in the EUSR excel project to create coherent criteria and indicators for a social responsibility framework in higher education institutions. Its aim is to form a university network with university social responsibility (USR) quality certification. It has developed two key products with intellectual property rights to achieve this: a theoretical framework to develop the reference model to harmonise the USR indicators and an online self-assessment and quality certification tool. The initiative, funded by the *Erasmus+* programme, has been developed over 36 months jointly with partners from all over Europe: CONEXX-EU (Belgium), the Vaasa University of Applied Sciences (Finland), Dublin City University (Ireland), Innovation Training Center (Spain), the University of La Sapienza (Italy) the University of Girona, and eleven other partners from the academic sector.

14 October

An international symposium in Girona examines the thought of the political philosopher John Rawls

On the centenary of the birth of John Rawls and the 50th anniversary of the publication of *A Theory of Justice*, an international symposium will be held on 14 and 15 October to critically discuss the thought of this philosopher and his work, considered an essential reference in today's political thought. Organised jointly by the University of Barcelona, the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, the Pompeu Fabra University and the Ferrater Mora Chair of Contemporary Thought of the UdG, the symposium includes keynote lectures and round tables, as well as sessions with papers by some fifty specialists in Rawls' work.

14 October

The UdG Senate approves the last report of Rector Quim Salvi's term in office

The Senate of the UdG, in a virtual session, approves the report of Rector Quim Salvi, the last of his term of office before the rectorate elections in November. The result of the voting was 74.7% in favour (89 votes), 11.7% against (14 votes) and 13.4% in protest (16 votes). The Rector presented a review of the actions carried out in 2021, focusing on three elements: people, innovation and the impact on the territory. He thanked the university community for the collective effort in overcoming the pandemic. He also explained how they monitored Covid-19's evolution, applying measures corresponding to each situation and prioritising at all times on-site attendance in the teaching activities. In line with the transformation of teaching methodologies, the new UdG teaching innovation plan was announced. It will be specified in the *UdGXXI* Teaching Model and will be submitted to the Governing Council for approval. As a result of the call for the Programme for the Promotion of Teaching Innovation and Improvement of Teaching Quality, 27 projects will receive funding.

In addition, the Rector highlighted other initiatives. They include the UdG's commitment to internationalisation, with new international master's degrees and a third language programme; the transition to digital management, with new capabilities; and the transformation of teaching spaces, to make them more multipurpose. On this last point, Quim Salvi underscored the importance of a new space on the Health Campus, located between Salt and Girona.

The Rector highlighted the UdG's outstanding commitment to individual rights and its voice for universal access to higher education, referring to the theme of this year's academic opening– inclusive education. Salvi also said that he would continue to ensure economic, physical and digital barriers are removed so that no one is left out of school. For example, with the salary grants or the reduction of university fees. In terms of personnel, the Rector highlighted the reduction in the number of interim staff, and emphasised the professional career process.

With regard to academic activity, the number of people enrolled in bachelor's degrees has increased slightly this year, while the number in master's and doctoral degrees has remained the same. In all, there are 18,000 students at the UdG. In terms of research activity, the number of funded projects has increased, with a 57% success rate in the calls for proposals. Overall, some €13 million was obtained, €1 million more than in the previous year.

15 October

A mobile application to better treat heart attacks

Professionals from the Josep Trueta University Hospital of Girona, the Jordi Gol University Institute for Primary Care Research (IDIAP), the Josep Trueta Institute for Biomedical Research of Girona (IDIBGI) and the University of Girona (UdG) have developed an application (app) to improve the coordination, information flow and treatment time of patients who have suffered an acute heart attack and are taken urgently to the Trueta Hospital, the reference hospital for the infarction code in the Girona Health Region. The app's development is part of an ongoing research project, called Odyssey, which will determine whether the app really achieves its objectives.

18 October

Representatives of Kenyatta University at the UdG

Representatives from Kenyatta University (Kenya) visit the University of Girona as part of the Erasmus K107 programme dedicated to mobility between partner countries. One of the objectives of the visit was to learn about the UdG's innovation strategies and to forge links between the two institutions. The relationship between Kenyatta University and the University of Girona dates back to 2017, when the UdG Tourism Campus was involved in several collaborative projects.

18 October

Biologists from the UdG investigate the worsening health of sardines on the Catalan coast

Researchers from the Biodiversity and Marine Resources research group (GR MAR) and the Genetic Ichthyology Laboratory (LIG), led by Marta Muñoz and Jordi Viñas, warn that the health of the sardine on the Catalan coast is fragile. In recent years, the volume of catches is decreasing and the sardines caught are smaller, despite the continuous technological improvement and increasingly efficient methods of the fishing fleets. Commercially, sardines are one of the most important species in the Mediterranean, accounting for almost 20% of landings in port. And they are ecologically important within the marine food web.

19 October

The Polytechnic School presents the 2020 and 2021 Talent Awards

As part of the inauguration of the EPS academic year, the Talent Awards and the diplomas of the Extraordinary Awards for Bachelor's and Master's Degrees are presented and members of the academic staff who have retired in the last two years are recognised. The Talent Awards recognise brilliant students entering their first-choice bachelor's degree studies with the highest mark. The awards, the result of an agreement between the EPS Board of Trustees and CaixaBank, cover the amount of the first year's tuition fees.

20 October

Beatriz López, finalist in the *DonaTIC* Awards 2021

The researcher Beatriz López, in the field of Artificial Intelligence, has been one of the three finalists in the Academic/Researcher category of the *DonaTIC 2021* Awards, organised by the Ministry of the Vice Presidency and Digital Policies and Territory of the Government of Catalonia. These awards recognise the fundamental role of professional business and academic women in new technologies, and provide a point of reference for girls and adolescents who are unsure about studying STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) disciplines in the future.

20 October

The UdG, the second university in Spain with the most students who do voluntary work

Again this year, the University of Girona has been one of the leading universities in Spain for the number of students involved in volunteering activities. According to the IX Study on University Volunteering promoted by the Mutua Madrileña Foundation, 142 volunteering initiatives involving 1,377 students were launched at the UdG this year. Furthermore, new collaboration agreements have been signed with 13 social organisations to carry out initiatives to promote solidarity in the territorial districts of the province of Girona.

21 October

The UdG celebrates International Day

For the first time, the University of Girona is celebrating International Day, organised by the recently created International Office. Throughout the day, the Office presented the objectives set for 2020-21, and the results of the initiatives carried out to achieve them.

23 October

The UdG helps to improve the signposting of Girona's public sculptures

To mark the 50th anniversary of Pau Casals' famous speech at the United Nations headquarters, Girona City Council is unveiling a plaque identifying the sculpture *Homage to Pau Casals*, by Josep Bosch Puy. This event marks the start of the project to signpost the 156 sculptures in the city's public spaces. The researcher Ramon Fabregat and the Department of Computer Architecture and Technology of the Institute of Computer Science and Applications of the University of Girona are all involved. Over the next few months, a metal plaque will be installed near each sculpture with the following information: title, author, materials and techniques, year of production, who promoted it and whether the work has been sponsored. In addition, each plaque will include a QR code leading to the Girona City Council's web-catalogue Street Sculptures.

27 October

The Faculty of Medicine receives the WFME's international quality recognition

The Faculty of Medicine is the first public one in Spain to be receive international quality recognition according to the World Federation for Medical Education standards. The WFME is a global association established in 1972 to develop standards for medical education and promote the accreditation of medical schools worldwide. AQU Catalunya is the first Spanish agency and the fifth European agency to achieve this accreditation. From now on all medical schools that are accredited to these standards will enjoy this worldwide recognition.

28 October

The UdG and its connection with the territory at the *Fira de Mostres* fair in Girona

In addition to its academic and research activity, the UdG's presence at the trade fair allows it to nourish the links it has established over the years with companies, institutions and civil society. This connection is evident from the ten sectoral campuses and the 40 chairs providing outreach.

28 October

The *Fòrum del Patrimoni Literari 2021* looks at the literary tradition

The 11th edition of the Literary Heritage Forum, organised by the Maria Àngels Anglada - Carles Fages de Climent Chair in Literary Heritage examines the literary tradition at an event held at the Fages de Climent Library in Figueres. The Forum is an initiative aimed at sharing experiences, methodologies, results and common themes among centres, institutions and scholars dedicated to the management of literary heritage, in all its expressions. In 2017, the Forum focused on "The roles of writers"; in 2018, on "The literary years"; and in 2019, on "Editing and publishing". Last year, the Forum discussed "Literature and censorship".

November 2021

4 November

The Catalan University Championships award the best sportsmen and sportswomen

The Science and Technology Park is hosting the closing ceremony of the Catalan University Championships (CCU) 2021. Organised by the UdG, the 36th edition of the championships had 5,299 participants (53.16% men and 46.84% women) in seventeen sports disciplines. During the ceremony, awards are presented to the best sportsmen and women in various sporting disciplines. Paula Xutglà (UdG) and Oriol Madí (UB) were also presented with awards for the best overall sportswoman and sportsman of the championships.

4 November

Ramon Brugada is awarded the Narcís Monturiol Medal for scientific and technological excellence

The university professor in the Department of Medical Sciences Ramon Brugada receives the Narcís Monturiol Medal for scientific and technological excellence. A graduate in Medicine from the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB), Ramon Brugada is currently head of the Family Heart Disease Unit, director of the Cardiovascular Genetics Centre of the Girona Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBGI) and professor of Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Girona, where he is the first dean. His research has focused on the basic mechanisms associated with sudden death.

7 November

Professionals and students participate in the International Symposium on Sport Tactics and Technique

The 7th edition of the International Symposium on Sport Tactics and Technique is being organised by the Chair of Sport and Physical Education - Olympic Studies Centre of the University of Girona. More than fifty students and professionals from the world of sport are in Banyoles this weekend for two days of lectures of great academic relevance, a practical session and a round table with the participation of specialists in the field of training and sports research, such as the internationally renowned European researchers Keith Davids and John van der Kamp. This year's edition covers topics such as the individualisation of training, adapting sports training for younger players, advances in technology and new theoretical insights, especially from an ecological perspective.

8 November

The UdG coordinates an international project to create a melanoma screening tool

The University of Girona (UdG) is coordinating a proposal in the call for Digital Diagnostics projects of the European Union Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. The iToBoS project, led by computer vision professor Rafael García, was one of five EU-funded projects out of 158 project proposals submitted to this highly competitive call. Rafael Garcia and the VICOROB research group are coordinating this international research project to create a tool for the early detection of melanoma.

8 November

The TECNIO association is created to promote technology transfer in Catalonia

TECNIO is the label of a new association formed by Catalan universities, the I-CERCA Foundation and the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) whose research groups and centres promote technology transfer and connection with the business world. It is supported by the Government of Catalonia through ACCIÓ, the Agency for Business Competitiveness of the Ministry of Enterprise and Employment.

The new TECNIO association is made up of the 59 research groups that currently hold the TECNIO accreditation granted by ACCIÓ, a label that identifies technology developers in Catalonia to help them connect with businesses. The new association will receive €300,000 in funding from ACCIÓ over the next three years to strengthen the market overview of these agents and bring them closer to companies. This new entity aims to make visible the activity of the research groups with the TECNIO seal, to foster their collaboration and to promote their work in connection with the business world and the public administration.

9 November

Girona is called to rethink cities to make them more sustainable, inclusive and beautiful

"The New European Bauhaus in Girona: Co-designing the cities and towns of tomorrow" is a European Commission initiative that invites citizens to rethink their towns. The aim is to make a collective effort to imagine and build a sustainable, inclusive and beautiful future for all. Organised by the UdG's Europe Direct centre, it is an open conversation, a meeting place for people from different cultures, disciplines, genders and ages to propose future ways of living in which art, culture, social inclusion, science and technology are intertwined.

11 November

Debate concludes seminar series on artificial intelligence in everyday life

The closing event of the first cycle of seminars on "Artificial intelligence in our daily lives" is taking place at the *La Mercè* Cultural Centre, organised by the Catalan Observatory for Ethics in Artificial Intelligence (OEIAC). The debate on "Artificial intelligence and its (obscure) relations with political and military power" features the participation of professors Joan Manuel del Pozo (UdG) and Ulises Cortés (Barcelona Supercomputing Center, National Supercomputing Centre). The event is also attended by the Director-General for Innovation and the Digital Economy of the Government of Catalonia, Daniel Marco, and the Vice-Rector for Strategic Projects of the University of Girona, Josep Calbó. The debate highlights the importance of an ongoing public dialogue and debate on the disruptive potential and opportunities of artificial intelligence (AI), especially in the political and military areas. The OEIAC series, which began in May, features experts, mostly women, who have addressed different topics related to the use of AI, ranging from ethical, social and legal considerations to socio-technical issues such as data biases, responsive design of AI systems, data protection and privacy, and participatory modelling, among others.

12 November

Ten years of social debate

The introduction of studies in social work at the University of Girona in 2010-2011 provided an opportunity to collaborate with the Official Association of Social Work of Catalonia and the Ministry of Social Rights. The *Debates in Social Work and Social Policy* are a collaborative effort between DIXIT Girona and the Mariano Casadevall Social Services Documentation Centre of the Arnau d’Escala Campus Foundation. In 2012, UNED Girona joined the organising committee and, five years later, the Girona City Council's Department of Social Services joined. Throughout these ten years, the debates have addressed realities and phenomena related to social policies and welfare in local and global contexts. Among the topics discussed are social rights, racism, marginalisation, knowledge specific to the social disciplines and social determinants of health.

12 November

IRTA and the UdG join forces in agri-food research

The UdG and the Institute of Agri-Food Research and Technology (IRTA) have signed a new agreement to promote collaboration between their research staffs. The agreement provides for the reciprocal use of their general services, research support services and experimental facilities and spaces, as well as coordinating the acquisition of scientific equipment – particularly large equipment of common interest – and managing them jointly. To stimulate collaboration between the two institutions, they will participate in coordinated research projects, and facilitate internships at IRTA centres for students from the UdG studying for bachelor's and master's degrees in the fields of agri-food, environmental and biomedical technologies and sciences. IRTA and the UdG will also collaborate in the co-direction of doctoral theses and the co-funding the associated costs, the participation of IRTA research staff in postgraduate and specialisation teaching and doctoral programmes at the UdG and, at the same time, the participation of UdG staff in the conferences and seminars organised by IRTA.

19 November

UdG professor Josep Gestí receives the Guillerries Research Award for his study of flora

"The vascular flora of the eastern Guillerries. Catalogue, floristic characterisation and singular species", a study by professor Josep Gestí Perich has won the third call for the Guillerries 2021 Research Prize, awarded by the Interuniversity Chair of Water, Nature and Well-being.

19 November

The University of Girona develops technologies to promote cultural and natural heritage

The ViCOROB research group has launched project to promote seabed conservation. The BITER project seeks to monitor and recover species and ecosystems impacted by fishing. The UdG's scientific team, led by researcher at the Centre for Research in Underwater Robotics (CIRS) Marc Carreras, will develop an autonomous underwater robot capable of exploring benthic environments and monitoring deep-sea species. BITER, directed by the ICM-CSIC (Institut de Ciències del Mar-Spanish National Research Council) is an innovative technological solution funded by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation.

In another area, the Broadband Communications and Distributed Systems (BCDS) research group is developing an augmented reality application for mobile devices to add value to heritage elements. Motiv-ARCHE is co-creative and open to contributions from users, who can add content and complement the information on the heritage site in the application. The project is headed by researcher Ramon Fabregat, in coordination with the Pontifical Xavierian University in Bogota. The application can already be downloaded in a test phase and will be implemented, in a pilot phase, in the Tudela and Sant Pere

de Rodes sites and in the Museum of Medieval History of the Cúria-Càrcel de Castelló d'Empúries.

23 November

The Meninas 2021 awards recognise Patricia Melgar for her work against gender-based violence

Patricia Melgar Alcantud, doctor in Pedagogy, researcher and lecturer at the Faculty of Psychology and Education, receives a Meninas 2021 award at the National Centre for Working Conditions in Barcelona. These awards recognise individuals or organisations committed to the elimination of gender-based violence and institutions that have strategies and projects to combat violence against women.

26 November

Quim Salvi is re-elected Rector of the University of Girona

Quim Salvi, professor of Computer Architecture and Technology, has once again won the elections for Rector of the University of Girona (UdG), in which he was the only candidate and the elections were held using an electronic voting system.

Of the 14,660 persons eligible to vote, only 1,833 did. The result was 63.58% in favour and 36.47% blank. The overall participation of the university community in these elections was 12.5%. 12,5%. By sector, 77.4% of tenured professors (98.81% in 2017), 19.8% of non-tenured teaching staff (51.75% in 2017), 6.3% of students (29.09% in 2017), and 66.2% of administrative and services staff (89.46% in 2017) voted.

On 21 December, the Rector was sworn in at a ceremony presided over by the Catalan Minister for Research and Universities, Gemma Geis, in the Aula Magna Modest Prats. In his speech, Salvi thanked the university community for the trust placed in him, which should help him to undertake a second term of office. Salvi highlighted the values that characterise the institution. He also referred to the eight master plans that are already being implemented, and the 300 specific actions the University will need to take to adapt to the new challenges. He called on collaborative intelligence to facilitate the intense transformation ahead, while retaining an essential university character. He highlighted the *UdGXXI* Teaching Innovation Plan as an upcoming project, as well as the introduction of new policies to stimulate research activity, with people in mind, to make it more equitable and inclusive so that it helps students to progress in their studies.

29 November

The Cassià Costal Collection joins the UdG

The bibliographic collection of the pedagogue Cassià Costal is transferred to the Barri Vell Campus Library from the Octavi Viader i Margarit Public Library in Sant Feliu de Guíxols. The acquisition of this collection, which contains more than 1,000 volumes, comes from the document signed in July by the Mayor of Sant Feliu de Guíxols and the Rector of the University of Girona, which stipulated the donation of the collection for its incorporation into the Fund for the History of Education of the University of Girona.

December 2021

1 December

The Library gives voice to Prudenci Bertrana

The UdG Library, through the association *Espais Escrits*: Catalan Literary Heritage Network, joins the *Donants de Veu* campaign. The programme aims to create a network of volunteers to record and edit audio readings of works of Catalan literature and publish them on web spaces and open platforms so that anyone who wants to can listen to and enjoy them. This collaborative project aims to expand and disseminate literature and audiovisual content in Catalan available on the Internet. Since it is the custodian of the Bertrana Collection, the UdG Library wanted to promote and coordinate the inclusion of Prudenci Bertrana's work, starting with *Josafat* and a selection of six short stories.

2 December

E-LAND research project, finalist in the enerTIC Awards 2021

The E-LAND research project (Energy Island Multivector Energy Environment Management System) is a finalist in the enerTIC Awards 2021, which recognise innovative technological projects committed to energy efficiency and sustainability. E-LAND is a project coordinated by the eXiT research group of the UdG together with the innovation centre Smart Innovation Norway. The research aims to improve energy management in Europe's remote areas and receives funding from the European Commission. The project consists of a consortium of twelve partners from Norway, Finland, Germany, Romania, Switzerland, Spain and Greece.

2 December

The Polytechnic School's Board of Trustees publishes a book celebrating 25 years of the Board of Trustees Awards

Published with the support of the Girona Provincial Council, it is presented in the Council's Ferran Agulló hall. The ceremony is

over by the second vice-president and deputy for Culture of Girona Provincial Council, Albert Piñeira; the director of the Polytechnic School of the University of Girona, M. Àngels Pèlach; and the technical director of the Board of Trustees of the Polytechnic School, Gerard Lechuga. The *Patronat* Awards recognise the best final degree project in each of the degree courses taught at the UdG's Polytechnic School. These are awards with a remarkable tradition. The book offers the testimonies of former presidents of the Board of Trustees and former directors of the Polytechnic School, as well as those of 290 award winners over the past 25 years. The awards ceremony that takes place at the end of each academic year is one of the highlights of the year.

2 December

The UdG hosts the 9th Meeting on Gender Equality of the *Xarxa Vives*

On 2 and 3 December, the University of Girona (UdG) hosts the 9th Gender Equality Meeting of the *Xarxa Vives*. The general objective of this meeting is to discuss initiatives to reduce inequality between men and women in the universities of the *Xarxa Vives*.

The conference consists of a training block, focused on gender university regulations and gender bias in research careers, with presentations such as "Review of gender impact in university regulations", by Dolors Canals Ametller, lecturer in Administrative Law at the University of Girona; "University harassment protocols: a comparative procedural review from administrative law", by Joan Manuel Trayter Jiménez, professor of Administrative Law at the University of Girona; and "The impact of COVID on the PDI in Catalonia from a gender perspective", by Caterina Riba Sanmartí, lecturer at the University of Vic-Central University of Catalonia. Another block addresses the XVU Gender Equality Working Group, where the report on the equality units of the *Xarxa Vives* is presented and the work plan for 2021-22 is approved.

2 December

Marina Subirats, Honorary Doctor

The University of Girona awards the distinction of doctor honoris causa to sociologist Marina Subirats Martori, at the recommendation of the UdG Department of Pedagogy. Professor Jordi Feu acts as sponsor of the doctoral recipient in a ceremony held in the Aula Magna Modest Prats. In a solemn ceremony, the doctor's sponsor praised the sociologist's academic and scientific career and her role in public life. Marina Subirats is one of the most renowned intellectuals on the Catalan and Spanish university and cultural scene. Jordi Feu recounts how the Escola del Mar, the Barcelona municipal school built on the principles of "learning to think, to feel and to love", was "a palace of culture" that marked the doctoral student's childhood and "impregnated the character that has accompanied her throughout her life". The sponsor traces Subirats' personal and professional career and refers to her time in Paris, where she studied at the prestigious École Pratique des Hautes Études, "where she did her real training". In his review of her scientific contribution, Feu highlights the sociologist's contribution in fields such as rural schools, social structures and feminism.

The rector, Quim Salvi, defines Marina Subirats as a "reference" in her academic discipline. He reaffirms the UdG's commitment to the challenge of gender inequality: "serious shortcomings that we have an obligation to combat". He refers to the actions promoted by the institution in this area, which are included in the Second Equality Plan (2021-2025). Among other guidelines, he highlights the proposal for gender parity in the collegiate bodies or policies to attend to the needs of the LGTBIQ collective. The honorary doctorate degree is awarded "for her status as a sociologist committed to the study of social inequalities, especially those affecting women". Also "for having initiated and forged a long path in the field of gender studies and coeducation as specific fields of study necessary to understand and overcome the inertia of an old social order". In her remarks, Marina Subirats addresses the issue that is currently the focus of her research: the transmission of femininity from mother to daughter. According to her, this issue has been little studied so far. She reviews how this has occurred in the past in our society and in others, such as in China and North Africa. She is also concerned about the current context of the transmission of values from mothers to daughters, a task that, in her opinion, is losing importance in the presence of the media and social networks.

The ceremony includes performances by the UdG Choir.

10 December

The UdG debates the relations between the Girona territory and the metropolitan region of Barcelona

The Barcelona Metropolitan Strategic Plan and the Chair of Geography and Territorial Thought of the University of Girona (UdG) are organising the conference "The Barcelona Metropolitan Area and the regions of Girona: complementarity, asymmetry and articulation of the territory". Experts such as Margarita Castañer, José Antonio Donaire, Quim Brugué and Isabel Salamaña address the relations between the Girona territory and the Metropolitan Region of Barcelona from various points of view: tourism, geography, infrastructures, and resources such as energy and water, among others.

12 December

The University of Girona celebrates 30 years

In an event open to the public, in Sant Domènec Square, the UdG celebrates the 30th anniversary of the approval of Law 35/1991, which created the University. The bells of the cathedral and various churches in the city of Girona ring out at 12 noon to mark the start of the commemoration. The event features a discussion between different dignitaries who have contributed to the history of the UdG. On stage, reflecting on the origins and present of the UdG are the acting rector, Quim Salvi; the founding rector, Pep Nadal; the mayor of Girona, Marta Madrenas; the councillor for Urban Development Management of the Barri Vell between 1991 and 1995, Josep Maria Birulés; the president of Girona Provincial Council, Miquel Noguer; and the president of the Provincial Council in the year the UdG was created, Josep Arnau. The event begins with a performance by the aerial dance company *Estampadas*, and closes with a concert-vermouth by the *Years and Years Band*. The group takes a trip through the history of the UdG with great pop, rock and funk songs, from Nirvana to R.E.M., Michael Jackson, Daft Punk, Guns N' Roses and Rage Against the Machine, to name a few.

14 December

The Botín Foundation awards Raquel García's reverse osmosis membrane recycling project

The researcher from the Laboratory of Chemical and Environmental Engineering (LEQUIA) research group Raquel García Pacheco receives the "Sustainable Water Management Award" from the prestigious Botín Foundation's Water Observatory in the category of management models for her membrane recycling project.

16 December

The UdG joins La Marató with an event about the impact of the pandemic on children's mental health

The UdG collaborates with the social and scientific event with a round table focused on "The impact of the pandemic on children's mental health" from the point of view of research, practice and teaching. The round table will be formed by the coordinator of the Research Team on Childhood, Adolescence, Children's Rights and their Quality of Life, researcher at the Institute for Research on Quality of Life and lecturer at the Department of Psychology of the UdG, Monica Gonzalez Carrasco.

17 December

The student Alèxia Ribera wins the Bartrina Prize for the gender perspective in female-authored comic strips

University of Girona (UdG) Art History undergraduate student Alèxia Ribera receives the award from the UVic-UCC's Centre for Interdisciplinary Gender Studies, which recognises end-of-degree projects with a gender perspective. Her dissertation is entitled "Drawing the line: On the search for identity and the expression of sexuality through self-representation in female-authored comics". The analytical work addresses questions of gender, identity and sexuality through the possibilities offered by comics, woven from a feminist perspective.

January 2022

18 January

Researcher Sergi Sabater wins the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Iberian Association of Limnology

The Iberian Association of Limnology has recognised Sergi Sabater Cortés, researcher in Continental Aquatic Ecology (GRECO), with the Lifetime Achievement Award in Limnology. Sabater is also a member of the Institute of Aquatic Ecology and director of the Catalan Institute for Water Research. The award takes into account achievements not only in research but also in teaching, outreach and transfer.

24 January

Ten years of GenCardio (IDIBGI-UdG)

The Cardiovascular Genetics Unit (GenCardio), headed by Dr. Ramon Brugada, is 10 years old. During this time, the research group, linked to the Josep Trueta Biomedical Research Institute of Girona (IDIBGI), and supported by the "la Caixa" Foundation with an investment of €6 million, has established itself as one of the most multidisciplinary and advanced in diagnosing inherited cardiovascular diseases and sudden death. The laboratory has carried out more than 30,000 genetic analyses over the years and has visited more than 8,000 family members. In research, GenCardio studies the basic mechanisms associated with sudden death from different aspects of biomedicine: genetics, epigenetics, histology, molecular biology, basic electrophysiology, bioinformatics and clinical cardiology, working with patients and with cellular and animal models.

27 January

A conference presents the most current research in the field of social and cultural anthropology in Catalonia

The 2nd Catalan Anthropology Congress is an initiative of the Univesitat Rovira i Vigili, the University of Lleida, the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, the University of Barcelona, the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and the UdG, the Spanish National

Research Council (CSIC), the Catalan Institute of Anthropology (ICA) and the Tarragon Institute of Anthropology (ITA). It is held at the Faculty of Arts and welcomes some 400 people in person. Over three days, 45 different conference activities, such as symposia, include 235 paper presentations. Here, the latest research is shared on a wide range of topics including social ecology, religion, the impact of pandemics, gender and identity, popular culture, heritage, tourism, migration and sexuality.

28 January

Maria Àngels Anglada in Barcelona, new publication of the Chair of Literary Heritage

Maria Àngels Anglada in Barcelona is number 24 of the collection "Self-guided literary itineraries" of the Maria Àngels Anglada - Carles Fages de Climent Chair of Literary Heritage. The volume has been edited by the philologist Maria Nunes, who was responsible for the introduction, the script and the selection of texts. The itinerary is made up of 21 references to various places in the city of Barcelona linked to the author.

31 January

Roses and the UdG renew their joint efforts to conserve the seas and people's health

The Roses Town Council and the Chair in Oceans and Human Health of the University of Girona reaffirm their interest in research and conservation of the seas and of human health in a new agreement. It is a four-year agreement that demonstrates the commitment by the City Council to the Chair, created by both institutions in 2017. The new agreement significantly increases the financial contribution of the Roses Town Council to €39,000. The increase is more than double that of the previous agreement.

February 2022

2 February

The "Listen, Europe" series ends at the UdG with a round table on migration

The last round table of the "Listen, Europe" series, of the Ministry for Foreign Action and Open Government, is held at the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Tourism. It is an initiative to encourage participation in the Future of Europe Conference. The title of this last session is "The European Union in the World and Migrations", with an analysis of the EU's foreign, neighbourhood and enlargement policies, as well as migration processes and the integration of immigration into European citizenship.

2 February

An exhibition at the Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences highlights the contributions to society of 26 women economists

The Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences opens the exhibition "Women economists". The exhibition highlights the contributions to society and economic science made by 26 Catalan and foreign women economists, from Muriel Casals to the American monetarist Anna Schwartz. This travelling exhibition, promoted by the Association of Economists of Catalonia and the Catalan Society of Economics, aims to show the imbalance that has existed throughout the history of economics and that continues to exist today to the detriment of women professionals in the sector. This gender gap is not yet completely closed.

3 February

A UdG project promotes the use of creative technologies in the classroom based on the Montessori method

The research group UdiGitalEdu of the University of Girona has initiated the project "MONTECH: Blended Montessori-Creative Technologies Approach for Successive Inclusion in Multicultural Schools", funded by the European Commission within the *Erasmus+* programme. The UdG is leading the project with seven other partners from Greece, Turkey, Bulgaria, Romania and Ireland. The project promotes social inclusion and equity in multicultural schools across Europe. It uses motivating and innovative technological activities, based on a new approach that fuses the Montessori method with “maker” learning experiences. “Maker” learning is a movement that is inspired by DIY (do-it-yourself) culture and encourages people to make discoveries by doing.

4 February

Filmin premieres the documentary on the PAH by UdG student Ugaitz Albisu

The documentary *Cuerpos en vilo, la cara oculta de un desahucio*, directed by Ugaitz Albisu, a student of Social Education of the UdG, is now available on the Filmin online film platform. The short film gathers words, emotions and thoughts of people who are about to lose their home. It also provides the point of view of different professionals to highlight the emotional, legal and social consequences of an eviction. The film was made in collaboration with the Platform of Activists for Housing (PAH) of Girona and Salt.

5 February

The FIRST LEGO League challenges teams to revolutionise global transport

The Polytechnic School of the University of Girona will once again host the local FIRST LEGO League (FLL) tournament. Fifteen teams of 10–16-year-olds have taken up the 'CargoConnect' challenge: to think of innovative solutions to redefine and revolutionise the way people and goods move around the world.

The winning team of this year's edition is Arobot, from the Els Estanys school in Platja d’Aro. They have devised a system to improve parcel logistics processes. A smart label detects when the parcel leaves the distribution centre and when it has arrived at its destination.

The winning team for the best innovative project was Robosincs Junior, from the 6th Grade. The team has reused Lego pieces to build a supermarket with 85% zero-kilometre products. It also contains a composting machine, a vegetable garden, a nursery, an electric bus, a machine for collecting and purifying rainwater and wind turbines, among others.

9 February

Montse Palma, new Ombudsperson of the University of Girona

The Board of Trustees of the University of Girona appoints Montserrat Palma Muñoz as the new ombudsperson of the institution. Montse Palma takes over from Joan Manuel Del Pozo, who held the post since 2014 and who had recently decided to "step down" for personal reasons related to his age. Montserrat Palma holds a PhD from the University of Girona, is a lecturer in Educational Psychology and a researcher in the Culture and Education research group at the UdG's Institute for Educational Research. Since 1989, she has taught in the Faculty of Education and Psychology, in different bachelor's and master's degree courses (Primary Teacher Training, Social Education, Psychology, Secondary Teacher Training, Therapeutic Pedagogy, among others). She has been academic secretary of the faculty (1992-1994), coordinator of Primary Teacher Training studies (1994-1995) and director of the Department of Psychology (2018-2022). Between 2013 and 2018, she was director of the UNED Associated Centres in Girona. She is a member of the Advisory Board of the UNESCO Chair in University Management and Policy at the Technical University of Madrid (UPM).

10 February

The filmmaker and politician Pere Portabella, honorary doctor

The University of Girona awards the title of doctor honoris causa to the filmmaker, politician and intellectual Pere Portabella i Ràfols, at the proposal of the Faculty of Arts, with Dean Àngel Quintana acting as sponsor. The sponsor praises Portabella's artistic creation as a film director and producer and highlights his political work as an activist and in the Senate and the Parliament of Catalonia.

The rector, Quim Salvi, presents him with the medal "for his commitment to the country, its culture and its cinema, and for his firm belief in the lessons of the avant-garde". In his acceptance speech, Pere Portabella wonders whether it makes sense to consider politics from the cultural perspective. He answers, "Yes, by questioning the very meaning of these two words, and by using them beyond the cultural, public or private issue related to the administration of goods and products considered cultural: culture is not a product to be sold, nor a single heritage to be defended".

For Pere Portabella, the new member of the UdG community, "a discourse without a story informs, whereas the story always communicates and the discourse is implicit". The honorary doctor considers that "looking is not the same as focusing the gaze according to a previous imaginary project". Moreover, he insists that "it is impossible to dissociate the challenge of new languages of artistic rupture from the broader expectations of change".

The Rector closed the ceremony by welcoming Pere Portabella, whom he defined as "an essential part of the chain, of the transmission of knowledge that becomes culture, the culture necessary for a country to be a whole that evolves over time". Salvi comments on the "primordial, necessary and lucid lesson" in which Pere Portabella describes the University as a place to think, debate, reflect and activate the conditions for action. The Rector points out that, on the occasion of Pere Portabella's investiture, other organisations and institutions, such as the Bòlit Contemporary Art Centre and the Museu de l'Empordà, have launched "parallel initiatives in conjunction with the Portabella Universe and which also speak to the necessary implication of the University with the country".

The ceremony includes performances by the UdG Choir: three fragments from the soundtrack of the documentary *Gaudí* (1970), by Clovis Prévost. The music for this film is the work of Carles Santos. Portabella made the film Playback, in which he portrayed Santos' preparations for Prévost's film. On the occasion of the investiture, the Library of the UdG is showing the exhibition "Pere Portabella. Cinema and Politics". It includes the posters of the feature films directed by Portabella, posters of the films he has produced, a collection of objects related to his work as a filmmaker and to art, as well as a collection of documents and photographs on his political activity, with special emphasis on his participation in the *Assemblea de Catalunya*.

11 February

The UdG welcomes 5,500 prospective students at the first in-person Open Doors Day since the pandemic

The UdG reopens buildings and faculties in a new Open Doors Day, the first to be held face-to-face since the beginning of the pandemic. In this edition, it welcomes 5,500 future university students, 1,500 more than in the last in-person edition, in 2020. This year, there is a significant increase in degrees related to the fields of health and economics, with continued interest in education studies. As part of the JPO, the UdG's faculties and schools welcome students to information sessions on different programmes of study and also offer guided tours of the facilities: classrooms, laboratories and workshops. There are two additional information points on access to the University: one on the Barri Vell Campus and the other on the Montilivi Campus.

16 February

The Faculty of Tourism of the UdG hosts the ATLAS Gastronomy and Tourism Research Group Meeting

The meeting will focus on the theme "Gastronomy after the pandemic: changes and challenges in food tourism" and will be attended by tourism professionals and researchers from eleven different countries. ATLAS is the Association for Tourism and Leisure Education and Research, founded in 1991 to develop education and research initiatives in tourism and leisure.

18 February

Josep Viñas, professor in the Department of Business Studies, joins the Audit Office

The Parliament of Catalonia renews the Plenary of the Audit Office with the appointment of seven auditors, among them, Josep Viñas, professor of the area of knowledge of Financial Economics and Accounting of the Department of Business of the UdG since 1992.

18 February

Six UdG researchers achieve ICREA Academia recognition

The Catalan Institution for Research and Advanced Studies (ICREA) recognises the work of six researchers from the University of Girona and incorporates them into the *ICREA Academia* programme. These grants finance research carried out at public universities for a period of five years. The simultaneous inclusion of six members of the UdG's PDI in the ICREA Academia programme is unusual. The recognised researchers are Moisès Esteban-Guitart (Department of Psychology), Miriam Cabré (Department of Philology and Communication), José M. Fernández-Real (Department of Medical Sciences), Xavier Lladó (Department of Computer Architecture and Technology), Marc Yeste (Department of Biology) and Quim Fort (Department of Physics).

24 February

The UdG condemns the military aggression against Ukraine

The University of Girona makes public its unequivocal condemnation of the military aggression undertaken by the Russian government against the territorial integrity of the sovereign state of Ukraine.

24 February

The Guilleries Conference focuses on tools to avoid the risk of a major forest fire

"How to minimise the risk of a major forest fire: from the natural environment to the urban area" is the theme of the VI Guilleries Conference: Water and Territory, which is taking place at the Centre Aqua in Sant Hilari Sacalm. The conference provides an overview and presents specific studies and practical experiences in fire prevention, in addition to proposals for creating more resilient landscapes and systems. It is organised by the Chair of Water, Nature and Wellbeing and coordinated by the Sant Hilari Sacalm Town Council, the University of Vic - Central University of Catalonia and the University of Girona.

28 February

The UdG participates for the first time in the 4YFN fair at the Mobile World Congress

The 4 Years From Now Fair (4YFN) is the international congress of entrepreneurship and start-ups that is part of the Mobile World Congress (MWC). From 28 February to 3 March, the University of Girona is showcasing different initiatives in the hope of connecting them with other start-ups, investors and corporations and encouraging the creation of new business ideas. This is one of the most important entrepreneurship congresses in the world and the UdG is participating with its own projects and those of the innovative ecosystem of Girona. Among the UdG's own initiatives are the Deep Tech Initiator entrepreneurship programme, the Smart Lollypop non-intrusive medical device, the Ecomemb recycling and reuse initiative, Tensor Medical's biomedical technology and the Girona region's open innovation platform, InnovaGirona.

March 2022

8 March

"Girona with a woman's voice in health", health dialogues from a gender perspective

The Research Group on New Therapeutic Targets (TargetsLab) is organising the series of talks "Girona with a woman's voice in health", which will take place in March and April at the Josep Irla auditorium in Girona. The inaugural session takes place on 8 March. The series includes five lectures in the form of a dialogue. In each session, doctors, engineers, nurses and health researchers lead a conversation to disseminate a health-related topic from a female and gender perspective.

10 March

Lowering the cost of treatment for one type of critically ill cardiac patient

A study led by Girona researcher Marc Vives shows that a type of dialysis technique reduces the cost of treatment in critically ill cardiac patients with severe acute kidney damage associated with heart surgery. Marc Vives is a researcher at the Institute of Biomedical Research of Girona (IDIBGI) and a member of the Department of Medical Sciences. The study was conducted in collaboration with Toronto General Hospital and published in the Journal of Clinical Anesthesia, the leading journal in the field of anaesthesiology and critical care.

12 March

The III Jornada de Sanitat brings together teachers to promote health in vocational education and training

The III Health Conference: Promoting Health in Vocational Training, organised by the Josep Pallach Institute of Education Sciences (ICE) and the Faculty of Nursing, was attended by more than a hundred teachers, family members, health and community services professionals and university students from all over Catalonia. The aim of this conference is to disseminate knowledge, resources and methodologies to improve teaching.

15 March

The UdG student aid programme receives extraordinary support from "la Caixa" Foundation

The University of Girona, CaixaBank and the "la Caixa" Foundation formalise an agreement to continue contributing to the development of the university's student aid programme. For the Rector, the agreement is "between two entities committed to society and its most vulnerable groups" that agree to promote a "joint and shared" aid programme, which in the current situation is "more necessary".

16 March

The UdG participates in the Saló de l'Ensenyament (Education Fair) with an innovative commitment to sustainability

The event takes place from 16 to 20 March at the Montjuïc exhibition centre, to present the academic offer for 2022-23. This year's edition is special for the University of Girona, which recovers the on-site format with a stand designed entirely out of cardboard, part of an innovative project based on sustainability and care for the environment. The University presents its degrees in an exclusively digital and personalised format. Scholarship holders from the various faculties help visitors to the stand to find their way around using a digital brochure that guides them according to their preferences and needs. The campaign presented by the UdG highlights the CO2 savings of not using paper. This action is part of a wider project covering the whole academic year and dedicated to sustainability. The UdG remains within the top 100 higher education institutions in the international GreenMetric ranking, which evaluates the sustainability of almost a thousand universities worldwide. On 18 and 19 March, in the same *Fira de Barcelona* facilities, the Futura Fair will be held, where the UdG will present its range of university master's degrees. Coordinators of the different master's degrees are present to help students along the different itineraries.

16 March

Pep Nadal, illusion, utopia and commitment

Twenty-eight years after the date (16 March 1994) on which he took office for the first time as rector of the UdG, after his time at the head of the Management Commission, Professor Josep M. Nadal receives a tribute from the entire university community, a recognition of the man who promoted the project of university studies in Girona. With the theme "Josep M. Nadal. UdG: Illusion, utopia, commitment", the event brings together more than two hundred people and hears the testimony of many of those who worked with Pep Nadal and who speak of his spirit and concept of the University. During the ceremony, readings are given of texts from his career as rector and there are musical performances. To complete the tribute, the University of Girona has published a book containing Pep Nadal's speeches and the Documentary Management, Archive and Registry Unit of the UdG is holding an exhibition on Nadal's career and the early years of the institution.

22 March

The UdG develops a system to make water drinkable for indigenous communities in Amazonia

The UdG finalises the second phase of the university cooperation project called AMAZO-MEM, in which it is developing and implementing a simple and sustainable water purification system to meet the region's water needs. The LEQUIA research group, with the support of the Water Campus and the Catalan Institute for Water Research (ICRA), has collaborated with the National University of Colombia (UNAL) to involve the local population in the management of water resources. In addition to the technical part, the project includes social aspects and environmental education.

25 March

A conference at the UdG tackles water issues and the climate emergency

The Water Campus of the UdG reflects on the problems of water resources and the global emergency caused by climate change in a conference held at the Science and Technology Park under the title "Water and climate emergency in the regions of Girona: challenges and solutions".

29 March

One step closer to a European university

The UdG supports, together with other European partners, the European Cross-Border University (ACROSS) project, coordinated by the Chemnitz University of Technology, to develop a framework for cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation in the field of higher education and research. The transnational alliance also aims to establish cooperation and administrative structures for the European University.

30 March

Research and secondary school students

The Congress of Research by Secondary School Students (CRACS) reaches its 10th edition. The purpose of this small-scale scientific congress is to share the efforts made by each participant in their research and to disseminate their contributions. CRACS is back in person after the previous two editions had to be held virtually due to the pandemic. The UdG's Board of Trustees, in collaboration with the Girona branch of the Architects' Association of Catalonia (COAC) and the Polytechnic school's Board of Trustees, is also organising the 23rd edition of the Awards for Research Projects by Secondary School Students, to promote research among students at this level of education in all fields.

April 2022

5 April

The UdG accounts for 11.4% of industrial doctorates in Catalonia

Industrial doctorates develop collaborative research projects that promote the transfer of technology and knowledge between the actors involved. The University of Girona considers it crucial to foster collaboration and transfer of technology and knowledge between the academic and business environments. Since this initiative was launched in 2012, the UdG's participation in the Industrial Doctorates Plan has grown, with 54 projects awarded (7% of the total), 38 researchers directing theses, 22 research groups involved and 13 doctoral theses read. The record was in the 2021 call, with 13 projects awarded (11.4% of the total). Since 2012, the Plan has been awarding annual grants to research projects carried out within the strategic framework of a company or entity in the business environment and a research group. In these projects, doctoral students must carry out their research training, with the aim of writing a doctoral thesis in any field of knowledge and in any sector. The project areas were mainly health and biomedical sciences (30.7% of the total number of projects), social sciences, arts and humanities (30.7%) and chemical sciences and technologies (15.4%). These projects have involved the signing of agreements with four large companies, three SMEs, one start-up, three private foundations and the Catalan Health Institute (ICS). Of the doctoral students, 54% were women and 46% men.

8 April

The UdG trains teachers in innovative methodologies at a school in Tanzania

The Teaching Innovation Group (GID) of the Department of Physics is completing a development cooperation project in a rural school of the Massai community of Emboret, in the district of Simanjiro. It is also installing a photovoltaic energy system and setting up a computer room in the school. The project trains teachers in a Tanzanian school to work with active methodologies and project-based learning in the classroom. The initiative is an extension of a previous action that the UdG team carried out in 2019 at the Abay Mado school in Ethiopia.

8 April

The University of Girona joins the "30 Days by Bike Challenge" to promote sustainable mobility

The UdG joins the "30 Days by Bike Challenge" to support sustainable mobility. Promoted by Ciclogreen, this is the first time that the UdG has joined this initiative, which reaches its sixth edition this year. It is a competition that highlights the universities' concern for the environment and the health of the university community.

11 April

Joan Nogué gives a lecture at Harvard Graduate School of Design

Professor of Human Geography Joan Nogué is invited to give a lecture on the present and future of landscape at Harvard University. The professor, a member of the *Institut d'Estudis Catalans* (IEC), will give the Sylvester Baxter Lecture for the spring semester. This invitation is extended to people with outstanding academic and professional careers by Harvard University's renowned Graduate School of Design, where architecture, landscape architecture and engineering are taught. "A Journey through Landscape. From Theory to Practice" is the title of the conference, in which Professor Nogué reflects on the present and future of landscape studies, both from a theoretical and practical point of view.

26 April

The UdG completes the second phase of the VUDES project in Ethiopia

The project aims to add value to educational institutions in the Amhara region of Ethiopia. The initiative is led by the Department of Organisation, Business Management and Product Design and the Faculty of Tourism.

27 April

The Polytechnic School and its Board of Trustees bring back the Industrial Forum in an on-site format

The Industrial Forum is a job fair where companies, research groups, university students and associations come together in the same space to establish labour and professional relationships. This year, the EPS and its Board of Trustees, the main sponsors of the Forum, have decided that the meeting will once again be held in person. The companies and institutions of the territory offer opportunities for students in 62 stands, the record participation in the history of the event. As part of the Forum, Job Guidance Days are held in different areas: IT, agri-food, building and industrial. Also available is Job Speed Dating.

May 2022

4 May

***Congénere*, the conference dedicated to communication, gender and global cultures**

The IV edition of the *Congénere* conference – Global Cultures, Communication and Gender – takes on a special relevance as several cultural and educational activities are organised in the Faculty of Tourism and in the city itself. The aim is to bring together researchers from all over the world to present, share, debate and reflect on global cultures, communication and gender in social life, from a decentralised perspective.

5 May

Assumpció Vila i Simon, President of the Board of Trustees of the UdG

The Government of Catalonia appoints Assumpció Vila i Simon as president of the Board of Trustees of the University of Girona. Born in Sarrià de Ter, in 1957, Vila holds a degree in Economics and an MBA. She is also administrator and financial director of the company LC Paper 1881, based in Beuda. Between 2003 and 2007 she was Councillor for Culture and Economic Promotion at Sarrià de Ter Town Council and, since 1994, she has coordinated the magazine Parlem de Sarrià. On 5 May she took up her post in the Pep Nadal Graduation Hall.

Assumpció Vila takes over from Rosa Núria Aleixandre, who has held this post since April 2013, and begins her mandate "with a firm desire to promote involvement with the productive business, socioeconomic and cultural fabric" and "with a commitment to transferring the concerns of the University to society".

6 May

The UdG hosts the 1st Exhibition of University Entrepreneurship

The I University Entrepreneurship Exhibition, one of the activities of the University Entrepreneurship Network (XEU), is organised by the Chair of Young Entrepreneurs of the UdG and the Entrepreneurship Unit of the University of Vic - Central University of Catalonia.

6 May

Alba Codina and the challenge of the 'Thesis in 4 minutes' competition

Thanks to being evaluated as excellent by the panel of judges in the previous phase, the doctoral student from the Doctoral

Degree in Technology programme, Alba Codina, represents the University of Girona in the interuniversity final of the *Thesis in 4 minutes* competition, promoted by the Catalan Foundation for Research and Innovation (FCRI). The aim of the competition is to challenge doctoral students, from any scientific discipline, to tell the story of their research in a maximum of 4 minutes in simple and easily understandable language for a general audience. Alba Codina is the author of the thesis *Study of debonding in CFRP-strengthened beams and contribution of anchorage systems*, in which she examines the debonding in carbon fibre reinforced polymer beams.

7 May

Temps de Flors at the UdG

In the 67th edition of Girona *Temps de Flors*, the UdG participates in two projects. The ERAM University School (ERAM-UdG) and the Qstura fashion school reflect on education through images. Under the title "Let's make education flourish", an exhibition of 50 posters created by internationally renowned designers is on display in the cloister of Sant Domènec. In the second project, students of the UdG's Bachelor's Degree in Architectural Studies turn the stairs of Sant Domènec into a meadow. The project is developed during the *Temps de Flors* workshop, with the participation of students Arià Pla, Aurora Gavaldà, Joan C. Angulo, Joana Plana and Vanessa Giannetti, the teaching support of professors Xavier Bustos and Pau Sarquella, and the logistical support of Pedro Bellvehí.

11 May

Awarding of diplomas to Santander scholarship students

The rector of the UdG, Quim Salvi, and the representative of Santander Universities, José María García de los Ríos, preside over the ceremony to present diplomas to students who have received a grant from Banco Santander for 2020 and 2021. The agreement covers initiatives in the teaching, technology, research, institutional and transfer fields. In this case, the diplomas correspond to scholarships and grants for researchers-in-training, national and international master's students, transfer, innovation and entrepreneurship grants as well as prizes awarded by the Chair in Social Responsibility and Sustainability. As part of this event, the Chair of Social Responsibility and Sustainability presented the first edition of the UdG Final Degree Project Awards, sponsored by Santander Universities and awarded to the most outstanding TFGs in this field carried out in 2020 and 2021.

12 May

A study by the UdG proposes sixteen measures to improve the conditions of female caregivers

The Girona City Council and the University of Girona propose sixteen measures to improve the working and living conditions of women who carry out care and domestic work in the city. The actions are based on the results of the research "Women who carry out care and household work: Inequalities and violence", carried out jointly by the council and the Research Group on Ageing, Culture and Health of the University of Girona.

12 May

Presentation ceremony of the University of Girona Symphony Orchestra

The University of Girona Symphony Orchestra is made up of some thirty musicians from students, teaching and research staff, and administrative and services staff. The group began rehearsing last October and will be presented in public for the first time in a concert in which the Orquestra de Girona (OdG) will also take part. In the concert, the OdG performs *Saint Paul's Suite* by the English composer Gustav Holst (1874-1934). The University of Girona Symphony Orchestra makes its debut, in the second concert, with a programme featuring Franz Schubert's *Simfonia Inacabada*. Prior to this all-time classic of the symphonic repertoire, the University ensemble performs Scherzo ampurdanés, a symphonic sardana written by the Girona composer Francesc Civil i Castellví (Molins de Rei, 1895 - Girona, 1990). This is the first performance of the work since its premiere in 1930 at the Municipal Theatre of Girona by the Girona Symphony Orchestra. Both orchestras are conducted by the conductor of the UdG Orchestra, Martí Ferrer i Bosch. The first idea of forming the Orchestra came from some singers and the director of the UdG Choir, inspired by the university orchestras of other Catalan public universities. With the promotion and creation of the UdG Orchestra, the University of Girona enriches the university life of the city with an orchestra at the service of the whole university and of the public.

16 May

The BCDS research group at the UdG wins the HackUPC and BlockchainxODS awards

The Broadband Communications and Distributed Systems (BCDS) research group wins the HackUPC awards (an international programming marathon aimed at creating an application in the field of technology) and BlockchainxODS (a challenge proposed by the company Infojobs, where participants were asked to create a panel of job offers personalised according to their own characteristics by means of artificial intelligence).

16 May

A delegation from the University of Seychelles visits the UdG

Representatives of the University of Seychelles visit the University of Girona as part of the Erasmus K107 programme dedicated to mobility between partner countries. One of the objectives of the visit is to get to know the territory, the UdG's different innovation strategies and to forge links between the two institutions for future collaborations. The relationship between the University of Seychelles and the University of Girona dates back to 2016, when collaboration between the two centres began in the field of tourism management.

16 May

The UdG creates a card game to promote participatory and socially-engaged learning

The Teaching Innovation Network (XID) of the University of Girona creates a card game based on the service-learning teaching method. Designed by Mariona Masgrau, Raquel Heras, Pere Soler, Eulalia Guiu and Pilar Albertín, and illustrated by Alícia Vogel, *Anímate, Proyecta, Sigue* is a collaborative and creative game whose objective is to create or re-elaborate service-learning projects, a teaching methodology that trains students through non-profit social and community services.

16 May

European KnowHub project

From 16 to 27 May, the Polytechnic School is hosting a boot camp as part of the European KnowHub project, with the participation of more than 50 students and 25 professors from five universities in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro. The aim of the KnowHub project has been to design and implement knowledge valorisation units in these Balkan countries.

17 May

The UdG promotes international cooperation for the training of researchers in the face of global challenges

Some twenty representatives of international universities meet in Girona to discuss future collaborations for the training of researchers. Within the framework of the UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education, the UdG welcomes participants from universities in countries such as Nicaragua, Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Sweden, Honduras and Colombia. The aim is to establish links to promote co-supervised theses between the UdG and other higher education centres. To further explore the idea of future research relations, the director of the School of Doctoral Studies, Gerardo Boto, presents the different existing collaboration channels and the facilities offered by the UdG to carry out these alliances.

18 May

Some 150 schoolchildren present research projects in the field of biodiversity and the study of birds

Some 150 primary school students share the results of their research at a scientific conference at the University of Girona, with the participation of some of its researchers in fields related to the study of birds and biodiversity. The sixth edition of the Recerkids programme, promoted by the Directorate General for Research of the Ministry of Research and Universities in collaboration with the UdG, aims to help 5th and 6th grade primary school students learn science by carrying out a research project in the classroom. The congress is the culmination of a whole term of work in which the students have carried out a research project on biodiversity and the study of birds.

21 May

Natural Environment Conference

The Natural Environment Conference in Girona will be held on 21 and 22 May, jointly organised by Girona City Council, the Faculty of Science and the Ministry of Climate Action, Food and Rural Agenda of the Government of Catalonia. The Girona Naturalists Association, the *El Blauet* Association, the Gavarres Consortium, the Ter Consortium and Girona Provincial Council also form part of the conference organising committee. This activity, open to students of all ages as well as to the general public, is an opportunity for researchers of the natural environment to present their work and the results of their research on the environment in a pleasant and friendly way.

23 May

Michele Taruffo Conference on Evidential Reasoning

The first conference on evidential reasoning, in homage to Michele Taruffo, was attended by 800 people, 500 of whom attended in person, at the Girona Conference Centre and at the Faculty of Law. Most of the participants are academics, but judges, prosecutors and lawyers from 35 different countries also take part. It is the world's first event to reflect on how to analyse evidence in court proceedings. During the conference, the University formally received the collection of Michele Taruffo, one of the most important researchers in evidential reasoning, which consists of more than 7,000 volumes and 2,500 journal articles in journals that are being catalogued.

24 May

The Water Chair awards grants for work on water in the springs and reservoirs of Les Guilleries

A study on the quality of the water in the springs of Arbúcies, by Salma Bannadi, a student at the Montsoriu Institute in Arbúcies, and another on the quality of the water of the River Ter in the Guilleries reservoirs, by Irene Alba Frigola, a student at the FEDAC San Narciso School in Girona, are the two Baccaulaureate research projects that have obtained a grant from the Chair of Water, Nature and Wellbeing.

25 May

Sílvia Osuna, chosen from among the experts appointed by the Government to the new Grup Horitzó on R&D&i

The researcher at the Institute of Computational Chemistry and Catalysis (IQCC) becomes a member of the Grup Horitzó. Osuna has won different awards, including the Marcial Moreno-Mañas Award 2021 from the Spanish Royal Society of Chemistry; the National Young Talent Research Award 2019 (FCRi); the Lilly Young Investigator Award 2019; the European Chemical Society (EuChemS) Organic Chemistry Young Investigator Award 2017; the 2016 Young Researcher Award from the Spanish Royal Society of Chemistry; the 2016 Princess of Girona Research Award; and, most recently, the EuChemS Lecture Award 2021 for her research focused on the computational design of enzymes. This honour is awarded annually to a young scientist who has made significant contributions to the understanding of chemistry. The Grup Horitzó advises the executive on R&D&i policies, makes proposals and recommendations to develop the country's knowledge system, and reflects on the country's strategic priorities in the field of science.

26 May

The UdG approves the awarding of an honorary doctorate to Josep Amat i Girbau

At the ordinary session of the Governing Council on 26 May, the UdG approved the award of an honorary doctorate to the industrial engineer Josep Amat Girbau, considered one of the most outstanding scientists on the Catalan and Spanish scene in the field of robotics aimed at improving people's quality of life. The nomination was proposed by the Department of Computer Architecture and Technology, with former rector Joan Batlle as sponsor.

27 May

CRUE's #HiloTesis contest awards a Twitter thread by a PhD student from the UdG

CRUE *Universidades Españolas* announces the verdict of the second edition of the scientific dissemination and outreach contest "Tú Tesis Doctoral en un Hilo de Twitter: #HiloTesis". Doctoral student at the University of Girona, Maialen Beltran Arreche, is one of the four prize-winners in this competition. Beltran Arreche receives the award in the Disability and Inclusion category for a thread on women with intellectual disabilities and their affective and sexual relationships.

31 May

SDG-iLevel project's starting shot

The University of Girona coordinates and leads this project that seeks to promote innovation and achieve sustainable impact in three areas of higher education: sustainable development, digital innovation and the mental wellbeing of teaching and research staff and administrative and service staff. *Leveraging Individual SDG Contributions by University Staff (SDG-iLevel)*, funded by the *Erasmus+* programme, is an innovative project promoted by the Research Group on Scientific and Environmental Education (GRECA). The project will develop methods and tools to discover, harness and strengthen the individual contributions of university employees to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

31 May

Appointment of Professor Joan Nogué

The Government of Catalonia has appointed Joan Nogué i Font, professor of Human Geography at the University of Girona, as a new member of the Advisory Council for the Sustainable Development of Catalonia (CADS). The proposal comes from the Catalan Ministry of Climate Action, Food and Rural Agenda and his mandate will be for two years.

June 2022

2 June

Professor Teresa Puig chosen to head the Directorate-General for Transfer

Teresa Puig, lecturer and researcher at the Department of Medical Sciences, has been chosen by the Government of Catalonia to head the Directorate-General for Transfer and to structure and coordinate the implementation of a forum to generate synergies between Catalan universities, research centres and companies in different fields. The assignment is to promote and strengthen collaboration between those three sectors involved in research and transfer. The forum, which will be a pilot test, should provide a framework for the launch of a platform of transfer projects that will complement the platform for linking knowledge centres with territorial challenges being worked on by Ris3Cat and the Directorate-General. The forum or marketplace will take place at the end of 2022 and will be a meeting place for the exchange of opinions, strategies and information.

3 June

Awards in the EPS and in the final theses of the EPS Board of Trustees

The Manel Xifra and Boada Awards are now in their 17th edition. Promoted by the Association of Graduate Engineers and Industrial Technical Engineers of Girona (INGENIEROS GI) and the company COMEXI, they recognise individuals and research groups that have contributed to engineering and technical knowledge. This edition focuses on the different interventions in the climate emergency, the role of women in engineering and the importance of this area of knowledge in the economic activity and the future of the country.

The award for the Applied Research Group or Technology Centre goes to the Advanced Materials and Analysis for Structural Design (AMADE) team, a research and technology transfer group of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Industrial Construction. The EPS Board of Trustees gave best final year project awards to the following projects: Josep Fanals i Batllori, from Electrical Engineering, for "Resolution of load flow with holomorphic embedding method"; Llorenç Fanals i Batllori, from Industrial Electronics and Automation Engineering, for "Evaluation of an inertial navigation system for an underwater robot"; Josep Matamala i Pagès, from Mechanical Engineering, for "Articulated snow chain system for a Yamaha Banshee"; Miriam Escribano Bella, from Chemical Engineering, for "Green synthesis of zero iron nanoparticles using plant extracts: optimisation and characterisation"; and Aniol Bosch Collell, from Industrial Technologies Engineering and the double degree in Industrial Technologies Engineering / Degree in Business Administration and Management, for "Design and construction of a SLS (Selective Laser Sintering) machine".

The Prize for the Transfer of Technical and Technological Knowledge is awarded to Elvira Carles Brescolí, director of the Fundación Empresa & Clima, who gave the talk "Climate emergency". The Professional Career Award goes to Narcís Bartina and, posthumously, to Josep Ribas Port Bartina, who was dean of the Official College of Graduate Engineers and Industrial Technical Engineers of Girona.

During the ENGIDIADA, the celebration of the engineering profession, which takes place on the same day, the director of the Polytechnic School of the UdG, M. Àngels Pèlach, receives an award for her close ties with the College.

3 June

The Board of Trustees of the UdG awards eleven baccaulaureate research projects

The Board of Trustees of the University of Girona organises the awards for research work for baccaulaureate students with the collaboration of the Girona branch of the Architects' Association of Catalonia (COAC), the Polytechnic School's Board of Trustees, the University School of Audiovisual and Multimedia Production (ERAM) and the University School of Health and Sport (EUSES). The awards for research work by high school students promote and encourage research among young people in an area of proximity between secondary education and the UdG. A new award has been created this year in the field of sustainable industrial processes, sponsored by the Chair of Sustainable Industrial Processes.

During the event, Irene Quintana Gispert, who has a bachelor's degree in Philosophy and is currently studying for a master's degree in Teacher Training, spoke about "The transversality of knowledge: the sum of intelligences at the University". The award winners receive a grant for the amount of credits enrolled in the first year of one of the official degrees offered by the University of Girona, for the academic year 2022-23, up to a maximum of €1,800 if the student does not have free enrolment, or a reduction equivalent to the public price of enrolment in the UdG's affiliated centres EUSES and ERAM. In addition, the work is disseminated and a financial contribution is made to purchase books, music, educational or computer material shared between the student, the tutor and the secondary school where the work has been carried out.

This year's winners are:

Prize for research in the humanities: "*Antiheroes. A dose of humanity to the myth*", by Alba Benjumea (Salvador Espriu Institute, Salt).

Prize for research in the social sciences: "*Happy learning: What should education be like to achieve educated and happy young people?*", by Núria Casademont (Santiago Sobrequés Institute, Girona).

Prizes for research in science: "*Improvement of animal welfare in the pig sector and its respective improvement in meat quality*", by Biel Massachs (Institut de Celrà).

"*Between 196 and 2349 Hertz. Study of the violin as a musical instrument and as an acoustic object*", by Isolda Fita (Vallvera Institute, Salt).

Prizes for research in technology:

"*Automation by voice instructions of an electric wheelchair and geolocation*", by Marc Hernández (Santa Eugenia Institute, Girona).

"*Robotic surgery. Creation of a surgical system*", Oirol Capallera (Pla de l'Estany Institute, Banyoles).

Prize for research in medicine: "*Sudden cardiac death. Searching for mutations in the genes that code for cardiac ion channels*", by Paula Bosch (Institut Josep Brugulat, Banyoles).

Prize for research in architecture (*COAC*): "*Intervention project in Punta Falconera*", by Anna Taulera (Institut Cap Norfeu, Roses).

Prize for research in industrial innovation (PATRONAT EPS): "*Smart Table Assistant*", by Miquel Puig (Institut de Vidreres).

Prize for research in visual and performing arts (ERAM): "*Character design for animation*", by Clara Aguilar (Institut Ramon Coll i Rodés, Lloret de Mar).

Prize for research in health and sport (EUSES): "*Sport, horses and nature: the organisation of an endurance race*", by Irene Serra (Vedruna Escorial, Vic)

8 June

Health literacy study of the student community

The Health and Health Care research group starts a health literacy project for the UdG student community. The initiative, whose main purpose is the promotion of health among students at the University of Girona, is supported by the researchers of the UdG's Department of Nursing, Dr Rosa Suñer, Dr Afra Masià and Dr Glòria Reig. Through the responses to the surveys carried out, the knowledge of the student body on health issues will be analysed.

8 June

Geospatial technologies and open-source culture at the UdG Open GIS Conference

The 15th edition of the *SIG Lliure* Conference, promoted by the SIGTE of the University of Girona, will take place on 8 and 9 June in Girona. The programme includes plenary lectures on artificial intelligence and machine learning, as well as presentations, workshops and tutorials on open-source geo-technologies. Around 200 professionals from all over Spain share the most important technological solutions in the sector and exchange experiences and knowledge, under the slogan "Where open-source culture meets geospatial technologies".

10 June

Anna Ferrer, honorary doctor

In a formal ceremony, the UdG awarded the degree of doctor honoris causa to Mrs Anna Ferrer, founder in India of the Rural Development Trust, the parent company of the Vicenç Ferrer Foundation (FVF). She currently heads the organisation, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2019. The British philanthropist stands out for her commitment and fight against poverty, and for having created, together with her husband, Vicenç Ferrer, a pioneering model of comprehensive development based on direct collaboration and the active participation of the beneficiaries. Throughout the ceremony, the new doctor highlighted the power of care, an action that "seems very simple" but which in her experience "makes a big difference in our lives, in the lives of others and in the world in general". The figure of Vicenç Ferrer is also present at the event, as his widow recalls that "his greatness was his faith and his conviction in the goodness of people and in the capacity of each one of us to do good, to care for others and look after them". Rector Quim Salvi points out that Anna Ferrer is not only an example of vital dedication to improving the living conditions of the most vulnerable and unprotected people on the planet, she also "gives voice to the invisible protagonism of so many women who have silently contributed to the construction of a fairer, more humane and more responsible world". Professor Eduard Muntaner, the doctoral candidate's sponsor, in his oratory, focuses on Anna Ferrer's contribution to launching the work that today is a world reference in the world of development cooperation.

12 June

Sectoral Campuses attend the 2022 UIIN Conference to bring the UdG closer to the territory

From 12 to 16 June, the technical staff of the Sectoral Campuses and the technical director of the Girona, Region of Knowledge Foundation will take part in the congress and training plan of the University Industry Innovation Network (UIIN), which is being held in the Netherlands under the slogan "Ideate, Innovate, Inspire, Interact". The participants exchange information and knowledge about initiatives by universities from all over the world that are developing strategies to link with their territory in a more enriching and fruitful way.

14 June

The Impact Ranking places the UdG among the world's top 100 universities in five SDGs

The results of the Impact 2022 ranking place the University of Girona among the top 100 universities in the world in five Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the United Nations. In addition, Impact 2022 maintains the UdG among the top 15% of universities worldwide, a rank it has reached for the third consecutive time. Although the number of participating universities has increased with respect to the previous edition, the UdG repeats between the 101st and 200th positions with an overall score of 72.5.

To assess universities' compliance with the different SDGs, calibrated indicators are used to provide a comprehensive and balanced comparison in four broad areas: research, management, outreach and teaching. To be part of the overall score in this ranking, it is only compulsory to participate in objective number seventeen - partnerships to achieve objectives - and to participate in a minimum of three other objectives.

In this edition of the Impact 2022 ranking, 1,406 universities from 106 different countries have participated. Compared to the previous year, there have been 291 new universities, representing a 26.1% increase in the number of institutions evaluated.

15 June

The Chair of Contemporary Art and Culture suggests a new look at Tàpies

The Chair of Contemporary Art and Culture, as part of the Ministry of Education and Science project "Historiographical review of the work of Antoni Tàpies from the perspective of reader-response criticism", is organising the seminar "Making the work of art visible. The reception of Antoni Tàpies through his exhibitions". A seminar that offers an itinerary through some of the most outstanding exhibitions dedicated to the artist, some of them presented by their curators. The conference (the second part of which will be held in September) will analyse, with a theoretical approach to reader-response criticism, some of the most important exhibitions through which Tàpies' historiography is being defined.

16 June

The Senate of the UdG gives its view on the Organic law on the university system (LOSU)

Reflections are centred on the autonomy and functions of the universities; the organisation of teaching; coordination and cooperation in the university system; structure, governance and the legal, economic and financial system; transfer and innovation; and on the sections that refer to the three university groups (students, teaching and research staff and administrative and services staff). The rector, Quim Salvi, thanked the eighty members of the senate present at the session for their rich contributions, and especially the student representatives for their involvement and rigour in the evaluation of the preliminary draft of the LOSU. "We will do everything possible to ensure that the contributions of the UdG Senate are incorporated into the new law and make it better", he added.

16 June

Lecture series in Roses

As part of the 4th International Course on Medieval and Modern Archaeology-Ciutadella de Roses, organised by the Roses Chair of Archaeology and Archaeological Heritage, a series of talks open to the general public will be held to discuss medieval monasteries and restoration processes in archaeology.

16 June

Oncolliga Girona donates more than €50,000 to the TargetsLab research group of the UdG

The Research Group on New Therapeutic Targets (TargetsLab) of the University of Girona (UdG) receives a donation of €56,759.50 from the Oncolliga Girona Foundation for research into triple negative breast cancer. This amount has been raised through donations in the sixth edition of the ONCOSWIM, the solidarity open water swim organised by Radikal Swim and the Fundació Oncolliga Girona. This year's edition doubled the amount raised in the last one. The 35 teams participating in the challenge raised €81,085, compared to the €40,000 raised last year. Of this, 70% (€56,759.50) will go to research carried out by the UdG research group in collaboration with the Catalan Institute of Oncology (ICO) and the Dr. Josep Trueta Hospital. The other 30% (€24,325.50) will be used to help sustain Oncolliga's help and support services for cancer patients and their families.

21 June

The UdG and Eurecat promote a collaborative digital manufacturing space

The University of Girona and the Eurecat technology centre are creating the 3Digital Manufacturing Lab Girona (3DML), a collaborative space that will generate new 3D printing and digital manufacturing technologies and knowledge with local applications, in the industrial, social and research fields. The collaboration will transfer knowledge about manufacturing technologies and about the development of new technologies and advanced manufacturing systems, from the unit

specialising in advanced manufacturing systems at Eurecat to the research groups at the UdG, in order to jointly respond to the innovation needs of the industrial fabric of the city and the territorial districts of the province of Girona.

22 June

Representatives of the UdG take part in the General Assembly of the UNIMED network in Jordan

On 22 and 23 June, the General Assembly of UNIMED 2022 will take place in Amman (Jordan). UNIMED 2022 is a meeting of Mediterranean universities that aims to encourage cooperation and integration between the different research centres in the region through joint projects and third-party partnerships. The vice-rector for Strategic Projects and Internationalisation, Josep Calbó, the head of International Strategic Projects, Alícia Betts, and the Sectoral Campus specialist, Anna Otero, represent the UdG and provide support to the UNIMED sub-networks in which the University is active and participates as coordinator, such as those dedicated to climate and environmental change and tourism in the Mediterranean.

28 June

International volunteering for bachelor's and master's degree students

The Social Commitment Unit (UCS) has set up an international volunteering programme subsidised by European Union funds. This programme is aimed at UdG bachelor's and master's degree students, 83 of whom have already taken part. International volunteering offers the opportunity to have formative experiences abroad through cooperation with local populations. The aim of the programme, beyond helping to build an inclusive society and promote active citizenship, is to create mutual understanding between young people from different backgrounds and to give them an insight into the reality of other parts of the Union. The UCS acts as a link between the volunteer and the host region, as well as offering pre-departure counselling and support during the stay. For the University of Girona, the International Volunteering branch of the UCS is a service with great potential which is expanding to reach a larger number of students.

28 June

CIADICYP International Congress

The Ibero-American Congress on Pulp and Paper Research (CIADICYP) is an international meeting that has been held every two years since 2000. The 12th edition takes place in the Aula Magna Modest Prats, organised by the LEPAMAP-PRODIS research group. During the congress, more than 150 participants from 26 different countries will share knowledge on topics such as sustainable packaging, sustainability in biomedicine, composite materials and sustainability. The UdG has always played a very relevant role in the development of sustainable materials and processes, and the congress will strengthen this leading position. It will also generate synergies between the institution and researchers from all over the world.

29 June

The UdG launches a platform with resources and support services for research personnel

As part of the Action Plan of the Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R) of the University of Girona, approved by the Governing Council in September 2019, a guide has been drawn up that brings together all the resources and services that the research personnel may need to carry out their research activity.

July 2022

4 July

New editions of PreBAT and *Jove Campus de Recerca*

The PreBAT Campus takes place from 27 June to 1 July and is open to students who have completed the 4th year of ESO and desire to awaken scientific vocations through practical activities related to the UdG's different areas of knowledge. Sixty participants will spend four days at the three campuses – Barri Vell, Centre and Montilivi – and the Science and Technology Park to learn about the research conducted there. The programme includes lectures, workshops, visits to faculty laboratories and research centres.

The *Jove Campus de Recerca*, from 4 to 11 July, is designed for those who have completed the 1st year of Baccaureate and offers 40 places. It aims to awaken the scientific curiosity of young people who are about to become university students. The campus offers them activities and workshops to discover the multidisciplinary research of the University, and provides them with tools and resources to introduce them to the world of research and enable them, once the campus is over, to make solid progress in their own research work.

5 July

An international conference analyses the implications of walking in the contemporary world.

From 5 to 9 July, the international meetings Art of Walking and Relational Geographies, organised by the Nau Còclea Contemporary Creation Centre in collaboration with the UdG, will take place in Girona, Vic and Olot. At the Walking Art and Relational Geographies conference, the implications of walking in the contemporary world are analysed from all possible angles: as an artistic practice, as an aesthetic experience, and as a social and protest practice. Around a hundred people from all over the world are taking part.

5 July

UdG project to study the potential ecological and social impacts of offshore wind farms

The Biodiversity Foundation is financing the BIOPAIS project with €247,000 from the NextGenerationEU Funds, within the 2021 Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan. The three-year research project will focus on Cap de Creus and the Gulf of Roses on the Costa Brava, an area characterised by high biodiversity and landscape value, in order to assess the potential impact of offshore wind farms on biodiversity. The project is coordinated by the Chair in Oceans and Human Health and the SeaHealth research group of the Aquatic Ecology Institute of the UdG.

7 July

PLOME, a research project to monitor marine ecosystems

A scientific team led by the Computer Vision and Robotics Research Group (ViCOROB) will develop an underwater platform to intelligently monitor marine ecosystems in real time. The project is called "Plataforma de Llargada Durada per a l'Observació dels Ecosistemes Marins" (PLOME) and is carried out jointly with the Polytechnic University of Catalonia - BarcelonaTech (UPC), the University of the Balearic Islands (UIB), the Polytechnic University of Madrid (UPM), the Institute of Marine Sciences (ICM-CSIC) and the company Iqua Robotics SL. The project has a budget of €1.5 million from the State Research Agency and European NextGenerationEU funds. Over three years, PLOME will design a non-invasive and modular platform to collect essential data for the scientific community to better monitor, supervise and manage marine ecosystems.

8 July

The FACSA Chair of the University Jaume I awards two research projects of LEQUIA

The Laboratory of Chemical and Environmental Engineering research group (LEQUIA) obtains two of the three prizes of the FACSA chair for Innovation in the Integral Water Cycle of the Universitat Jaume I: the prize for the best doctoral thesis (Lluís Godó) and the prize for the best final bachelor's degree project (Emma Company) submitted in 2019-2020 in Spanish universities. The winning projects address two of the main treatments in the urban water cycle, drinking water treatment and purification, and are the result of collaboration between universities and companies.

11 July

A delegation from the Karazin Kharkiv National University of Ukraine visits the UdG

As part of the academic and research relations between the Department of Geography and the Department of Human Geography of the Karazin Kharkiv National University (KGNU) of Ukraine, a delegation of professors from KGNU visited the UdG to advance the collaboration established by the Erasmus K-107 agreement. The vice-rector for Strategic Projects, Josep Calbó, recalled that the UdG's relations with Ukrainian centres go back a long way and highlighted the fact that "despite the tragedy, the Karazin Kharkiv National University has not ceased its activity". The UdG reiterated its position, just after the Russian invasion, in relation to the defence of peace and Ukrainian sovereignty.

12 July

The Bachelor's Degree in Nursing will have 60 new places next year

The minister for Research and Universities, Gemma Geis, presents, at the Doctor Josep Trueta University Hospital, the expansion of new places in the UdG's Bachelor's Degree in Nursing. With these 60 new places at public price, the total number of places for access to Nursing studies for the next academic year at the UdG will rise to 190. The new offer is part of the expansion of nursing degree places throughout Catalonia with which the Ministry for Research and Universities is responding to the high demand for these studies and the shortage of nursing staff in Catalonia, accentuated by the pandemic.

13 July

13% more students enrolled in their university of first preference at the UdG

In the university pre-registration process, more than 4,100 students choose the UdG as their first option. The cut-off marks have risen compared to last year and the highest is still that of the Degree in Medicine (12.848). The most notable fact is that in the first allocation of places the UdG has 13% more students allocated in first preference (2,308), 262 more than last year, and 6% more total allocations (from first to eighth preferences), reaching 3,848 (3,628 last year). Likewise, the UdG has received 4,135 first preference applications (3,841 last year). The 10 most requested degrees are: Nursing (372), Physiotherapy (335), Medicine (306), Psychology (181), Law (170), Business Administration and Management (152), Computer Engineering (135), Primary Education (131), Advertising and Public Relations (121), Accounting and Finance (114).

In first preference, there were increases in the number of students in the degrees in History (50 compared to 38 last year), Mechanical Engineering (69 compared to 53 last year) and Marketing at the affiliated centre University School Mediterrani (81 compared to 37 last year). This year there are twelve degrees with a cut-off mark above 10, while last year there were 11. The cut-off mark has increased in 7 of the 12 degrees. The degree in Medicine maintains its first position and rises from 12,774 to 12,848. The data also show the increased presence of double degrees among the top ten most sought-after studies. The double degree in Business Administration and Management and Engineering in Industrial Technologies, with 10.280 (9.604 last year), enters the list of degrees with the highest cut-off mark. Psychology, which last year had a 9.686, also enters the list with a 10.028.

13 July

The UdG is among the top 15 universities in Spain according to the CyD 2022 ranking and the first in the field of Chemistry

The University of Girona maintains its 14th position in the overall ranking of Knowledge and Development (K&D), which evaluates Spanish public and private universities, and climbs seven positions (from 12th to 5th) in research. The UdG ranks first in Chemistry, fifth in Architecture and eighth in Computer Engineering. Moreover, the UdG also stands out in the International Orientation dimension, in which it occupies position 14. In addition, in this edition of the SCI ranking, the dimensions of eleven fields of study have been evaluated, of which the UdG has participated in eight. The results obtained in the fields of Chemistry (1st out of 32 participating universities), Architecture (5th out of 30) and Computer Engineering (8th out of 52) are particularly noteworthy.

14 July

Professor Rosa Congost, awarded the Narcís Monturiol Medal

Rosa Congost, professor of Economic History and coordinator of the Centre for Rural History Research (CRHR) at the UdG, will receive the Narcís Monturiol medal for scientific and technological merit awarded by the Government of Catalonia. These awards, instituted in 1982, honour individuals and organisations that have made an outstanding contribution to the development of science and technology in Catalonia.

Rosa Congost is the principal researcher of the History of Rural Societies Group, and coordinator of the Rural History Research Centre, a section of the UdG's Institute of Historical Research, where she has directed numerous projects. Congost was secretary of the Historical Society for Agrarian Studies (SEHA) (2002-2009), vice-president (2010-2015) and then president (2015-2017) of the European Rural History Organization (EURHO).

14 July

I Meeting on Gender Equality at the University of Girona

On 7 July, the I Meeting on Gender Equality at the University of Girona will be held in the Graduation Hall of the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Tourism, to create links between experts in the field of gender. The day will consist of a round table with the participation of Cristina Sanchez, secretary general; Silvia Llach, vice-rector for Territory and Social Commitment; Anna Maria Pla, rector's delegate for Gender Equality; Montse Castro, equality technician of the Social Commitment Unit and Carmen Echazarreta, coordinator of the Network for Teaching Innovation in Gender Perspective.

23 July

The UdG expands the Campus Centre with the purchase of an adjacent property

The Central Campus, which houses the faculties of Nursing and Medicine, is expanding its facilities with the acquisition of the building located in Carrer de la Creu. This acquisition is primarily due to the decision by the Ministry of Research and Universities of the Government of Catalonia to grant 60 additional places in the first year of the Degree in Nursing at the UdG. This means that, in four years' time, there will be another 240 students. The campus will have a new space of 850 m2 in the adjacent building, with a ground floor of 342 m2 and a mezzanine of 509 m2. It will be used as a library and study rooms. The freeing up of spaces used for these purposes in the main building will allow them to be adapted for new classrooms and offices for the teaching staff.

27 July

GiroNat, a project to incorporate nature into the urban fabric

The project, coordinated by Girona City Council with the collaboration of the University of Girona through the Sectoral Campuses, and environmental organisations as partners, aims to move towards a greener city. To this end, Girona is receiving more than €3 million through European NextGenerationEU funds to incorporate nature into the urban fabric. The cross-cutting strategy of this project seeks to make the city greener, more resilient to climate change, healthier, and socially and environmentally more just by focusing on nature, resilience, preventive health, social and economic transformation, and innovation.

27 July

Science outreach portal

The University of Girona has launched *UdGDivulga*, a new web portal to promote and disseminate the institution's research. The page contains the latest news on scientific advances made at the UdG and aims to transmit this knowledge to the population as a whole. The launch of *UdGDivulga* is included in the UdG Research Communication Programme approved in 2021. It provides for the creation of a web portal for scientific dissemination and outreach that includes written and audiovisual material to promote research. This goal is achieved through the main section of the portal, which contains research news on the scientific advances of the university community.

27 July

End of the Covid-19 exceptional period

With a resolution of the Rector on 27 July and with effect from 1 September, the resolutions published throughout 2021 and all other resolutions and instructions implementing certain preventive and control measures in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic were revoked and rendered null and void. According to the Rector's letter addressed to the entire community, "the scenarios that the UdG has deployed to fight the pandemic and protect ourselves are coming to an end. As you know, this period has involved much suffering and effort on the part of the entire university community, and also a lot of work for the institution, which has deployed ten different scenarios throughout this period, to adapt to the evolution of the crisis". He adds: "Hopefully this is the prelude to putting Covid-19 and the havoc it is wreaking behind us once and for all. "

28 July

Work uncovers 14th century gothic chapel

The UdG is carrying out building work to adapt the exterior of the apse of the church of Sant Domènec, the Aula Magna Modesto Prats of the University, as well as a preventive archaeological intervention in the adjoining ruins. The excavation, directed by archaeologist and UdG lecturer Jordi Sagrera, has identified the remains of an old Gothic chapel of the Dominican convent. According to Sagrera, "the archaeological intervention has revealed the high heritage and historical value of the ruins that have been excavated, as they conserve a large part of the original structure, presumably dating from the 14th century".

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