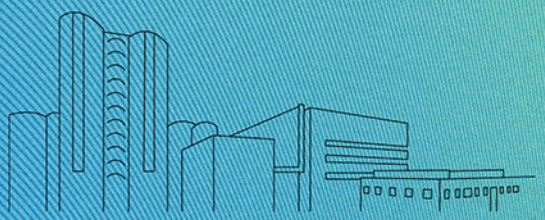
PARC CIENTÍFIC DE BARCELONA ANNUAL REPORT 2025

PCB-UB



Parc Científic de Barcelona
UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA

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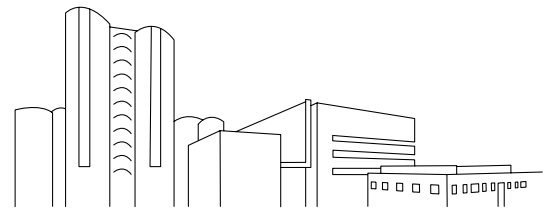

Parc Científic de Barcelona
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The PCB-UB in figures

Occupancy

22,507 m^2
Of occupied laboratory space

9,811 m^2
Of occupied office space

98%
Occupancy of equipped space

95%
Occupancy of total space

The PCB community

3,616
Professionals

111
Organisations

9
Research centres

83
Companies

7
Non-profit organisations

12
University of Barcelona groups, units and services

The PCB

22,553 m^2

Of laboratory space

11,367 m^2

Of office space

4,621 m^2

Of scientific services

Finances

€ 25.1 million

Revenue

€ 7.9 million

EBITDA

€ 3.0 million

Net profit

Joan Guàrdia
Rector of the University of Barcelona
President of the Parc Científic de Barcelona of the University of Barcelona (PCB-UB) Board of Trustees

The PCB-UB consolidates its position as the leading biomedical innovation hub in Catalonia

The year 2025 was an excellent year for the University of Barcelona Parc Científic de Barcelona (PCB-UB), a key strategic element that has enabled the University to maintain its leading position in research and innovation. The PCB-UB has maintained full occupancy of its spaces, a milestone achieved in 2021, and repeated every year since then. The PCB-UB is a hub for attracting organisations and talent, with a total of over 3,600 professionals working on their activities in over 100 organisations based here. With a self-sustaining business model, the PCB-UB has consolidated its position as a leader and driving force in our country's health ecosystem: a space where public and private institutions interact and collaborate to promote research, knowledge transfer and innovation.

In 2025, we strengthened the research ecosystem by redesigning the fourth floor of the Cluster II building to house several units of the August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS) and the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal), both research centres linked to Hospital Clínic de Barcelona and the University of Barcelona. These units, which already occupy more than 1,000 m^2, have brought over 100 professionals into the PCB community, working in research in the fields of liver, digestive system and metabolism, malaria and neglected parasitic diseases.

These transfers are part of the future construction of the new Campus Clínic-UB on the grounds of the UB Sports facilities, on Avinguda Diagonal, next to the PCB-UB. It strengthens the Diagonal Health Axis, which aims to consolidate this area of the city as an international centre of reference in health in Europe, bringing together healthcare, academic research and business innovation in biomedicine all in the same environment.

The redesigned space also includes the headquarters of Fraunhofer Spain and its Fraunhofer CAT project, which occupies more than 700 m^2. The project stems from the collaboration between the Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC) and the University of Barcelona, and its work will focus on applied theragnosis, a discipline that combines precision diagnosis and therapy to accelerate the translation of scientific knowledge into clinical practice and the biotechnology industry. The arrival of this project strengthens Barcelona's position as a European hub for biomedical innovation and bioengineering, and promotes collaboration between universities, research centres, public bodies and companies.

Along with all this, the PCB's sustained high performance, maintaining full occupancy of its spaces for several years, should not be overlooked. Indeed, it is now difficult to meet the growing demand for laboratories, both from established organisations needing to expand and new initiatives seeking to set up in the PCB. For this reason, the University of Barcelona is working on various projects to facilitate the qualitative leap the ecosystem requires.

The first project is the development of the Cub building, which will offer 2,700 m^2 of dry laboratory space and offices for research. The basic project has already been completed, and work on drafting the executive project and obtaining the building permit has begun, with the aim of the building becoming operational in January 2028.

We have also continued to advance in the MIES-UB laboratory building project to provide 10,000 m^2, for which the architectural project contract has now been awarded. The new building, planned for 2029, will house the IBEC, Fraunhofer Spain and several research groups in the field of health sciences from the University of Barcelona.

I would like to end by thanking the PCB-UB trustees for their commitment and constant support.

Maria Terrades
Director of the Parc Científic de Barcelona of the University of Barcelona (PCB-UB)

The value of a growing scientific community

Writing the editorial for the annual report is always a good time to take stock and, as with previous years, 2025 has been a highly positive one for the Parc Científic de Barcelona (PCB-UB).

All our spaces remain fully occupied: we offer 22,553 m^2 of laboratory space, 11,367 m^2 of office space and 4,621 m^2 of scientific services. Our community already includes 3,616 professionals from 9 pioneering research centres, 83 companies, 7 non-profit organisations and 12 units of the University of Barcelona. Together, they form a complete ecosystem that ranges from basic research to generating a real impact on improving people's health.

In the section on the PCB community in this report you can find the names of these organisations and find out how their turnover and teams have continued to grow, while also receiving highly prestigious recognition. During the year, numerous major scientific advances were also made, new and significant national and international projects were launched and new research centres and promising start-ups and spin-offs were incorporated into the PCB-UB.

The PCB-UB works constantly to maintain and improve the infrastructures and services we provide for our organisations. In 2025, we invested €2.8 million in renovating and improving equipment and €1 million in adapting new spaces and facilities, involving 4,808 m^2 of laboratory space and 513 m^2 of office space. Actions included the acquisition of scientific equipment, such as an Odyssey M chemiluminescence and fluorescence system, shakers, autoclaves, ultra-low temperature freezers and centrifuges, and renovating infrastructures, with measures such as replacing a freight lift with a capacity of 3,500 kilograms and the controllers of the technical management system for buildings facilities.

We renovated general PCB-UB signage with the aim making it easier for users and visitors to find their way, improving the identification of buildings and organising internal routes using a clearer, more modern and more coherent system. At the same time, together with the University of Barcelona, we launched an External Communications Plan to raise the visibility to the potential of the PCB-UB and its community.

Over the year, we also revitalised the PCB's ecosystem by organising 25 activities that brought together nearly 1,400 attendees. These initiatives, focussing on topics of interest to the community, helped foster interaction and networking among members.

This report also has a section on two distinctive features of the PCB-UB: its commitment to scientific dissemination to foster vocations and a critical spirit among young people (the scientists of the future) through the RESSÒ (Recerca en Societat) programme, and its commitment to sustainability, developed through the 2022-2025 Sustainability Plan.

Actions aimed at the PCB team included implementing the Training Plan (with special emphasis on raising awareness of cybersecurity and good digital practices), carrying out the actions in the Health and Wellness Plan, and publication of the AI Use Framework and the 2nd Equality Plan.

I cannot end without thanking everyone in the PCB-UB team for their commitment and professionalism, as well as all the members of the PCB-UB community for their excellence and proactive approach. Thanks to them, the PCB-UB continues to build its position as a leading scientific and innovative ecosystem.

CONTENT

PARC CIENTÍFIC DE BARCELONA

08

° Strengthening the research ecosystem through redesign of the fourth floor of the Cluster II building

The fourth floor of the PCB-UB Cluster II building was refurbished to accommodate several units of the August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS) and the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal), both research centres linked to Hospital Clínic de Barcelona. These units, which occupy more than 1,000 m^2, bring over 100 professionals to the PCB community, working in research in the liver, digestive system and metabolism, malaria and neglected parasitic diseases, strengthening a scientific environment of excellence and a high degree of specialisation. In 2024, the collaboration agreement was signed that allowed this transfer in 2025, as part of the Diagonal Health Axis strategic project and the development of the future Campus Clínic-UB, an initiative aimed at establishing an international benchmark in the integration of biomedical research, teaching and innovation.

Panoramic view of the Cluster II building

Newly installed organizations

IDIBAPS

576 m^2 of laboratory space

58 m^2 of office space

634 m^2 In total

ISGlobal

533 m^2 of laboratory space

72 m^2 of office space

606 m^2 In total

New research groups

ISGlobal

Five groups in the Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases Programme:

- Epigenetics of malaria
- Malaria immunology
- Physiopathology and genomics of malaria
- Nanoparticles and malaria
- Malaria parasite glycobiology and biology

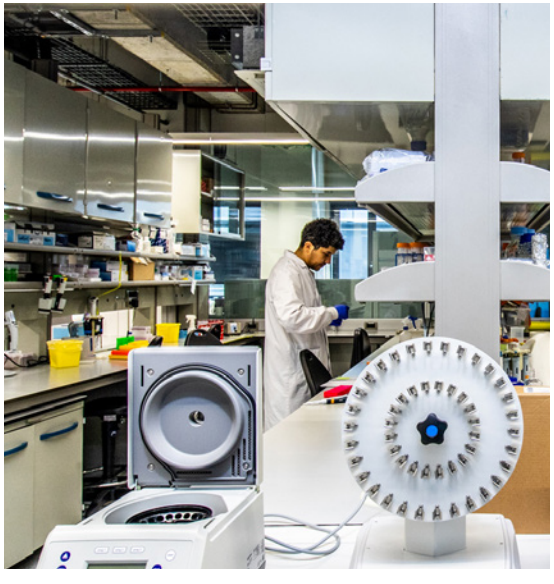
IDIBAPS

Three groups in the area of the liver, digestive system and metabolism:

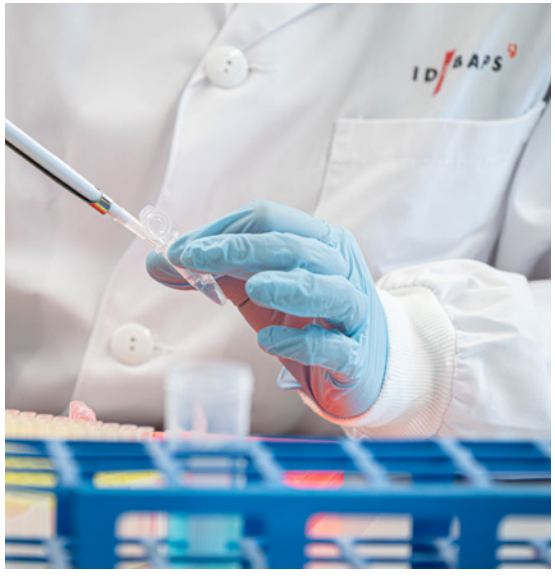
- Lipid transport and disease
- Neural control of metabolism
- Translational control of liver disease and cancer

Redesigning the space

The renovation of the floor, which has a total area of 2,317 square metres, involved executing a comprehensive redesign project aimed at modernising the facilities, optimising laboratory distribution and improving working conditions for the research teams. The most significant improvements included renovation of the scientific infrastructures, refurbishing the flooring, lighting, paintwork, furniture and entrances, and creating more versatile work areas, common areas and two new coffee corners.



ISGlobal laboratory at the PCB-UB



IDIBAPS laboratory Image credit Carlota Vallès/IDIBAPS

Fourth floor of the Cluster II building

Fraunhofer CAT inaugurates its headquarters at the Barcelona Science Park (PCB-UB)

→ The Fraunhofer CAT (Fraunhofer Center for Applied Theragnostics) was also incorporated in 2025 on the fourth floor of Cluster II, bringing 50 new users. The new centre, under the umbrella of the Fraunhofer Spain Research Foundation, represents an important step in institutional and governmental commitment to promoting health innovation and strengthening Barcelona's biomedical research ecosystem. The project is working with the Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC), and will focus its activity on applied theragnosis, a field that combines precision diagnosis and therapy to accelerate the translation of scientific knowledge into clinical practice and the biotechnology industry. The arrival of this project strengthens Barcelona's position as a European hub for biomedical innovation and bioengineering, and promotes collaboration between universities, research centres, public bodies and companies.

Inauguration of the new Fraunhofer CAT facilities

Fraunhofer

576 m^2 of laboratory space

151 m^2 of office space

727 m^2 In total

Research lines

Five research lines in biomedicine and health:

→ New technologies for biomimetic organ and tissue models
→ New technologies for sensors and electronic devices
→ New technologies for therapeutic strategies in personalised medicine
→ New technologies for the production and validation of biological models
→ New technologies in bioinformatics and data analysis

Designs for new buildings: Cub and MIES-UB

Growth in the sector and the heavy demand for space will be absorbed with the construction of two new buildings. Several phases of these projects were developed in 2025. The Cub building is progressing in line with the planned schedule. In March 2025, the jury chose the winning proposal in the ideas competition, and in October, the basic project was presented and the permit application process initiated. For 2026, the plan is to complete the permit process, the executive project and the tender for the building work, with construction scheduled for 2027 and the arrival of its first users in January 2028. The new building will add 2,700 m^2 of space for research and innovation within the PCB.

Parallel to this, the MIES-UB (mathematics, computer science, economics and health) project involves the construction of a research building to provide 10,000 m^2 above ground level, with a maximum volume of 55,333 m^3. This new space will house the IBEC, the Fraunhofer Institute and several UB research centres and groups. It will mainly combine wet labs and dry labs with meeting and collaboration areas. In September 2025, the jury chose the winning architectural project. The building is scheduled to open in 2029.

Rendering of the new Cub building

Interior rendering of the Cub building

The Fundació PCB

The Fundació Parc Científic de Barcelona (Fundació PCB), part of the University of Barcelona (UB) Group, is an initiative promoted by the UB itself, which took shape in 1997. The Fundació PCB participates in research-related activities, in promoting its quality and, above all, in the task of streamlining the UB's connection with the new demands and realities of society, in order to meet global university objectives.

The UB strengthens its public service role through the Fundació PCB and facilitates the return of its scientific and technical capabilities to society.

The Fundació PCB's objectives are:

- Manage and develop a science park with the necessary spaces, personnel and material infrastructures for its users to carry out basic and applied research, innovation and the transfer of technology and knowledge.
- Promote actions to improve the efficiency of the UB's innovation and research work and its interaction with other research groups, companies and institutions.
- Create an outstanding environment to promote innovation and technology transfer activities.

Mission

The mission of the PCB is to facilitate the generation and transmission of knowledge in life sciences and produce results and impacts that improve people's health.

Vision

It aims to be a benchmark agent in the global health ecosystem.

Values

Communication, commitment, responsibility, passion, teamwork and sustainability.

Organisation chart

CEO	**Maria Terrades**
→ Management assistants	Carme Arenillas, Gemma Baladoch
→ Human Resources	Ana Isabel López
Marketing and Communication Department	**Grisha Domakowski**
→ Clients	Sílvia Cambra
→ Communication	Germán Sierra
→ Science Dissemination	Laia Cendrós
Infrastructures, General Services and Sustainability Department	**Fernando Claver**
→ Maintenance	Andrés Lara
→ Architecture and Works	Anna Mezquita
→ Sustainability, Quality and Occupational Safety	Glòria Pladellorens
→ Receptions	Carme Mateo
Information and Telecommunications Systems Department	**Laura Requena**
→ Infrastructures, Telecommunications and Workstation	Miguel Ángel Moruno
→ System Architecture and Administration	Lluís Dueñas
→ IT Applications	Laura Requena
Scientific Services Department	**Montserrat de Luna**
→ Common Scientific Services	Dr Rosa María Debón
→ Animal Facility	Jesús González
→ Radioactive Facility	Dr Agustí Munté
Administration and Finance Department	**Moisès Tarté**
→ Administration and Budgets	Elisabet González
→ Business Control and Planning	José Porras
→ Purchasing	Neus Jiménez
Legal Services Department	**Mercè Alegre**

Board of Trustees

The Fundació Parc Científic de Barcelona was set up in 1997 at the initiative of the University of Barcelona.
The members of its Board of Trustees in 2024 were:

President

- Joan Guàrdia Olmos
  Rector of the University of Barcelona

First Vice-president

- Joan Corominas Guerin
  President of the University of Barcelona Social Council

Secretary

- Marina Solé Català
  General Secretary of the University of Barcelona

Non-trustee Vice-secretary

- Miquel Amorós March
  Secretary of the University of Barcelona Social Council

Members representing the University of Barcelona

- Glòria Matalí Costa
  University of Barcelona Manager
- Jordi Garcia Fernández
  University of Barcelona Vice-rector for Research
- Raúl Ramos Lobo
  University of Barcelona Vice-Rector for Internationalisation Policy

Member appointed by Barcelona City Council

- Jordi Valls Riera
  Fourth Deputy Mayor
  Economy, Tax, Economic Promotion and Tourism

Members appointed by the University of Barcelona Social Council

- Fina Lladós Canela
- Isabel Amat Riera
- Juan Ignacio Jorquera Nieto

Members appointed by the Generalitat de Catalunya

- Joan Gómez Pallarès
  Director General for Research
  (until September 2025)
- Teresa Sanchis Estruch
  Director General for Research
  (until November 2025)
- Javier Selva Sánchez
  Director General for Knowledge Transfer and Society
- Jaume Baró Torres
  Secretary for Enterprise and Competitiveness

Member designated by the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation

- Maria Teresa Plo Cerdán
  Manager of the Bosch i Gimpera Foundation

Member designated by the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC)

- María Eloísa del Pino Matute
  President of the CSIC

The team

Training and development

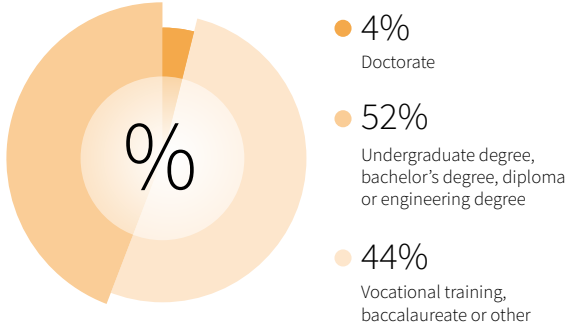
In 2025, a biannual plan was launched to improve the planning and execution times of training actions. The change has ensured better planning in organising activities and optimising operations. Last year, the Training Plan focused on raising awareness of cybersecurity and good digital practices. It enabled us to reduce risks associated with digital threats, strengthen data protection and promote a security culture in the organisation.

43
Total number of training actions

570.50
Total hours of training given

69
Total number of people trained

Educational background of the team



Major advances

The PCB's 2nd Equality Plan was published, including actions to promote: equal representation in the various areas, services and professional groups; co-responsibility between women and men; inclusive communication; and more training in gender equality.

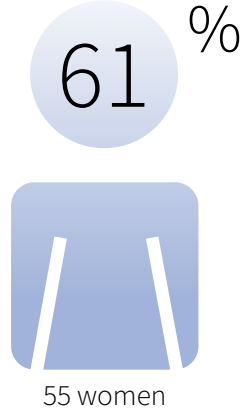
The AI Use Framework for the PCB team was issued, with the aim of providing clear guidelines on responsible and ethical use of AI in our daily activities.

The First LGBTQ Plan was drawn up, with the dissemination of management's commitment in this area and a survey among the workforce.

The staff disengagement procedure was initiated, with a new protocol for the collection of personal effects.

Total staff

88



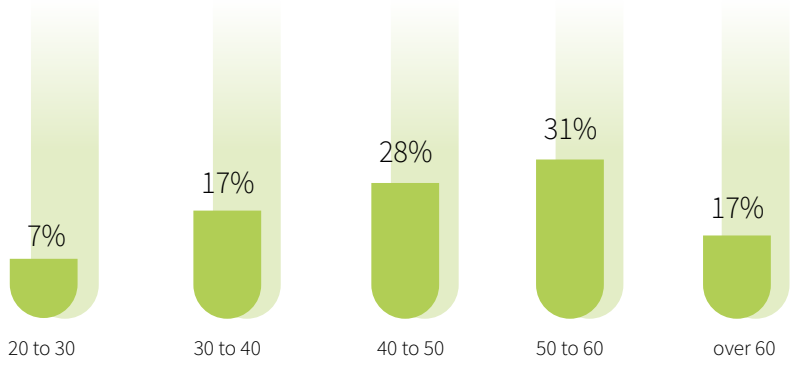
Health and Wellness Plan

In 2025, work continued on actions aimed at people's well-being. Of particular note in this regard are the physiotherapy service and the mindfulness programme. A digital disconnection policy was also shared with the workforce.

New additions to the PCB-UB team

In 2025, the PCB team grew with two new positions: a technician in the Common Scientific Services (SCC) and a technician in Systems Architecture and Administration.

Average age: 48 years



PCB-UB team

Commitment and progress in sustainability

Below, we highlight some of the key initiatives carried out within the framework of the 2022–2025 Sustainability Plan.

PCB COMMITMENT TO SDGS

Energy efficiency and climate action

Installation of photovoltaic panels on the roofs of the Hèlix building and Cluster offices, generating 219,030 kilowatt hours in a year.

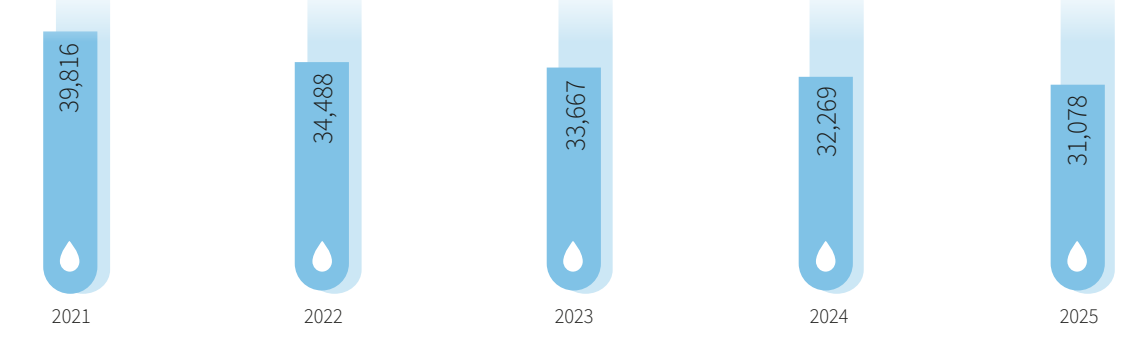
Acquisition of a 200-kilowatt electric heat pump that works using a refrigerant gas with near-zero greenhouse gas emissions for the production of hot water for heating, replacing part of the production previously generated by natural gas boilers.

Solar panels on the roof of the Cluster Offices building

Lower consumption

Water consumption continues to be lowered thanks to the actions implemented in recent years. In 2025, water consumption was cut by 27% compared to 2021.

Evolution of water consumption in PCB buildings (m^3)



Circular economy and solidarity actions

The PCB managed to donate all its old furniture in good condition, resulting from the renovations and updates to its spaces. It also found a second life for 80% of its decommissioned scientific equipment. These actions avoided generating around 2,250 kilograms of waste.

Several exchange markets were consolidated for clothes, books and consumable laboratory equipment. The PCBakers project, which raises money for charities, was also strengthened.

Biodiversity and larger green areas

The community vegetable garden started in the spring of 2024 doubled its size in 2025. The number of garden volunteers grew continuously, with 28 more people as of December 2025.

Public awareness and dissemination

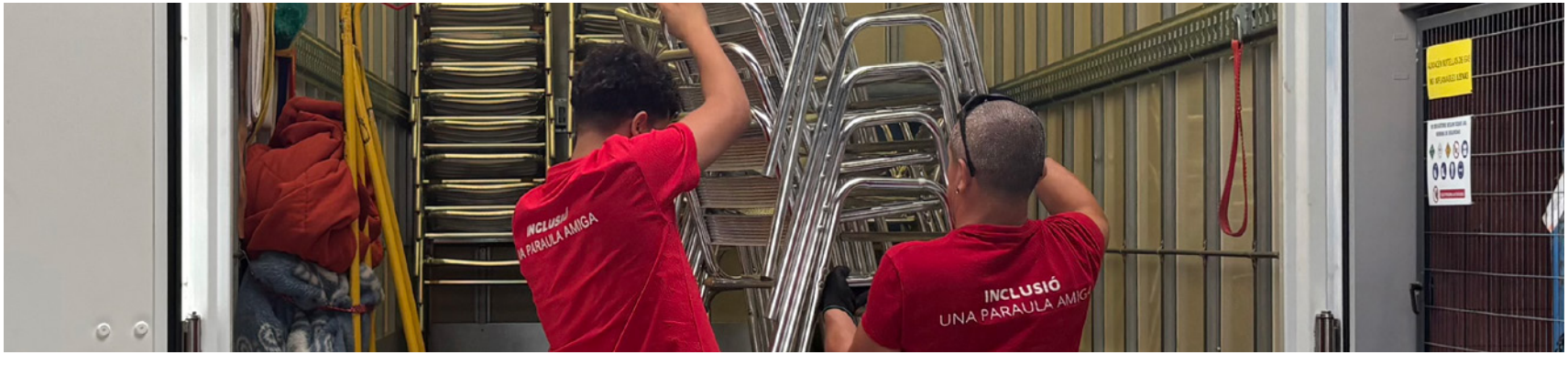
A number of members of the PCB team and the community participated in the seminar *Traspassant l'objectiu* (Through the camera lens) a proposal from the SETBA Foundation to highlight the lives of a group of women deprived of their liberty. The activity contributed to raising awareness of social responsibility and fostering conscience among engaged individuals. The PCB disseminated and published notes and reflections on the environment, social issues and good governance in biotechnology. A specific section on the website, screens in building reception areas and the weekly notes in the newsletter *T'interessa* aim to train and inform people in generating a positive impact.

Partnerships

A sustainability commission was set up among PCB organisations to promote sustainability projects of common and community interest.

In 2025, a joint Company Commute Plan (PDE) was initiated to promote sustainable and safe mobility in the workplace.

See the sustainability notes here



Formació i Treball workers reusing Parc furniture

Digital presence

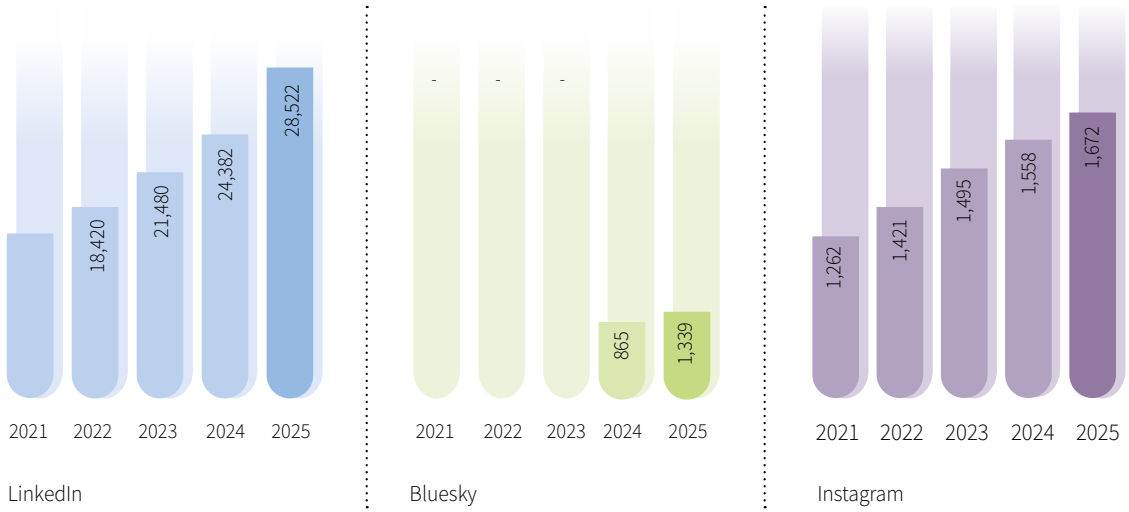
In 2025, there were 16% more news stories to explain the PCB's day-to-day activity, but there was a drop in impacts in the general and specialised sector press compared to the previous year, which had generated many media impacts thanks to the arrival of well-known organisations at the PCB-UB. In 2025, work was carried out on the design of a new website and intranet, due to be launched in 2026.

Social media

The LinkedIn account continued to grow and the PCB gained 4,140 followers on the platform in one year, more than 1,000 new followers compared to the previous year. The Bluesky community grew at a slower but constant pace. Instagram closed the year with more than 1,650 followers. The latter platform has become a meeting point and site for more informal interaction.

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Annual visits to www.pcb.ub.edu	64,120	112,008	117,642	94,138	49,370
New stories published on the website	141	143	139	194	231
Impacts in the general and specialised press and sector websites	930	933	882	896	564

Followers

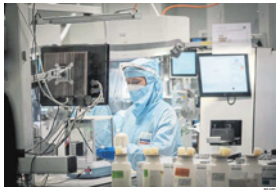


The Parc has been news

La UB estrena un microscopio puntero para la investigación

El instrumento del Parc Científic cuesta 3,35 millones de euros

El PCB atrae 124 millones para sus empresas y avanza en su ampliación



La madurez del sector biotec

Un nuevo polo biomédico en la Diagonal

La aceleradora BCN Health Booster capta inversiones por 107,5 millones en tres años

El parc científic de la UB capta 124 milions d'euros

El PCB atrae 209 millones para sus empresas y grupos de investigación

36.000

974

19

LOS SEMÁFOROS

Maria Terrades

Directora Parc Científic de la UB

El Parc Científic de la Universitat de Barcelona se consolida como un espacio de investigación de primer nivel,capaz de captar cada vez más inversiones, en el 2024 por valor de 124 millones de euros. / P. 29

Serena Williams

Extenista

Serena Williams (43) fue distinguida con el premio Princesa de Asturias de los Deportes. La estadounidense consiguió durante su carrera profesional un total de 23 títulos del Grand Slam. / P. 41

Alejandro Blanco

Presidente del COE

Blanco (74) fue reelegido ayer como presidente del Comité Olímpico Español. El dirigente emprenderá así su sexto mandato, hasta el 2029, al frente del organismo. / P. 42

Ricard Calvo

Exdirector de la DGAIA

El director de la DGAIA entre el 2016 y 2017 evitó ayer contestar preguntas en el Parlament sobre su gestión. La Sindicatura de Comptes alertó de fallos en contrataciones. / P. 20

1 Scientists from IBEC manage to reverse Alzheimer's in mice using nanoparticles

2 New mechanism identified that shields persister tumour cells from the immune system

3 World's first foal born through maternal spindle transfer, an advanced assisted reproduction technique effective against infertility

4 Research provides new evidence on the possible relationship between endometriosis and traumatic experiences

5 President Illa inaugurates new first generation CCiTUB microscopy equipment at the Barcelona Science Park

6 Barcelona Science Park awards the 21st edition of the BATX2LAB program

7 BeCytes opens new laboratory to accelerate the production of in vitro cellular models

8 The Fraunhofer CAT Center is being established at the Barcelona Science Park to promote the development of advanced diagnostics and therapies

9 The Atacama Desert: from idyllic landscape to disconcerting reality

10 Tribute to Màrius Rubiralta, former director of the Barcelona Science Park

SCIENTIFIC SERVICES

22

Laboratories open to the community

The PCB makes laboratories, equipment and scientific infrastructure available to users on a self-service basis. These laboratories are managed by PCB staff who provide support to users and ensure the smooth running and adaptation of the service to the research needs of both companies and research centres. Users and researchers from the organisations based in the PCB have access to these scientific infrastructures, working autonomously and having at their disposal all the equipment owned by the PCB.

Investment in the renovation of equipment and facilities of the Shared Scientific Services SCC-PCB

- 1.703 m^2 of equipped self-service laboratories
- 1,600 users
- Laboratories in Cluster I, Cluster II and Hèlix buildings
- Book online

24/7

365 days

Investment in the renovation of equipment and laboratories of the Shared Scientific Services SCC-PCB in 2025

- €247k in investment in equipment renewal
- €670k investment in building work and equipment
- New rooms CL02 and CL04, extending the general equipment and microbiology room by 68 m^2

Equipment acquired for the renovation and expansion of the SCC-PCB in 2025

- Odyssey M fluorescence and chemiluminescence system
- Incubator shakers for bacteria and baculoviridae
- Vertical autoclaves
- Biological safety cabinets
- Cryostat
- Gel documentation system
- Cuvette and microvolume spectrophotometer
- Microplate reader with monochromator
- Freeze-dryer
- Ice machine
- Optima Max micro-ultracentrifuge
- Water purification system
- High-speed centrifuges and rotors
- Ultrafreezers
- Automated CO_2 incubators for cell cultures
- Refrigerated benchtop centrifuge
- Installation of a 4°C chamber with small laboratory equipment

Sample collection from an ultra-low temperature freezer

€247k

in investment in equipment renewal

€670k

investment in building work and equipment

Infrastructure and equipment of the SCC-PCB

- 7 clean rooms
- 3 bacterial culture rooms
- 2 yeast culture rooms
- 1 room for chemical activity
- 9 rooms with centrifuges
- 12 rooms with standard equipment
- 7 rooms with shaking incubators
- 1 air-conditioned room at 37°C with shaking platforms
- 10 cold rooms, 6 deep-freezer rooms and 2 rooms with cryotanks
- 7 rooms with spectroscopy equipment
- 1 microscope room
- 1 histology room
- 1 protein purification equipment laboratory
- Laboratory equipment washing service

Service offer: Radioactive Facility

Users have access to a central radioisotope laboratory and a counter room in the Cluster I building, which are highly equipped and supported by qualified technical staff for the handling of radioisotope-labelled molecules.

- Optimal safety and radiation protection measures.
- Authorisation from the Generalitat de Catalunya Radioactive Activities Coordination Service and the Nuclear Safety Council.
- Access restricted to authorised users
- 91 unique users over the year
- 148 m^2 of dedicated laboratories and 17 m^2 of laboratories shared with Common Scientific Services (SCC) and the animal facility

Infrastructure and equipment: Radioactive Facility

- Cell culture area
- Experimental animal area
- Counter room: beta and gamma detection equipment
- Laser-based digital imaging system for radioactive samples
- Waste storage
- X-ray irradiator for biological samples

Service offer: *Drosophila*

Two equipped observation rooms (fly rooms) allow users to do research with *Drosophila melanogaster* as an experimental model. There are climatic chambers and cabinets for growth and a room for the preparation of fly growth medium.

More than 31,000 feed tubes per month

Infrastructure and equipment: *Drosophila*

- Episcopic magnifiers
- CO_2 installation
- Climatic rooms and cabinets (at 18°C and 25°C)
- Rooms at 4°C for preserving prepared food
- Kitchen for the preparation and supply of growth medium

Observation of *Drosophila* under a stereomicroscope

Service offer: animal facility

- The PCB manages its zoological core as a benchmark platform for research with living models
- 2,500 m^2
- 2 SPF animal facilities for rodents (rat, mouse, hamster and guinea pig)
- 1 animal facility for models of *Xenopus laevis*
- 13,800 housed animals
- 428 accredited users

Conventional animal facility project

Part of one of the animal facilities was designed and equipped as a CNV space to increase capacity in meeting research staff's needs.

Process for obtaining additional quality and animal welfare accreditations

Progress continued to be made in the project to prepare for international accreditation by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC), the highest existing quality standard for institutions working with laboratory animals.

Investment in equipment renewal

- A total of €269k was invested in renovating equipment and designing the animal facility to create a conventional space and make improvements for newly incorporated groups
- Ventilation units and vented racks with mini-isolators
- Booth for cleaning carcass disposal bins
- Animal transport trolley
- Peristaltic pump and PH control pump
- Operating table

Guarantee and quality

The animal facility is a signatory to the Agreement on Transparency in Animal Experimentation promoted by the Confederation of Spanish Scientific Societies, with the collaboration of the European Animal Research Association. There is also an Animal Experimentation Ethics Committee, a body authorised by the Generalitat de Catalunya to assess animal experiment projects, which assessed 89 projects and pilot tests in 2025.

Clean room

GENERAL SERVICES

26

General services are managed by the PCB-UB so users can focus on their added value: innovation, research or training, among others.

PCB-UB service offer

Receptions and mail handling

From 8 a.m to 7 p.m.

4 receptions:

- Cluster I
- Cluster II
- Tower buildings
- Hèlix

- User and visitor service and information point
- Management of the meeting spaces
- Management of daily post and couriers

Meeting and event rooms

11

meeting rooms, for 4 to 40 persons

2

visiting rooms

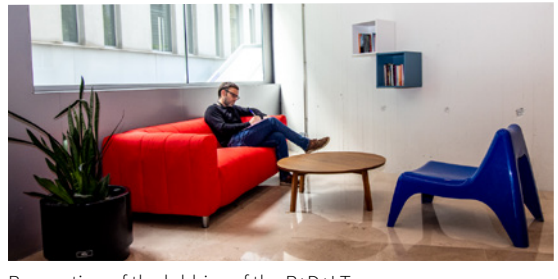
- Antoni Caparrós auditorium, with a capacity for 146 people
- Multi-purpose Dolors Aleu room, with a capacity for 120 people
- Félix Serratosa room, with a capacity for 75 people
- 1 silent room

10,212

hours of bookings a year

22.75%

average occupancy



Renovation of the lobbies of the R+D+I Towers

- 1 multi-purpose room (Tower R)
- Equipped with audiovisual equipment: LCD screen or projector and computer
- Audiovisual technical support
- Flexible booking in two-hour time slots
- Catering management

New furniture for the terrace restaurant

Other rooms and equipment

- Breastfeeding room
- Nurse station
- OpenLab, a laboratory for hosting students
- Changing rooms

24/7 security

- CCTV access control and perimeter surveillance
- Fire and intrusion detection
- Centralised alarms for general air-conditioning, freezers and cold rooms with preferential circuits and UPS

Delivery of goods

- Daily goods reception and delivery service:

40,314

Drop-offs a year

Cleaning

- Daily cleaning of common areas and exclusive user areas:

70

Daily routes

Maintenance and works

- Design and coordination of the renovations in user areas
- Facility maintenance, upkeep, optimisation and operability
- Electricity supplies, decalcified and demineralised water supplies
- Supply of laboratory gases; liquid nitrogen and dry ice dispensing

Annual interventions:

9,848

Preventive maintenance actions

8,852

Corrective maintenance actions

3,120

Maintenance actions on user request

Laundry for laboratory clothing

- Services include rental of three personalised lab coats per user and weekly cleaning

Waste management

- Door-to-door collection of laboratory waste
- User training
- Centralised management of office and other waste
- 76.82 tons of biological waste, a 40.9% increase over the previous year
- 29.76 tons of chemical waste, a 20.3% increase over the previous year

Supply and management of technical gases

- Supply of standard technical gases: nitrogen, CO_2, oxygen, argon, helium, hydrogen, synthetic air, compressed air and vacuum.

Investment in renovation and new equipment

A 350-kW chilled water production plant for air-conditioning was replaced to supply the MRI and microscopy areas with cooling gas with low greenhouse gas emissions.

Store

Laboratory and office consumables

Catering

2 restaurants > 300 simultaneous diners

7 zones with vending machines

9 areas for self-service food consumption

300 simultaneous diners

Cluster I	Cafeteria, outdoors
Helix	Patio, outdoors
Multi-purpose room	Indoors
Tower R	Floor 1: multi-purpose room, indoors
Torre I	Floor −1, interior
Tower D	Ground floor, interior; garden, exterior
Cluster II	Fifteen Room, interior
PCBeach	Outdoors

Car park

- Subsidised monthly passes for PCB users
- 24/7 surveillance
- Electric vehicle charging: 11 slow-charging spaces, 12 semi-fast car-charging spaces and 2 motorcycle spaces

512 car parking spaces

13 adapted parking spaces

47 motorcycle parking spaces

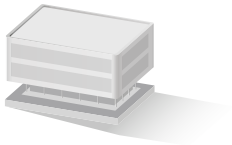
30 bicycle parking spaces

5 scooter parking spaces

New screen in the Dolors Aleu Room

Improvements to PCB areas

In 2025, numerous improvements were made to the PCB's infrastructure and areas. In total, 4,808 m^2 of laboratories and 513 m^2 of offices were refurbished. Below are some of the more significant interventions:



Cluster offices

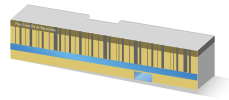
- Improvement to the Office Cluster building terrace with new paving and the installation of a bioclimatic pergola.
- New waterproofing on the roof of the building.
- Façade panels replaced.

Cluster I building

- Remodelling of the warehouse and goods reception area.
- Freight lift in the Cluster I building replaced, with a load capacity of 3,500 kilograms.
- Technical management system controllers replaced for facilities in the Hèlix, Cluster I and Torres buildings.
- Furniture in the microwave area replaced.
- Cryogenic container room extended by 25 m^2.

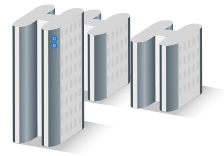
Cluster II building

- Improvements to the corridors on the fourth floor (LED lighting, painting and walls).
- New solvent warehouse in the basement commissioned.
- Soundproof booth installed.
- New large-format LED screen installed in the Dolors Aleu room.



Hèlix

New soundproof booth installed in the Silent Room.



Towers R, D & I

- Fire protection panels replaced in Tower D.
- Improvements to the elevator halls in the three towers, with refurbishments to the ceiling, floor and paintwork.
- New meeting room created in Tower D.

Car park

25 new chargers for electric vehicles commissioned (23 for cars and 2 for motorcycles).

Soundproof booth in Cluster II

New meeting room in Tower D

Service offer in communication systems and technologies

Telephone system and IT network

- Access to Anella Científica network for public bodies. Internet access for businesses
- IP corporate telephone network with Telefónica and option of contracting other companies
- IP services
- Wi-Fi network, VPN and shared printers
- Server hosting service at the data processing centre
- Security systems to minimise risks related to the use of communications networks.

Improvements in 2025

Permanent reinforcement of IT security

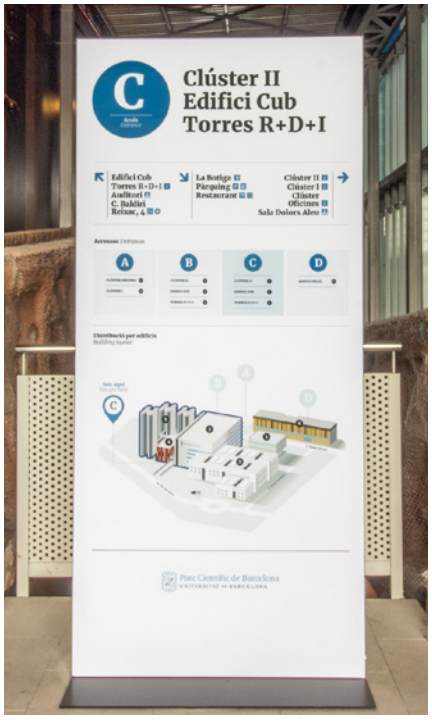
The PCB-UB remains firmly committed to IT security. The use of two-factor authentication was extended for access to the intranet and other PCB-UB IT services, such as reserving spaces and scientific equipment. A data protection system was also implemented for DPC resources.

Investment in renovation and new equipment

Improvements were made to the Wi-Fi coverage in PCB-UB areas.

NEW PCB SIGNAGE

32



A revamped image

In 2025, a global project to renew and improve signage was initiated in the PCB with the aim of improving directions for users and visitors, improving the identification of buildings and organising routes within the site with a clearer, more coherent and more uniform signage system. The project involved various actions in all the PCB buildings.

One of the main lines of work was to improve entrance identification. To make the entrances more easily recognisable, a system of letters was established and new information signs were put up, providing a better understanding of the organisation of the buildings and their relationship with the internal roads in the complex.

Work was also done to improve the information available at receptions and the main building entrance points, with new signs and the creation of a general plan to provide a better understanding of the space. The signage on internal routes and confusing points was reinforced, such as at connections between buildings and intersections to reinforce information on getting around and the location of exits. Finally, progress was also made in renewing internal signage, such as the block signs showing the location of the organisations, identifying common areas and signs for rooms and facilities. In total, more than 140 actions were carried out.

SPACE OCCUPANCY

34

Full utilization of the available space

The PCB continues to be fully occupied, with a total of 32,318 square metres of serviceable office and laboratory space now in use, representing 98% of the equipped space and 95% of the total space available.

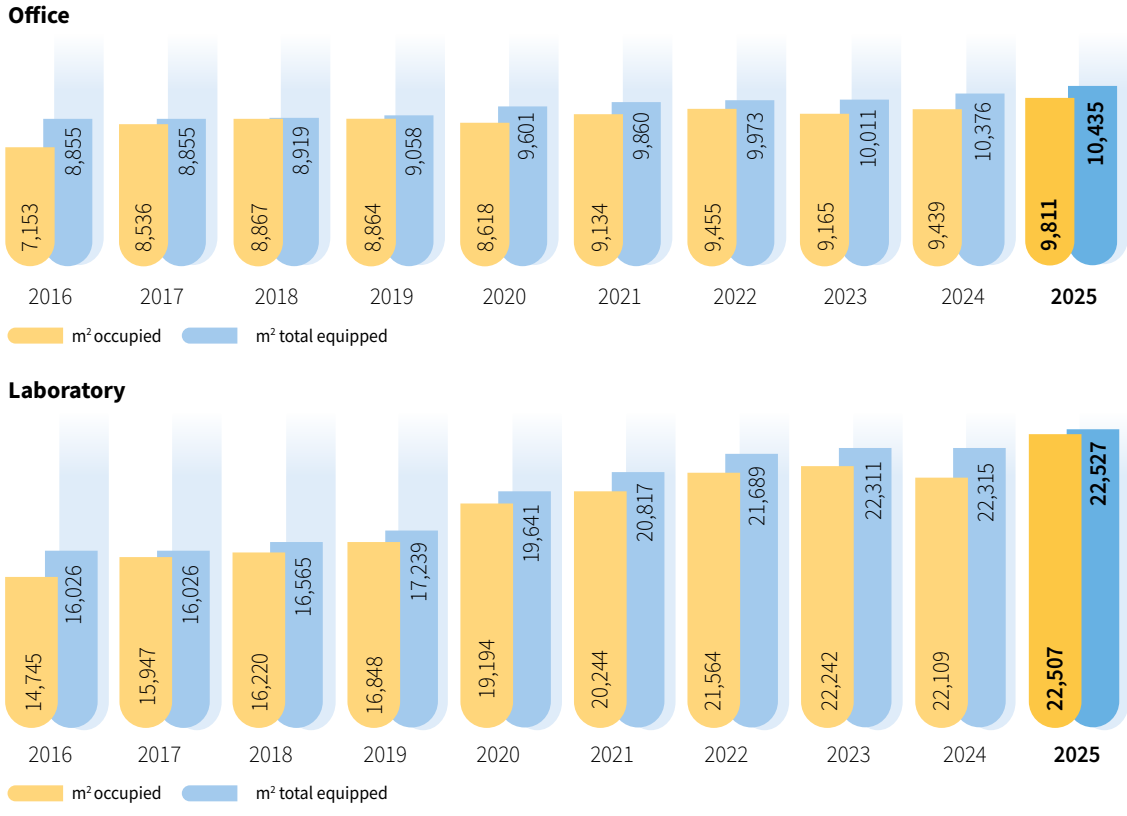
98%

Occupancy of equipped space

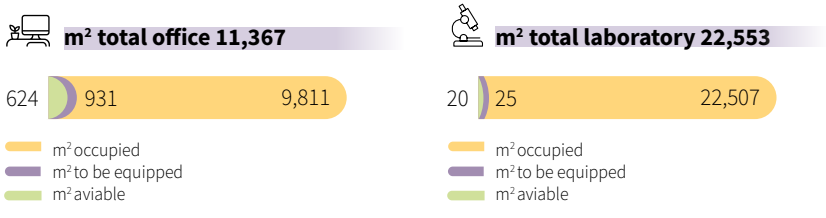
95%

Occupancy of total space

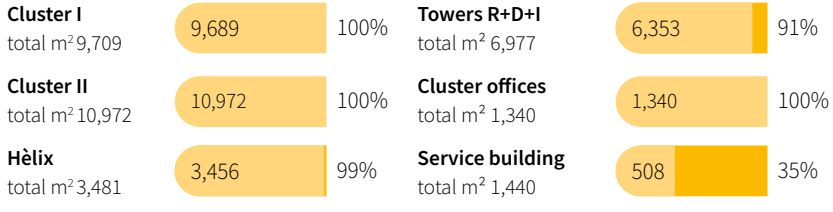
Trend in office and laboratory space occupation (serviceable m²)



Oferta de metres quadrats d'oficina i laboratori



Percentatge d'ocupació per edifici



RESSÒ (RECERCA EN SOCIETAT) PROGRAMME

(R)
RESSÒ

36

In line with the Parc Científic de Barcelona statutes, the PCB has, since its inception, promoted a knowledge-based society and maintains a firm commitment to scientific dissemination and the promotion of scientific vocations and scientific culture among the public. The RESSÒ (Recerca en Societat) programme is a pioneering initiative to make current research more accessible to students in Catalonia, in order to awaken scientific vocations and critical thinking through real experiences involving active research personnel. RESSÒ seeks to foster mobilisation, involvement and impact in the scientific and educational communities and society, in order to facilitate an open dialogue that favours exchange and mutual learning.

Activities	108
Research papers	40
Exhibitions	1
Audience impacted	> 7,500
Schools	180
high-need schools	13
Research staff	60
Research centres	4
Companies	4

(T) TALLERS

Workshops

Every year, the RESSÒ programme organises 90 workshops for pupils from the 5th year of primary education to the 2nd year of upper secondary education and vocational training.

Each workshop lasts two hours and is led by research staff working at PCB research centres and companies. In 2025, these included the National Centre for Genomic Analysis (CNAG), the Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC), the Molecular Biology Institute of Barcelona (IBMB-CSIC), the Barcelona Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB Barcelona), various University of Barcelona (UB) laboratories and research units, and the companies Aptadel Therapeutics and OneChain Immunotherapeutics.

Primary education

We introduce the scientific method through experiments. Topics:

- Discovering biomedical research
- Discovering nanoscience research

54	1,332	32
Workshops	**Students**	**Schools**
	100 from high-need schools	including 2 high-need schools

Primary school students in the Fly Room

Secondary education

Experiments related to real research projects. Topics:

- Analysing DNA and investigating the perpetrators of crimes
- Transforming bacteria for atherosclerosis
- How are medicines made?
- Building proteins
- Discover nature's patterns
- Research with cells and genes
- Researching the biomechanics of cancer
- Sequencing with state-of-the-art technologies

40	1,252	67
Workshops	**Students**	**Schools**
	121 from high-need schools	including 7 high-need schools

High school students experimenting

BATX2LAB

BATX2LAB tutors and accompanies young 1st-year upper secondary school students in the experimental part of their research project, under the guidance of PCB research staff.

In 2025, the tutors came from the CNAG, IBEC, IBMB-CSIC, IRB Barcelona, various UB laboratories and research units and the companies DTI Foundation and Lumiris.

40 **Research papers**

44 **Students**
36 girls and 8 boys

40 **Schools**
1 high-need school

23 **Research staff**
18 women and 5 men

Exhibition “Women who changed the world”

A travelling exhibition on women who have marked the advancement of science throughout history. It was accompanied by a teaching guide for cross-curricular work in different educational areas and skills that allows for a deeper understanding of the gender gap and the promotion of scientific vocations.

16 **Schools**
2 high-need schools

> 4,100 **Audience**

STEAM Talks

Scientific talks to encourage scientific vocations and offer a humorous reflection on scientific and technological advances, such as AI, human evolution and new gene editing techniques. An initiative in conjunction with Barcelona Activa and Big Van Ciencia.

3 **Shows**

353 **Students**

9 **Schools**

European Researchers’ Night

Initiative promoted by the European Union’s Horizon Europe Research and Innovation programme. On 26 September, the PCB participated in the activities of the European Researchers’ Night in Catalonia with an activity for secondary school students. Participants had the opportunity to discover how to conduct research to develop new medicines and explore emerging fields driven by new technologies, such as bioinformatics.

5 **Visits**

130 **Students**

5 **Schools**
1 high-need school

STEAM Monòlegs Show

KIDS DAY

Conference aimed at relatives of PCB-UB staff, aged 5 to 16, with the aim of bringing them closer to research, awakening scientific vocations and helping them learn about the working environment of their relatives.

33 **Participants**

KID'S DAY event

What's new for 2025

Escape Room

The PCB participated in the Barcelona City Council Science Festival, on 1 June, with a new proposal: an escape room for children aged 10 and above. Participants had the opportunity to reflect on the loss of female talent throughout their research careers, while solving riddles and conducting experiments to learn about five female scientists who have made great contributions in different areas of research, both in the past and the present.

1 **Sessions** | 50 **Participants**

Debates on bioethics

Activity aimed at 3rd- and 4th-year and upper secondary education or vocational training students to provide a space for dialogue about the ethical implications of new technologies, addressing complex and controversial issues to promote critical thinking and understanding of the dilemmas that often accompany them. The initiative was promoted by Salvador Macip, with the support of Barcelona Activa, and raised challenges in nanotechnology (nanorobots), human enhancements (mechanical organ transplantation), surrogate children and doping.

4 **Sessions** | 309 **Students** | 11 **Schools**

Partnerships

Exporecerca Jove - Organised by: Magma

We would like to express our gratitude to the organisations that work with and support the RESSÒ programme.

With the collaboration of:

With the participation of:

With the support of:

THE PCB COMMUNITY

40

The PCB community brings together almost 3,616 research, technical, entrepreneurial and business personnel working in a total of 111 organisations based in the PCB and operating mainly in the health sector: pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, medical devices, nutrition and cosmetics.

83 Companies: spin-offs, start-ups, SMEs and large companies (both national and multinational)

9 Research centres

7 Non-profit organisations: foundations, business associations, patient associations and technology centres

12 University of Barcelona groups, units and services

The research centres

- **Barcelona Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB Barcelona)**, founded in 2005 and based at the PCB-UB from the beginning. It has 29 research groups and 511 research staff.
- **Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC)**, founded in 2005 and based at the PCB-UB from the beginning. It conducts multidisciplinary research of excellence at the frontier between engineering and life sciences to generate knowledge and contribute solutions to health problems. It has 26 groups and 434 research staff.
- **Molecular Biology Institute of Barcelona (IBMB-CSIC)**, founded in 1998 and based at the PCB-UB since 2003. It has 32 research groups and more than 131 research staff. .
- **National Centre for Genomic Analysis (CNAG)**, founded in 2009 and based at the PCB-UB from the beginning. It has a sequencing unit and a bioinformatics unit, and eight research groups to carry out genomic analysis projects. In total, about 114 people work at the centre.
- **August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute** The Fundació de Recerca Clínic Barcelona – August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS) works in high-quality biomedical research and addresses the most common diseases in our society. Its mission is translational research, i.e. it seeks to ensure that the questions that arise at the patient's bedside are answered in the laboratory and that advances made in the laboratory are quickly transferred to patients. Three groups work in the area of liver, digestive system and metabolism at the PCB-UB.
- **Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal)** The Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal) was officially founded in 2010 with the impetus of the "la Caixa" Foundation and academic and governmental institutions, with the aim of providing Barcelona with a leading research and translation centre to meet the challenges facing global health in the 21st century. ISGlobal has over 30 years of experience in the field of health, making it a hub of excellence based on research in hospitals and academia. Five research groups from the Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases Programme work at the PCB.
- **Fraunhofer Spain** The Fraunhofer Spain Research Foundation and the Applied Theragnostics Research Programme (Fraunhofer Center for Applied Theragnostics – Fraunhofer CAT) were created in 2024 out of an international alliance with the German organisation Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, a world leader in applied research, with the aim of accelerating knowledge transfer from academia to production sectors. In particular, the Fraunhofer CAT research programme will develop better-quality diagnostic, prognostic and therapy selection systems to drive precision medicine and advanced therapies. The initiative receives financial support of the Government of Spain (Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities), Barcelona City Council and the Generalitat de Catalunya and academic collaboration from the University of Barcelona, the IBEC and the Fraunhofer Institute for Biomedical Engineering (Fraunhofer IBMT).
- Research groups from the **UB** and the **UB Institute of Cosmos Sciences (ICCUB)**
- **Vall d'Hebron Research Institute (VHIR) biobank**

The ecosystem

New incorporation of established companies

accuretherapeutics · ALLO · X · FARMALIDER · lumiris · MB Matrix Biotek Innovation for Health · Midas® Pharma Trust. Expertise. Added Value. · KORIKINE BIO · NANOBOTS THERAPEUTICS · PROUS INSTITUTE for Biomedical Research

New associated companies

Disrupt Therapeutics · LIVERA · SERABIOTICS PLASMA SOLUTIONS

Companies by sector

Biotechnology: R&D Services

BeCYTES BIOTECHNOLOGIES A BioIVT Company · Chemotargets · COMPLIFE SCIENTISTS BEHIND WELLNESS · DEKAPENTA LABS · embryotools · enantia · FERTINAGRO BIOTECH · GalChimia · NIVD · oloBion OMICS BIOSCIENCE LAB · Pharmacelera · SITEC pharmabio · SKB BIOTECH · solitek · XENOPAT · zymvol Reliable Enzyme Innovation


accuretherapeutics
ALLOX
APTADEL therapeutics
AVX PHARMA
CONNECTA THERAPEUTICS
deepull
DRT Disrupt Therapeutics
ENDOR TECHNOLOGIES
fecundis Innovative fertility solutions
GAIN THERAPEUTICS
GATBIO
G2B GATE2BRAIN Medicines beyond barriers
gattx THERAPEUTICS
Hemostatics
idp pharma
IMIDomics
innerva Pharmaceuticals
Leanbio
LIVERA
MB Matrix Biotek Innovation for Health
MIMark
NUAGE THERAPEUTICS
omniscope
Ona THERAPEUTICS
OneChain IMMUNOTHERAPEUTICS
KORIKINE BIO
PROUS INSTITUTE for Biomedical Research
SERABIOTICS PLASMA SOLUTIONS
SOM BIOTECH
SPLICEBIO
QIAGEN
ZIPSOLUTIONS

Cosmetics

ALGAKTIV

be dyverse

Greenaltech

infinitec
An Evonik company

Food

CIRCE Scientific

ORDESA

Medical Technology

Dan*nb
artificial nature

INBRAIN
NEUROELECTRONICS

INNERVIA
BIOELECTRONICS

lumiris

NANOBOTS
THERAPEUTICS

NBS
NEWBORN.SOLUTIONS

PangæaBiotech s.a.

Pharmaceutics

AGUETTANT
MÉDICAMENTS
ESSENTIELS

FARMALIDER

FARMAPROJECTS

HIPRA

Midas® Pharma
Trust. Expertise. Added Value.

oncostellae

Pharma Mar

REIG JOFRE
TRADITION OF INNOVATION

Vesismin Health
Preventing infections

Consulting and professional services

ÁlamoConsulting

arian international

EQA

GENESIS Biomed

HOFFMANN EITLE
MADRID | BARCELONA

METEO SIM

Provider and engineering

ALTHEA
INTEGRATED HEALTHCARE TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT

BRUKER

BioLab

Dutscher
IBERICA

Research centers

cnag
centre nacional d'anàlisi genòmica
centro nacional de análisis genómico

Clínic Barcelona

Fraunhofer
SPAIN

IBEC
Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia

ibmb
Institut de Biologia Molecular de Barcelona
CSIC

ICCUB

IDIBAPS
Institut D'Investigacions Biomèdiques August Pi i Sunyer

IRB
BARCELONA

ISGlobal
Institut de Salut Global Barcelona

Vall d'Hebron
Institut de Recerca

Non profit organisations

ACER
Associació Catalana d'Entitats de Recerca

biocat

Catalonia.health
Science. Innovation. Business

DTI

europeG
IEB

FUNDACIÓ GAEM
Grup d'Afectats d'Esclerosi Múltiple

icloby

LEITAT Technological Center
managing your technologies
member of TECNIO

University of Barcelona services, units and groups

UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA
Immunologia Traslacional

UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA
Biologia del Macròfag

UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA
RMN de Biomolècules

Bosch i Gimpera
UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA

CCiTUB
Centres Científics i Tecnològics
UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA

Creatio
Production and validation center of advanced therapies
UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA

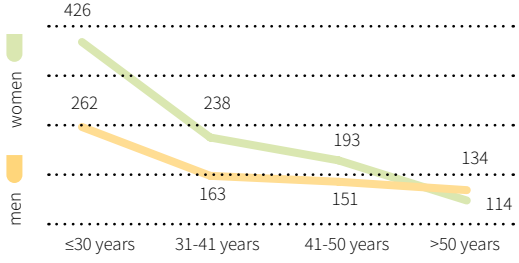
I→B=U→B
Institut de Biomedicina
UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA

Snapshot of the PCB community

The PCB community has 3,616 users: 2,062 women (57%), 1,545 men (43%) and 9 people who did not specify their gender. Their average age is 38. Eighteen per cent of the population is international, representing 72 nationalities, 3 more than the previous year.

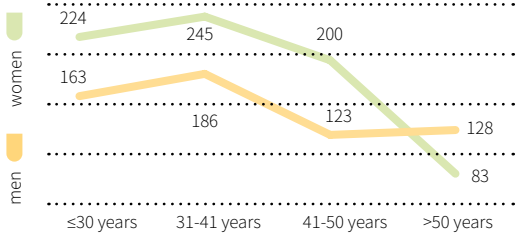
Gender distribution by age

Public sector professionals*

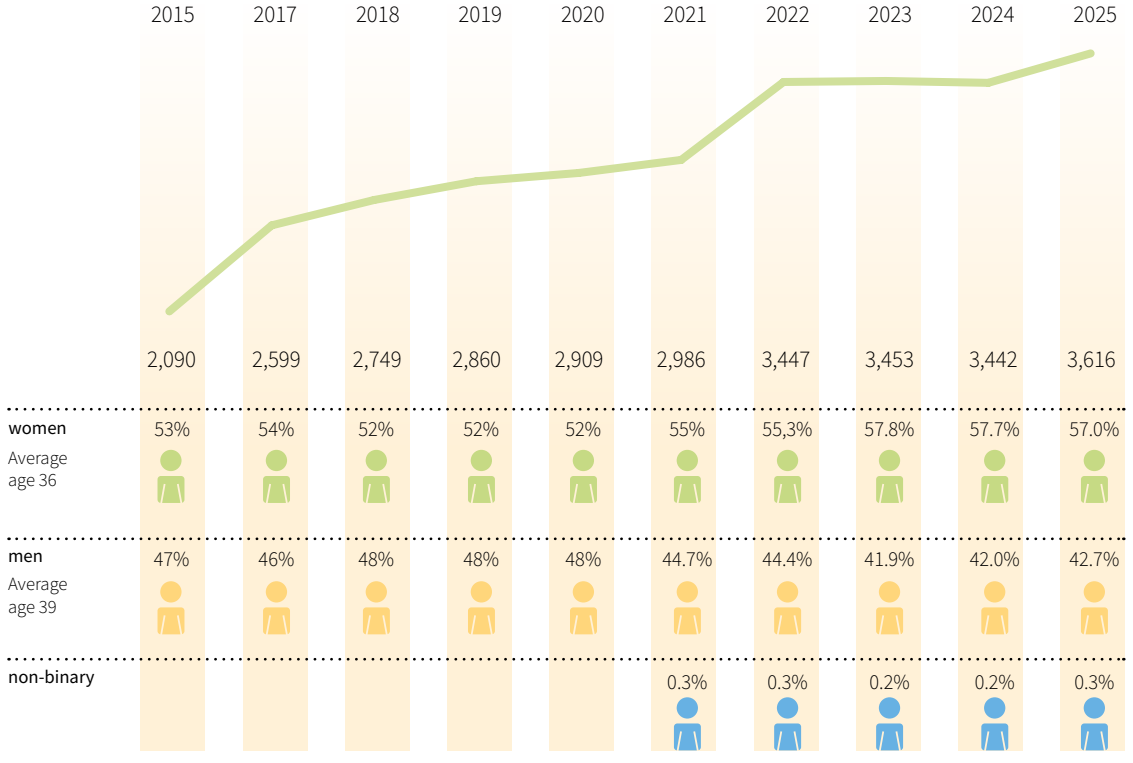


* Public research centres, non-profit foundations, UB centres

Private sector professionals



Demographic trends of the PCB-UB



73 nationalities

Top 5 nationalities

Italy

France

Germany

United Kingdom

India

PCB community activity reports

As every year, the activity produced by the ecosystem is notable for significant scientific advances, innovation with a real impact and achievements that consolidate our research centres and organisations as leaders in research and knowledge generation. Below is a summary of the main milestones achieved. The information was collected in 2025 and retrospectively analyses the 2024 financial year.

The PCB-UB private ecosystem maintained its investment levels, with €124 million in 2024

Investment stabilised in PCB-UB companies. **The 86 spin-offs, start-ups and scale-ups raised €124.7 million, exceeding investment in 2023, which closed at €85.4 million.** This consolidates its role as a driver for biomedical innovation and strategic focus in the sector. This is also the second-highest total in the PCB's history, just behind the record total of €142 million achieved in 2022.

In 2024, the companies consolidated their financial recovery, maintaining a steady growth trend, especially in **private funding (€97.5 million)**, which became the main source of investment for companies in the health sector. In addition, there was greater **public investment (€27.2 million)** in the drive for innovation, which rose by 53.6% over the previous year.

Investment by subsector maintained previous trends, with **medtech** once again attracting the largest share (€85.5 million), followed by **biotech** (€37 million). This consolidates their status as the primary focal points for R&D among companies based at the PCB. At the same time, other emerging areas (such as **deeptech** and **femtech**) continued to gain prominence, with outstanding success stories in the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

According to the BioRegion of Catalonia Report 2024, more than a third (36%) of the capital raised in the BioRegion of Catalonia in 2024 (€347 million), was directed at our ecosystem.

Specialised consultancy also strengthened its role as an ally of the innovative ecosystem. **Meteosim** received €240,000 in public funding, while **Genesis Biomed** closed 2024 with €9 million in accumulated business. For its part, **Arian International Projects (AIP)** promoted 15 new projects financed by ICEX, ACCIÓ and the EIC.

Private funding secured

INBRAIN Neuroelectronics	78 M€
Nuage Therapeutics	5 M€
B'ZEOS	5 M€
Zymvol Biomodeling	2.9 M€
Fecundis	2.4 M€
Nanobots Therapeutics	2.1 M€
DAN*NA	1.1 M€
Aptadel Therapeutics	450,000€
ZIP Solutions	277,000 €
SITEC pharmabio	150,000 €

Public funding secured

Connecta Therapeutics	2.7 M€
INBRAIN Neuroelectronics	2.5 M€
Hemostatics	2.5 M€
IDP Pharma	2.4 M€
Zymvol Biomodeling	2.3 M€
ENDOR Technologies	1.8 M€
Xenopat	1.4 M€
Fecundis	1.3 M€
Telara Pharma	840,000€
GAT Biosciences	800,000€
Nanobots Therapeutics	800,000€
OneChain Immunotherapeutics	800,000€
Gate2Brain	728,000€
Pharmacelera	642,000€
Nuage Therapeutics	640,000€
Accure Therapeutics	572,000€
Bioliquid Innovative Genetics	469,000€
MiMark	460,000€
SpliceBio	200,000€
Aptadel Therapeutics	136,000€
Chemotargets	99,300€
SITEC pharmabio	56,000€

PCB-UB public research reached record investment levels, at €84 million in 2024

During 2024, **investment in the public research ecosystem continued to grow, reaching 84.6 million euros**, coming from public funds (67.9 million euros) and private capital (16.6 million euros). These figures confirm that 2024 was a year of remarkable economic growth at the PCB, with an increase of 20.8% compared to 2023 (69.9 million euros).

The large **research institutes and centres** housed at the PCB led the way in securing financial resources in 2024. In terms of public funding, special mention should be made of **IRB Barcelona**, which obtained €31.3 million.

In total, taking into account the investment raised by private companies (€124.7 million), funding for the entire PCB ecosystem last year reached €209.3 million.

In line with trends in previous years, funding from **private capital** received by public research centres remained below public investment, although it rose significantly to **€16.6 million** – 19.7% of all funding raised.

At the beginning of 2025, the **Scientific and Technological Centres of the University of Barcelona (CCiTUB)** opened a n**ew state-of-the-art microscopy facility**, at a cost of €3.35 million, co-funded by the European Union European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) as part of the ERDF operational programme for Catalonia.

Public research centres and groups registered a total of 2024 **18 priority patent applications and extensions**: 14 from the IBEC, 3 from IRB Barcelona and 2 from the BioNMR Group (UB). At the same time, they participated in **675 national and European collaborative RDI projects**, thereby strengthening international cooperation and contributing to funding research, with the aim of helping scientific advances reach the market and society more quickly.

In 2024, the PCB brought together highly innovative centres that generated **552 scientific publications** and incorporated **14 new research infrastructures**, including advanced equipment at CNAG, CCiTUB, Creatio UB and ICCUB-Tech. Talent also grew, with eight new research groups at IBEC, IBMB-CSIC and IRB Barcelona, strengthening the PCB's scientific potential.

Private funding secured

IRB Barcelona	7 M€
CNAG	5.6 M€
IBEC	2.7 M€
Creatio UB	1 M€
IBMB-CSIC	188,436 €
Dinàmica Metabòlica en Càncer UB	60,000 €
ICCUB - Tech	2,614 €

Public funding secured

IRB Barcelona	31.3 M€
IBEC	18.8 M€
CNAG	8.5 M€
IBMB-CSIC	5.7 M€
CCiTUB	2.5 M€
Creatio UB	742,000 €
Dinàmica Metabòlica en Càncer UB	225,000 €
ICCUB – Tech Unit	133,100 €
RMN de Biomolècules	55,000 €

Activity report of the private ecosystem

Activity report of public research centers

The PCB Community in the media

In 2025, the companies and public research centers at the PCB-UB have continued to grow in revenue and team size, and have received prestigious recognitions. Significant scientific discoveries have also been made, and highly relevant new national and international projects have been launched. In addition, promising new start-ups and spin-offs have been established at the PCB-UB. This visual overview highlights the main impacts in the written press. The full list of news items and press releases generated by the PCB-UB and its community can be found, respectively, in the News section and the Press Room on the Parc's website.


Mor Joan Guinovart, el fundador de l'Institut de Recerca Biomèdica

El científic va ser clau en la investigació per curar el càncer

Joan Guinovart en una imatge del 2016.


Inveready compra Enantia y lanza un grupo de servicios I+D

La firma de capital riesgo inicia una estrategia de adquisiciones

Enantia, con sede en el PCB, cuenta con una plantilla de 40 trabajadores y facturó tres millones en el 2024


Una startup contra el sarcoma de Ewing


SALUD | TECNOLOGÍA

'Aceleradores' con IA para desarrollar fármacos

Cómo crear medicamentos a partir de imágenes médicas

La oportunidad de combatir la endometriosis

La IA potencia el modelado molecular

Explorar espacios químicos gigantes

La revolución de los organoides


SpliceBio cierra una ronda de 118 millones con Sanofi y EQT

BIOTECNOLOGÍA/ La firma completa la mayor operación de financiación de una 'start up' del sector en España, con la participación de Roche y los inversores existentes.

Silvia Frutos y Miquel Vila-Perelló, cofundadores de SpliceBio.

Financiará el desarrollo clínico de un tratamiento para una enfermedad oftalmológica

NEA, UCB, Ysios, Gilde, Novartis y Asabys vuelven a invertir en la firma barcelonesa


La 'biotech' Deepull capta 50 millones para su test de diagnóstico de la sepsis

La ronda de entrada a la gestora española Columbus junto a Panakès y Mérieux

Jordi Carrera, Rafael Bru y Richer Ivey, de DeepUll

La 'startup' catalana Dan*na engega la producció industrial del seu bioplàstic

CRISTINA MARTÍN VALBUENA ✳ BARCELONA

Quan s'investiga, un dels passos més complicats és la producció industrial d'allò que s'ha validat al laboratori. La *start-up* Dan*na ha arribat a aquesta fase després d'haver estat un any comprovant que era possible. "Al laboratori tot surt bé: el repte ve quan guanyes volum perquè hade ser viable tècnicament i econòmicament", resumeix el cofundador i conseller delegat de la companyia, Xavier Marín. Amb seu al Parc Científic de Barcelona (PCB), l'empresa emergent començarà a fabricar en grans quantitats bioplàstic, una alternativa més sostenible que els plàstics convencionals com el polipropilè i el polietilè.

Dan*na preveu fabricar 300 tones anuals de material biodegradable fet a partir de fonts renovables com l'àcid làctic - present en el cos humà quan apareixen els cruiximents musculars - en lloc del petroli, l'origen de gairebé tots els plàstics. Ho farà des d'un parc químic de Leverkusen (Alemanya), molt a prop dels seus principals proveïdors. Aquesta és una mostra de les debilitats del sistema de recerca català, productor de molt coneixement que no troba el camí per superar les proves i produir a més gran escala localment. L'externalització és una primera etapa per veure com respon el mercat i validar la proposta. "Més endavant, ens agradaria produir a casa", remarca Marín.


Xavier Marín, conseller delegat i fundador de Dan*na Artificial Nature.

El bioplàstic d'aquesta companyia catalana, validat pel Centre Superior d'Investigacions Científiques (CSIC), es pot utilitzar per a implants mèdics, com ja s'ha provat a l'Hospital Vall d'Hebron en la regeneració de cartílags i ossos. També es fa servir en cremes solars per evitar l'ús de microplàstics. Però el sector que Dan*na vol liderar és el de l'electrònica, on el seu material es pot incloure en pantalles i sensors, com també en les alarmes de les etiquetes de roba. Té a favor el seu origen sostenible en comptes del dels altres competidors, així com característiques del material com la resistència a altes temperatures i la flexibilitat.

Beneficis en dos anys

Fins ara, Dan*na ha captat més de 3 milions d'euros. L'any passat va tancar la primera ronda de finançament per un milió d'euros, liderada per BeAble, gestora de fons especialitzada en tecnologies *deeptech*. Anteriorment, havia captat subvencions per alimentar tota la seva investigació d'administracions com ara la Generalitat i el govern espanyol. Amb una plantilla de set treballadors, continuarà provant nous usos del seu bioplàstic.

Nascuda l'any 2017, el seu producte es va patentar a escala internacional l'any 2023, amb la seva formulació protegida a Europa, els Estats Units, el Canadà, la Xina, el Japó i Corea del Sud, però els clients es concentren ara per ara en països europeus com Finlància, Alemanya i els Països Baixos. Després d'haver registrat petits ingressos en els últims anys, provinents de proves de concepte del producte, l'empresa de bioenginyeria preveu registrar uns ingressos de mig milió d'euros l'any que ve i aconseguir beneficis cap al 2027. —

"FA UNS ANYS SI VENIES DE BARCELONA ET MIRAVEN MALAMENT"

MIQUEL VILA-PERELLÓ
Cofundador i conseller delegat de SpliceBio

CRISTINA MARTÍN VALBUENA

Sabadell (la ciutat on va créixer) o Barcelona (on va estudiar i on va començar la seva carrera científica)? Tot i que ara viu a Boston, Miquel Vila-Perelló no amaga el seu origen català. Ho demostra en el seu discurs, ple de referències a la seva terra natal, i en la seva trajectòria professional, que l'ha portat a fundar SpliceBio, una empresa biotecnològica que ha captat 30 milions de dòlars per desenvolupar teràpies per a malalties rares. Vila-Perelló va estudiar Biologia a la Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB) i va fer el doctorat en Genètica a la Universitat de Barcelona (UB). Després va marxar als Estats Units per fer un postdoctorat a la Universitat de Yale i, més tard, va treballar a Novartis, una de les farmacèutiques més importants del món. Va ser allà on va començar a pensar en la idea que, anys després, acabaria convertint-se en SpliceBio.

I ara?

Uns sis o set anys. La ciutat està començant a posicionar-se en el mapa, però encara queda lluny. Molts d'aquests inversors (els que tenim) desconeixen el sistema legal espanyol. Es tracta més d'divertir de com funciona el sistema legal espanyol, de com funcionen les coses aquí, com es treballa, i no tant de fer un cop-de-ven. Si fa 5 per, i el millor que es pot fer dintre de la per de fer és. A més aquests inversors que ara hem de vertir en algú bé, el primer cop que hagin d'invertir en algú més fàcil, perquè hi ha algunes problemes que ja els han resolt amb nosaltres. Com també va passar amb Novartis, que va ser el primer client de Moderna, Ribosyte o Sanofi. Com més vegades passi, més hi haurà aquesta barrera. En aquest sentit, Ysios Capital ha estat fent una gran feina de participar en rondes internacionals, i Analys Partners també l'ha fet. Això fa que els fons passin entrar en rondes amb aquests inversors estrangers i ha facilitat que després vinguin aquí.

Què li falta a la ciutat?

Un ecosistema més madur. Aterrissem la idea, la necessitat i el coneixement de l'empresa. El nucli biotecnològic ha pogut desenvolupar-se aquí per la ciència de qualitat que surt dels centres d'investigació, el coneixement del capital clau a Barcelona i per l'existència de molts CRO i CDMO. Però, a diferència de les financeres per capital risc, els inversors han de recuperar els diners. Desenvolupar fàrmacs o cedir la tecnologia que estan començant a arrencar passi en mans SpliceBio, primer batejada com a ProteoBoga.

Com porten la responsabilitat d'haver tancat la ronda més alta de la història del sector a l'Estat?

Encara ens agafen s'hi baig més. Rondes com aquesta de moltres de inversors internacionals que fer això a Barcelona és possible. Nose tracta només de diners sinó de confiança. Ens van veure com a professionals sèrios. El nostre cas, la ho de fons de capital risc de farmacèutiquer com Roche, Sanofi, Novartis i UCB, però també EQT, un dels fons més grans d'Europa, i Nvir Enterprises Associates (NEA), un dels més grans del món. Que hagin confiat en nosaltres per fer-ho és molt important. Ara hem de fer-ho. Fa uns anys, quan anàvem a parlar amb inversors internacionals i els deiem que teníem de Barcelona, el mirarem malament.

La ciutat sedueix ara grans companyies com AstraZeneca.

Inversions com el nou centre de la farmacèutica ajuden a posicionar Barcelona en el mapa. Sanofi s'ha convertit en més crucial que mai a causa de l'increment de la demanda", valora el conseller delegat de BioIVT, Richard Haigh.

La multinacional BioIVT compra la 'biotech' catalana BeCytes

CRISTINA MARTÍN VALBUENA ✳ BARCELONA

El Parc Científic de Barcelona (PCB) suma un nou èxit. La multinacional estatunidenca BioIVT ha adquirit la catalana BeCytes Biotechnologies, per un import que no ha transcendit. Amb la compra, BeCytes, especialitzada en el processament de teixits i cèl·lules humanes per a la recerca biomèdica i la indústria farmacèutica, podrà expandir la seva presència internacional i accelerar el desenvolupament de nous productes.

L'empresa biotecnològica va néixer l'any 2015 com a *spin-off* de la Universitat de Barcelona (UB), impulsada per un grup de científics del camp de la teràpia cel·lular. Liderada pel conseller delegat, Jordi Xapelli, i el director tècnic, Estephan Arredondo, expert en donació i trasplantament d'òrgans i teixits, BeCytes es va instal·lar des del principi al Parc Científic, dirigit per Maria Terrades.

Es converteix en una de la desena de *biotechs* amb seu al parc científic que han estat compartes per una gran empresa internacional, un pas clau per poder créixer en un sector com el biotecnològic, que requereix molt finançament per poder continuar investigant. La llista la completen altres empreses com Stat-Dx -adquirida per Qiagen, que recentment ha establert un centre de desenvolupament a Esplugues-, Vesalius Health, Infinite Actives, Enantiaso Molomics Biotech.

Abans de l'estiu, BeCytes va estrenar un nou laboratori al PCB, amb l'objectiu d'expandir la seva producció de mostres biològiques, especialment de fetge i pulmó, una alternativa a l'alça al mercat per evitar l'ús d'animals en estudis experimentals. "L'accés a teixits i cèl·lules obtinguts de manera ètica


L'equip directiu de BeCytes Biotechnologies, format per Estephan Arredondo, Pol Pujal, Jordi Xapelli i Mireia Casulleras.

i el centre de referència en el sud d'Europa de la multinacional, amb seu a Nova York. BeCytes també participarà en els projectes de recerca internacional de BioIVT.

Per tot això necessitarà més metres quadrats de laboratori en un PCB ple de gom a gom i amb llista d'espera, i ampliar l'equip incorporant nous investigadors. Actualment l'activitat internacional representa el 98% del volum de negoci de la companyia biotecnològica en països com Alemanya, Suïssa, els Estats Units, el Japó i França. —

Seguir a Barcelona

"Barcelona s'està consolidant com un dels principals centres europeus de biotecnologia i el Parc Científic és un dels seus epicentres", defensa Arredondo. Després de l'entrada de BioIVT, BeCytes preveu augmentar la seva capacitat de producció al complex científic de la capital catalana i consolidar-lo com

Nuage obtiene 2,7 millones para combatir el cáncer de pulmón

José Orihuel. Barcelona

Nuevos recursos para la investigación biotecnológica en el ámbito de la oncología. Nuage Therapeutics, compañía instalada en el Parc Científic de Barcelona (PCB), ha obtenido financiación pública por 2,7 millones de euros para un proyecto centrado en un fármaco pionero contra el tipo de cáncer de pulmón más agresivo. La ayuda ha sido concedida por la Agencia Estatal de Investigación, dentro del programa Misiones del Ministerio de Ciencia, Innovación y Universidades y se enmarca en el programa de I+D+i para retos de investigación.

En el proyecto intervienen, junto con Nuage, el Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Oncológicas (CNIO), el Laboratorio Europeo de Biología Molecular (EMBL) y el Vall d'Hebron Institut d'Oncologia (VHIO).

El fármaco desarrollado por la biotecnológica y sus socios se dirige contra la proteína ASCL1, clave en la aparición del tipo de cáncer de pulmón de células pequeñas.


Una investigadora en el laboratorio de Nuage Therapeutics.

Nuage es una *spin off* surgida del Institut de Recerca Biomèdica de Barcelona (IRB Barcelona) y está especializada en el descubrimiento de nuevos fármacos que se enfocan contra las proteínas intrínsecamente desordenadas (IDPs).

PUBLICACIÓN EN NATURE

Dos centros de investigación catalanes identifican una suerte de «códigos de barras» que revelan cómo envejecen las células sanguíneas a partir de los 60 años y que podrían ser usados para prevenir enfermedades.

Una clave de la vejez de la sangre abre la puerta a las terapias 'antiaging'

PATRICIA MARTÍN


Los investigadores Alejo Rodríguez-Fraticelli y Lara Ulecia, locosenClonadores deEvolución.

Barcelona signa la implantació d'un dels principals centres de recerca aplicada

AGUSTÍ SALA ✳ BARCELONA

Barcelona ja ha llegat definitivament la implantació d'una filial de l'Institut alemany Fraunhofer, un dels centres de recerca aplicada més importants del món. És el primer cop que aquesta organització s'instal·la a Espanya. El president de la Generalitat, Salvador Illa, encapçalat aquest divendres l'acte de signatura del protocol institucional per a la posada en marxa del Centre Fraunhofer per a la terapèutica avançada (Fraunhofer-CAT), juntament amb la ministra de Ciència, Diana Morant; l'alcalde de Barcelona, Jaume Collboni, i el president de l'Institut Fraunhofer, Holger Hanselka.

L'acord conté les aportacions de les tres administracions. La Generalitat té previst aportar-hi fins 14 milions d'euros; l'Ajuntament de Barcelona, 8 milions, i el ministeri de Ciència, 4,5 milions. Aquestes aportacions es periodificaran. El nou centre, ubicat al Parc Científic de Barcelona (PCB) de la Universitat de Barcelona (UB), compta amb la col·laboració de l'Institut de Bioenginyeria de Catalunya (IBEC). Està previst que es generin al voltant de 100 llocs de treball i una rendibilitat de la inversió pública en serveis de 10 euros per cadascun invertit després de set anys, segons les estimacions que va fer fa uns mesos el consistori barcelonès.

Amb aquest acte es posa en marxa l'acord de fa dos anys dirigit a consolidar Catalunya com a pol científic en l'àmbit de la biomedicina i la bioenginyeria amb projecció per a tot el sud d'Europa. El govern espanyol enmarca aquesta iniciativa en la seva aposta per la ciència i la innovació.

Fraunhofer-CAT permetrà accelerar la transferència de la recerca científica a aplicacions i solucions per a la societat, especialment en l'àmbit de la salut i les teràpies avançades, i impulsarà projectes

La seu de l'institut alemany Fraunhofer a Múnic.

de bioenginyeria aplicada en col·laboració internacional. Prèviament a posar en marxa la iniciativa, es va constituir Fraunhofer Spain com una fundació. Aquesta iniciativa impulsarà, amés, la internacionalització de l'IBEC i, a través d'aquesta organització, permetrà connectar l'ecosistema d'investigació català amb l'internacional.

Transferència tecnològica

La Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft és una institució pública alemanya que consta de 74 institutts de recerca aplicada, que tenen com a objectiu transferir els resultats de recerca a productes i serveis útils per a la societat. Actualment, compta amb 26.600 empleats, 10.300 dels quals són personal científic. D'aquest centre van sorgir innovacions com el format d'àudio MP3. Les principals àrees de coneixement a les quals es dedica són la salut i el medi ambient, la seguretat i la protecció, la comunicació i el coneixement, la mobilitat i el transport, l'energia i els recursos, la producció i el subministrament de serveis.

Des de la Generalitat destaquen que aquesta dels beneficis de fixar la seu de Fraunhofer a Barcelona són l'augment de la capacitat de relacionar els sectors acadèmics de recerca amb els industrials i l'acceleració de la transferència del coneixement. D'aquesta manera, amés, s'interconnecten la recerca catalana, l'espanyola i l'alemanya. De fet, una de les assignatures pendents per millorar la productivitat de l'economia és la transferència de recerca, segons destaca un treball de la Iniciativa per la Productivitat i la Innovació (IPI), promogudà pel Cercle d'Economia i coordinada pel professor Xavier Vives. Aquest centre suposa fer un pas en aquest camí per millorar la innovació. —

El secreto está en la piel

La compañía catalana Endor Technologies ha logrado autofinanciar su investigación contra el cáncer con el desarrollo de una línea de negocio cosmética

Mollie Goldrow

A veces, el rechazo puede resultar en ocasiones éxito. La secretaria y el equipo de la compañía biomédica Endor Technologies cuando hacen una década intentó vender un principio activo aplicable a la cosmética a grandes grupos del sector. "El mercado solo acepta lo que ya existe, no quiere nada verdaderamente disruptivo no se recibe bien", recuerda Joaquín Querol, cofundador de la empresa y físico de formación.

Ahora se alegra de que les dijeran que no. Ese primer tropiezo les llevó a centrarse en una de las líneas de productos cosméticos, basada en el trabajo científico que llevan a cabo. El negocio ha funcionado y gracias a los ingresos que generan con el financian su investigación contra el cáncer.

Endor Tech tiene dos líneas, una médica y otra cosmética, que permite preservar la autonomía y no depender de las rondas de inversión para desarrollar tratamientos oncológicos. "Hemos apostado por un crecimiento orgánico, que nos ha permitido mantenernos independientes", explica Querol, cofundador de la empresa, de la que también forma parte como cofundador Joaquín Oliveras, exfundamental Mindarus de las profesoras de Biomedicina en investigación biomédica requiere dinámica temporal, en colaboración con la Universidad Complutense de Madrid. El objetivo es crear un tratamiento que "activa" el tumor, como el lo sitúa, para que no pueda crecer y acabe en estado necrótico. Este enero han firmado con el hospital Clínic de Barcelona el inicio de la fase I de la investigación, en pacientes.

Los productos para el cuidado dermatológico generan 4,6 millones con los que sufragan el trabajo en oncología

Además, desarrollan un producto para tratar uno de los efectos secundarios de la quimioterapia: la alopecia, o caída del pelo, la boca o mucositis -en niños.

Todo ello se financia con las ventas de la línea de cosmética. "La elegimos porque guarda similitudes con la biomecánica y podíamos entrar de forma rápida", explica Querol. Para ello crearon una molécula patentada que activaron recopilar celular esencial en la regeneración de la piel. "Proponemos la síntesis de colágenos, de ácido hialurónico y de elastina", explican en la compañía.

Para encontrar nuevas sugerencia llegó a los 4,6 millones de euros el año pasado, y para este 2026 esperan alcanzar los 6 millones. Esto, con solo once productos que se venden exclusivamente en España a centros de belleza y clínicas, pero también en farmacias en el el gran continente, pero tenemos una base de clientes muy fiel que sostiene nuestras ventas", resume Querol.

En su plantilla de quince personas convive especialistas en ciencia de datos y en biología molecular de laboratorio. Escuchar estos perfiles altamente preparados, asegura, es bastante sencillo. "Acabamos de abrir una oferta de trabajo y estamos recibiendo unos currículos impresionantes, de gente que ha trabajado en todas las mismas todo para que surjan más empresas de base biotecnológica".

Endor Technologies, ya consolidada, viene beneficiar y ha demostrado que autor investigación médica y rentabilidad es posible.

Los organoides de riñón producidos en serie abren la vía a mejorar los trasplantes

Los bioingenieros descubren cómo obtener los tejidos de manera rápida y asequible

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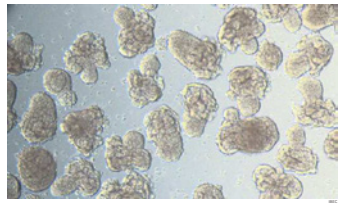
JOSEP CORBELLA
Barcelona



Organoides de riñón humanos producidos en el IBEC después de 18 días de diferenciación celular

Una investigación liderada por el Institut de Bioenginyeria de Catalunya (IBEC) ha descubierto cómo producir organoides de riñón en grandes cantidades de manera rápida y asequible. El avance sienta las bases para mejorar los órganos donados para trasplantes y en un futuro, posiblemente, para regenerar los riñones de algunos pacientes de manera que no necesiten ser trasplantados.

Cuatro hospitales de Cataluña, Madrid, Galicia y Cantabria han iniciado un proyecto de investigación auspiciado por la Organización Nacional de Trasplantes (ONT) para implantar organoides en riñones de donantes, informa Beatriz Domínguez-Gil, directora de la ONT y coautora de la investigación. No se espera que ningún paciente reciba organoides a corto plazo, advierte Domínguez-Gil, pero "es una tecnología que puede aumentar la disponibilidad de órganos para trasplante en un futuro".

Los organoides son tejidos creados en laboratorio a partir de células madre y que reproducen las propiedades de diferentes órganos a pequeña escala. Aunque han levantado grandes expectativas, su desarrollo se ha visto limitado por las dificultades técnicas para reproducir la complejidad de los órganos reales, así como por las dificultades para producirlos en serie de manera asequible.

La investigación del IBEC resuelve en gran parte los dos problemas para el riñón. Ha logrado producir los organoides en lotes de 30.000 unidades, cuando al inicio del proyecto no se conseguían más de 100. Y aunque apenas miden 0,1 milímetros de diámetro, adquieren toda la diversidad de células de los nefrones (los componentes que filtran la sangre en los riñones). Una vez se implantan en riñones reales, se integran, sobreviven y permiten que los riñones funcionen con normalidad.

Núria Montserrat, consellera de Recerca i Universitats, lideró la investigación durante su etapa en el IBEC

"Necesitábamos que fueran al mismo tiempo muy pequeños para implantarlos a través de la arteria renal y de muy alta calidad", señala la bioingeniera Núria Montserrat, directora de la investigación y actual consellera de Recerca i Universitats, que lideró el proyecto en su etapa en el IBEC.

Los resultados, publicados ayer en *Nature Biomedical Engineering*, detallan cómo obtener organoides de riñón a partir de células madre humanas y cómo implantarlos en riñones de cerdo. Los riñones porcinos con organoides humanos se han trasplantado con éxito en cerdos vivos. Se han utilizado riñones de cerdo solo para perfeccionar la técnica como paso previo a aplicarla en órganos humanos.

La aplicación más inmediata, en la que ya ha empezado a trabajar el IBEC, es la búsqueda de fármacos a partir de moléculas catalogadas en químiotecas. Al producirse los organoides en grandes cantidades, se puede hacer un análisis masivo de moléculas para ver cuáles tienen potencial para enfermedades renales.

Otra aplicación en que se está trabajando consiste en implantar los organoides en riñones humanos. El hospital Universitario de La Coruña, el Clínic de Barcelona, el Ramón y Cajal de Madrid y el Marqués de Valdecilla de Santander participan en el proyecto. Se empezará con riñones donados para trasplante que no pueden utilizarse por no estar en condiciones adecuadas. El objetivo es estudiar si, al implantarles organoides capaces de filtrar sangre, se pueden mejorar. Si la estrategia funciona, en un futuro se podrían trasplantar algunos de los riñones que ahora se descartan.

A más largo plazo, los organoides se podrían implantar directamente en los riñones de pacientes con enfermedades renales. Si los organoides mejoran lo suficiente la función de los riñones, sería tarea de los pacientes llegaran a necesitar un trasplante.●

El fondo Buenavista invierte en la catalana Omniscope

Lynnette Ang, Holger Heyn y Vijay Vaswani dirigen Omniscope.

E. Galián. Barcelona

Buenavista Equity Partners, la antigua GED Capital, anunció ayer una inversión estratégica en la tecnológica catalana Omniscope, dedicada a desarrollar una base de datos inmunológicos generando información que permite mejorar los diagnósticos y terapias a partir de perfiles inmunológicos avanzados e inteligencia artificial (IA).

La operación, cuyo importe no ha trascendido, se ha realizado a través de Buenavista Ventures, la filial para *start up* y proyectos de emprendedores de la firma de inversión madrileña.

Buenavista Equity Partners, cuyos orígenes se remontan a 1996, está especializada en el segmento de pequeñas y medianas empresas. Presidida por Enrique Centelles Echeverría y dirigida por Enrique Centelles Satrústegui, la firma gestiona más de 1.000 millones de euros a través de diferentes vehículos de capital riesgo e infraestructuras. El cambio de nombre se produjo el pasado mes de octubre tras la entrada en su accionariado, en verano, de Libertas7, Aligrupo y Vieira de Matos Capital.

Según Joaquim Hierro, director de Buenavista Ventures, el "compromiso con la innovación y la visión de mercado" de los fundadores de Omniscope, Vijay Vaswani, Holger Heyn y Lynnette Ang, los convierte en los socios perfectos para el portfolio de la gestora.

La tecnología de la empresa está pensada para simplificar el análisis de datos complejos por parte de otras compañías, acelerar la investigación médica y reducir el tiempo desde un determinado descubrimiento hasta su aplicación clínica.

Científicos catalanes recrean fidedignamente el ambiente tumoral para atacar el cáncer

ANTONI LÓPEZ TOVAR
Barcelona

Un equipo de científicos catalanes ha desarrollado un dispositivo que replica las características de los tumores y de su ambiente, a partir de células de pacientes, para poder ensayar nuevos medicamentos contra el cáncer, así como seleccionar los tratamientos que serán más eficaces para cada persona. El denominado MIRO (micro immune response on chip) es un dispositivo basado en una plataforma microfluídica que permite recrear no solo el tumor sino también su entorno.

Aquí está la novedad: es el primer modelo in vitro que permite reproducir el funcionamiento tanto del tumor como de las células sanas que hay alrededor (no tumorales) y del sistema inmunitario) y sus interacciones. "A veces la evolución de un tumor depende más de su entorno que de las condiciones del tumor en sí", precisa en este sentido Xavier Trepat, líder del grupo de dinámica integrativa de células y tejidos del Institut de Bioenginyeria de Catalunya (IBEC).

Los investigadores del IBEC y el hospital del Mar, en Barcelona, han ensayado la tecnología en muestras de cáncer de mama HER2-positivo, un tipo de células con un alto contenido de proteína HER2, que favorece el crecimiento rápido del tumor, si bien puede tratarse con terapias dirigidas específicamente a esta proteína. Las pruebas han verificado la participación del entorno del tumor a la hora de protegerlo del tratamiento más habitual en este tipo de cáncer, el anticuerpo monoclonal trastuzumab. "Hemos recreado esta resistencia al tratamiento y hemos estudiando cómo superarla estimulando las células inmunes para que entren en las cancerosas y destruirlas", describe Alexandre Calon, responsable del laboratorio de investigación en microambiente tumoral del Mar.

El modelo facilita la investigación farmacéutica y ayuda a mejorar la efectividad de la inmunoterapia

El trabajo ha sido publicado en *Nature Communications* y los resultados superan a los modelos existentes. "No hay sistemas comparables que permitan recrear los diferentes componentes, y hacerlo en condiciones de alta reproducibilidad y bajo coste, para ver en qué condiciones las células del sistema inmunitario son capaces de entrar y matar las células tumorales", afirma Trepat.

Ana Labernadie es quien diseñó el sistema microfluídico (mediante técnicas que permiten manipular fluidos y células a una escala microscópica) para observar las interacciones en el ambiente tumoral. "Esta relación es vital para el éxito de los tratamientos basados en la inmunoterapia que, a pesar de su potencial curativo, actualmente solo funcionan en entre el 20% y el 40% de los pacientes", afirma. Los investigadores han empezado a escalar el sistema para utilizarlo en otros tipos de tumor cara a estandarizar el proceso y la aplicabilidad de MIRO.●

Leitat repliega estructura y factura 36 millones, un 21% más

El centro tecnológico negocia un préstamo de 14 millones

Instalaciones de la sede de Leitat en Terrassa

BLANCA GISPERT
Barcelona

Leitat arranca el 2025 con la confianza de dejar atrás su etapa de recortes y volver a mirar el futuro con perspectivas de crecimiento. El centro tecnológico avanza a este diario que ha conseguido incrementar un 21% su actividad económica, hasta llegar a los 36,7 millones de euros.

El director general, Jordi Cabrafiga, se muestra satisfecho con los resultados. "La auditoría empieza ahora y no tendremos los resultados definitivos hasta junio pero hemos conseguido cerrar el 2024 con un ebitda (o beneficio bruto) positivo e incrementar la facturación de forma significativa", comenta el directivo, que fue nombrado a finales del 2023 tras la salida de Joan Parra.

Leitat llevaba tres ejercicios acumulando unas pérdidas millonarias, de 16 millones solo en el ejercicio del 2023 y de un total de 27 millones entre el 2021 y el 2023. La adquisición del centro de I+D de Esteve en el Parc Científic de Barcelona fue el principal problema. Provocaba unas pérdidas de 10 millones de euros anuales y, por eso, la dirección decidió el año pasado cerrarlo. Ejecutó un ERE que afectó a 114 trabajadores: los 69 que trabajaban en este espacio y otros 45 vinculados a diversos departamentos de la entidad.

La institución ha cerrado varias oficinas y ha aplicado un ERE para despedir a 114 personas

"Aplicamos un plan de reestructuración a nivel general. Implicó el cierre de este centro en el Parc Científic pero también la reducción de nuestro espacio en el centro D-Factory en la Zona Franca y el cierre de una oficina en la plaza Catalunya", comenta Cabrafiga. Para llevar a cabo este plan de recortes, Leitat consiguió el año pasado una ayuda directa de la Generalitat por valor de 9,8 millones de euros que fue aprobada por el Parlament de Catalunya. "Somos una asociación privada sin ánimo de lucro. Tenemos a 70 empresas como socios y la Generalitat tiene dos sillas en el consejo. Nos aporta una financiación basal por nuestro papel en el sector del I+D, además de la aportación extraordinaria de 9,8 millones del año pasado", concreta Cabrafiga. Aquel dinero se utilizó para financiar los costes del ERE, pero también para acabar unas obras en unas instalaciones del 22@ y pagar algunos proveedores a los que debía dinero.

De hecho, la asociación acumula un pasivo de 14 millones de euros, de los cuales 5 millones corresponden a deudas con socios y proveedores y 9 millones a deudas frente a varias entidades financieras: el Institut Català de Finances (ICF), Caixabank, Sabadell, Santander y BBVA. "La deuda con estas entidades financieras vence dentro de tres o cuatro años, ya que los préstamos y créditos ICO que se concedieron a raíz de la covid", apunta Cabrafiga. De forma paralela, Leitat está negociando un préstamo de 14 millones con estas entidades financieras para afrontar los pagos a sus proveedores y financiar la nueva etapa de crecimiento.

Actualmente, el centro tecnológico da trabajo a 450 personas en una decena de centros que se reparten entre la sede histórica de Terrassa (donde nació dando apoyo a la industria textil) y varias plantas en la demarcación de Barcelona, Lleida y Valencia. Este año, Cabrafiga asegura que los ingresos crecerán hasta los 38 millones. "Queremos seguir captando proyectos de I+D de financiación pública pero, sobre todo, potenciar los servicios a empresas, ya que de momento solo aportan un tercio de la facturación", concluye.●

La investigación sobre el autismo, premio Vanguardia de la Ciencia 2025

El hallazgo sobre la causa del trastorno es el avance más votado por los lectores

JOSEP CORBELLA
Barcelona

El descubrimiento de un fallo en el desarrollo del cerebro que causa autismo ha sido elegido por los lectores de *La Vanguardia* como la investigación científica liderada por mujeres más relevante del último año en España.

La investigación, que tiene como primeras autoras a Carla García Cabau y Anna Bartomeu, del Institut de Recerca Biomèdica (IRB Barcelona), ha recibido el 17,9% de los votos en la XIV edición del premio Vanguardia de la Ciencia. El trabajo ha demostrado que si se pierde un pequeño fragmento del gen CPEB4, se perturba el funcionamiento de las neuronas de un modo que afecta al neurodesarrollo y causa autismo. Pero si se restaura la acción de este pequeño fragmento de ADN, se recupera un funcionamiento correcto de las neuronas.

Los autores de la investigación, dirigida por Raúl Méndez y Xavier Salvatella y publicada en *Nature*, han iniciado la búsqueda de terapias que puedan mejorar la vida de personas con autismo. Advierten, sin embargo, que aún no se sabe qué porcentaje de casos de autismo están relacionados con anomalías del gen CPEB4.

Este galardónes "un reconocimiento al compromiso de la investigación por ayudar a las personas con neurodivergencia y a sus familias", valoran Anna Bartomeu y Carla García Cabau.

Es la tercera vez que una investigación dirigida por Raúl Méndez ha sido finalista del premio Vanguardia de la Ciencia. Las dos anteriores, también publicadas en *Nature*, se centraron en la relación entre las proteínas CPEB y el cáncer (en el 2014) y en el descubrimiento inicial de su relación con el autismo (en el 2019).

Este año los lectores de *La Vanguardia* han premiado también el descubrimiento de la proteína p38 gamma, segregada por los músculos, aumenta el deseo de hacer ejercicio. La investigación, liderada por Guadalupe Sabio, del Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Oncológicas (CNIO), y Cinta Folgueira, del Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Cardiovasculares (CNIC), ha recibido el 16,1% de los sufragios, lo que le sitúa como la segunda más votada entre las ocho finalistas del premio.

En tercer lugar, los lectores han elegido la investigación que ha demostrado la viabilidad de utilizar nanorobots para mejorar el tratamiento del cáncer de vejiga. El trabajo, que tiene como coprimeras autoras a Meritxell Serra-Casablancas y Cristina Simó y como director a Samuel Sánchez, del Institut de Bioenginyeria de Catalunya (IBEC), ha recibido el 13,1% de los votos.

Es "un reconocimiento a la investigación que ayudar a las personas con neurodivergencia", valoran las premiadas

Las autoras de las tres investigaciones premiadas presentarán sus trabajos a los lectores en el acto de entrega del premio, abierto al público, el 12 de noviembre a las 19 horas en el edificio de La Pedrera.

Organizado conjuntamente por *La Vanguardia* y la Fundació Catalunya La Pedrera desde el 2011, el premio Vanguardia de la Ciencia reconoce proyectos liderados por mujeres con el doble objetivo de visibilizar la investigación de excelencia que se realiza en España y de ayudar a reducir la brecha de género en el ámbito de la ciencia.●

El CDTI inyecta 10 millones en Ona Therapeutics

Rut Fort. Barcelona

El Centro para el Desarrollo Tecnológico y la Innovación (CDTI), a través de la sociedad Innvierte, inyectará 10 millones de euros en Ona Therapeutics, biotecnológica especializada en tratamientos para la metástasis del cáncer. La operación se enmarca en una ronda de inversión de mayor volumen, que se cerrará próximamente.

Ona es una *spin off* del Institut de Recerca Biomèdica (IRB) de Barcelona y de la Institució Catalana de Recerca i Estudis Avançats (Icrea) que se dedica a investigar un tipo específico de terapias oncológicas llamadas conjugados anticuerpo-fármaco (ADC), que aprovechan las bases moleculares del cáncer avanzado.

La *start up* fundada por Salvador Aznar-Benitah y Valerie Vanhooren ya levantó 30 millones de euros en 2020, en una ronda de inversión en la que participaron Asabys Partners, Ysios Capital, Aliath Bioventures –ahora integrada en Asabys–, y los fondos europeos FundiPhas y BPI France.

El CDTI, dependiente del Ministerio de Ciencia, Innovación y Universidades, también ha invertido recientemente en la constructora catalana Olih, especializada en materiales sostenibles. La firma ha cerrado una ronda de 20 millones de euros, en la que el CDTI ha inyectado 5,3 millones de euros.

Inbrain crea una filial en EEUU y se alía con Mayo Clínic

Rut Fort. Barcelona

Inbrain Neuroelectronics acelera en el desarrollo de su tecnología de precisión para pacientes con trastornos neurológicos con una nueva filial en Estados Unidos y con una alianza con Mayo Clinic, una de las mayores entidades sin ánimo de lucro del sector en el país.

La *start up* de tecnología médica ha anunciado la puesta en marcha de una subsidiaria en Boston (Massachusetts), desde la que centralizará los ensayos clínicos que impulse en el país para su plataforma de *brain computer interface therapeutics* (BCI-Tx), mientras que servirá para sentar las bases de la futura comercialización del dispositivo médico. Inbrain, que mantendrá su sede en Barcelona, colaborará con los principales centros académicos de la costa este de EEUU.

En este sentido, la firma también ha anunciado un acuerdo con Mayo Clinic para intercambiar conocimientos técnicos con el objetivo de llevar a cabo una evolución práctica de BCI-Tx y acelerar la generación de evidencia clínica. "Nuestro objetivo es maximizar las capacidades únicas del grafeno y la inteligencia artificial para generar verdadero valor tanto para los pacientes como para los equipos médicos", explica Carolina Aguilar, cofundadora y CEO de Inbrain.

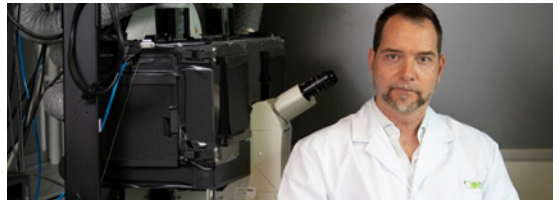
La firma, que compite con Neuralink –compañía fundada por Elon Musk–, ha levantado hasta ahora 105 millones de euros y tiene entre sus inversores a Asabys y Avanza.

Also in the news...

1 New mechanism identified that shields persister tumour cells from the immune system

2 CNAG reconstructs 6 million years of human evolution with the first atlas of cellular adaptation of the immune system

3 Novel nanomotors improve bladder cancer immunotherapy



4 Nuage Therapeutics appoints Dr. Stuart Hughes as CEO and Vanessa Malier as Chair of Board of Directors

5 The innovative HyperSperm technology from Fecundis improves the efficiency of in vitro fertilization and opens new doors in reproductive medicine

6 Gate2Brain obtains FDA orphan drug designation for its drug G2B-002

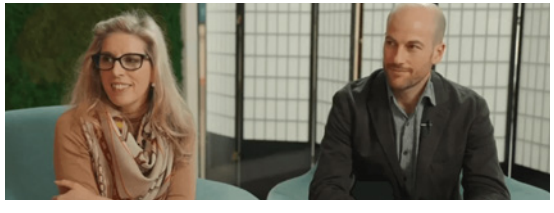
7 CNAG, IRB Barcelona, and Sant Joan de Déu identify immune cells with antitumor response in a case of aggressive childhood cancer

8 IBEC researchers record for the first time human embryo implantation in real time

9 World's first foal born through maternal spindle transfer, an advanced assisted reproduction technique effective against infertility

10 CDTI Innovation leads a €10 million investment in Ona Therapeutics together with five co-investors

11 INBRAIN Neuroelectronics announces a collaboration with Microsoft to advance artificial intelligence in precision neurology



12 Josep Samitier concludes thirteen years at the helm of IBEC

- Biosensors based on olfactory receptors to decipher the human sense of smell
- IBEC team develops protein printing method to recreate the intestine in the laboratory
- A study co-led by CNAG allows genetic diagnosis for more than 500 patients with rare diseases
- A new biomedical device simulates tumours to analyse the effectiveness of immunotherapy treatments
- IRB Barcelona scientists reveal the influence of mitochondria on autophagy
- Ona Therapeutics strengthens management team to accelerate clinical development of first ADCs in different types of cancer
- ZYMVOL raises €3 million in a financing round to boost enzyme discovery and development
- IRB Barcelona researchers discover how the same mutations can cause different leukaemias
- CNAG participates in the creation of Europe's largest DNA catalogue
- CONNECTA Therapeutics announces positive results from Phase I study of neurodevelopmental disorders drug candidate, CTH120
- IRB Barcelona study reveals how amino acid transport failures compromise erythropoietin production and red blood cell formation
- SpliceBio advances SB-007 gene therapy with the first patient dosed in the ASTRA phase 1/2 trial for Stargardt Disease
- IRB Barcelona develops the first single-cell map of transcriptomes in yeast
- Accure Therapeutics Obtains €1.5 Million in Grants to Accelerate Development of Its Parkinson's Drug ACT-02
- Researchers from Barcelona develop a technique capable of predicting the effectiveness of therapies for the most common type of lung cancer
- Gate2Brain Confirms Breakthrough Antibody Delivery Technology to the Brain, Paving the Way for Next-Generation CNS Therapies

- INBRAIN Neuroelectronics receives 4 M€ from the Spanish PERTE Chip programme for the development of brain-computer interfaces
- ALLOX, the startup using allostery to revolutionize drug development
- Arantxa Sanz, new managing director of CATALONIA. HEALTH
- The CCiTUB expand their infrastructure with seven new pieces of cutting-edge research equipment
- A CNAG study on jellyfish reveals the ancient origins of animal genome regulation
- Scientits from IBEC discover a sugar-coated nanotherapy to protect neurons in neurodegenerative diseases
- Gate2Brain receives over €700,000 from the CDTI to advance a new therapy against pediatric brain tumors in collaboration with India
- A new study from CNAG highlights the potential of proteomics for the diagnosis of neuromuscular diseases
- GENESIS Biomed holds its 2025 Annual Symposium at the Parc Científic de Barcelona
- Nuage Therapeutics receives €1.8 million to advance the development of its first oncology therapy targeting intrinsically disordered proteins
- A study by IBUB provides new insights into cohesin, the protein that forms loops in the human genome
- Researchers from IBEC and ISGlobal open new therapeutic avenues against malaria by altering protein regulation
- OneChain Immunotherapeutics Announces the Appointment of Barbara Krebs-Pohl as New Chair of the Board of Directors
- A team from IRB Barcelona develops a new tool to generate aneuploidies and analyse their impact on development
- IBEC develops a new technology for mass serological analysis
- IRB Barcelona leads an international project to investigate resistance to immunotherapy in colorectal cancer metastasis

- Researchers at IBEC discover the first step in Alzheimer's protein aggregation
- IBUB researchers identify a key protein for controlling obesity and cardiovascular disease
- Researchers at CNAG develop the STAMP technique for simultaneous single-cell analysis without the need for sequencing
- BeCytes opens new laboratory to accelerate the production of in vitro cellular models
- Scientists from the IBMB discover that embryos can eliminate bacterial infections before developing their immune system
- GENESIS Biomed launches its first strategic training program to promote innovative entrepreneurship
- IRB Barcelona develops a method to identify mutational signatures that improves prognosis prediction in ovarian cancer
- OneChain Immunotherapeutics presents OC-1d, a new cell therapy against leukemia that shows high efficacy and safety in the laboratory
- A study by IRB Barcelona reveals that the most common computational methods may overlook key data about cell interaction within tissues
- IBEC scientists create an artificial cell capable of navigating its environment using chemistry alone
- A study from CNAG reveals the mechanisms in the hake genome that determine whether it will be male or female
- Pharmaceutical company Formation Bio obtains the global license for IMIDomics' anti-CD226 antibody for autoimmune diseases
- Researchers at IRB Barcelona identify a new strategy to fight obesity through the activation of brown adipose tissue
- CONNECTA Therapeutics to Advance CTH120 into Phase II Pediatric Development for Fragile X Syndrome with EIC Accelerator Support
- INBRAIN Neuroelectronics opens U.S. office and announces collaboration with Mayo Clinic to advance its brain-computer interface

- IRB Barcelona study identifies differences in the functioning of a key genetic mechanism across tissues and individuals
- Scientists from IBEC manage to reverse Alzheimer's in mice using nanoparticles
- A study by IRB Barcelona links tobacco and biological sex to the risk of developing bladder cancer
- DTI Foundation's international TPM® course marks 30 years as a global benchmark in donation and transplantation
- CNAG reveals the role of the MYC gene in the aggressive progression of chronic lymphocytic leukemia
- The FDA has approved SOM Biotech's Phase 3 study design for SOM3355, a potential drug for Huntington disease
- IRB Barcelona discovers why some colorectal cancers are resistant to the pharmacological inhibition of the KRAS oncogene
- The IBUB deciphers the mechanism that determines the complexity of the glucocorticoid receptor
- The CNAG participates in a study that identifies the genetic mechanisms involved in the loss of balance in the ear
- IBEC leads the first transplant in pigs of kidneys modified with human renal organoids
- Endor Technologies secures €1.6 million from the CDTI to develop an innovative treatment against liver metastasis
- A study by IRB Barcelona and CNAG reveals the mechanisms of colorectal cancer that block immunotherapy
- A study led by Laboratorios Ordesa identifies two probiotic strains that reduce preterm births by half
- IRB Barcelona reveals that destruction kinase drugs trigger protein degradation
- Leitat becomes the first technology center certified with ISO 13485 for medical devices and related services

Revitalisation of the PCB community

In 2025, 25 events were organised for the community, 5 more than the previous year, with nearly 1,400 attendees. The events were on a number of themes, such as: inauguration of scientific infrastructure; science; sustainability; and intellectual property. The aim is for these events to be of interest to the community while facilitating interaction and networking among its members.

PCBakers charity breakfast

Events, conferences and training workshops

January
- Inauguration by the President of Catalonia, Salvador Illa, of a new high-precision microscope.

February
- Film screening for the International Day of Women and Girls in Science
- Collaboration with BCN Health Innovation Week
- Closing ceremony of the BCN Health Booster

March
- Derisking Symposium, with LabCorp

April
- Sustainable research: fit for the future

May
- Meeting with journalists to present the PCB
- Waste management course

June
- Navigating biomarker & regulatory complexity in clinical trials

July
- Accelerating molecular discovery using an insilico platform

September
- Discover the CCiTUB: scientific and technical support for biomedical research

October
- IP protection strategies in LATAM

November
- Information conference on the PCB electrical system

December
- Capturing the attention of investors in biotech
- Christmas card contest

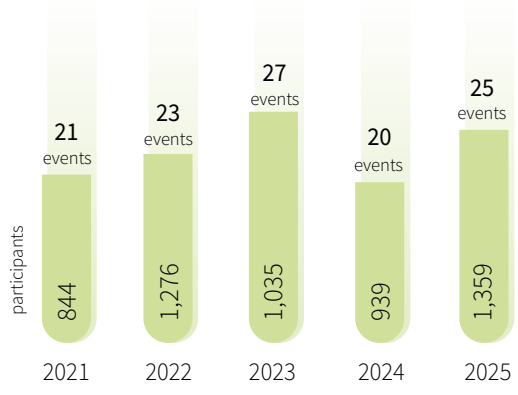
Networking

- Coffee Connection: winter and autumn editions
- Five meetings of the Influencers programme
- Three PCBeers events
- Christmas glass of cava

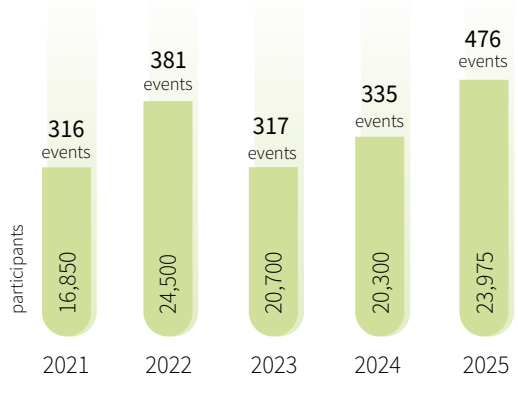
New Christmas card competition

Beatriz Cardoso, from IRB Barcelona, won the first 2025 Christmas postcard competition thanks to the originality of her design, which included a touch of humour and science. The competition asked participants to create a Christmas greeting card, which was then sent by email to the entire PCB community. Over 30 designs were received in the first competition.

Total activities hosted in and organised by the PCB-UB



Total activities hosted in the PCB-UB and organised by other organisations



Solidarity actions

PCBakers organised 11 charity breakfasts in 2025

The PCBakers, an informal association that among the PCB community in 2022 to organise charity breakfasts, closed 2025 having raised €7,467 (€33,692 euros since its creation), allocated to 11 different causes: PKU Foundation (January), Ecosia (February), ENDOFEST against endometriosis (March), Kiva.org (April), Our Rescue (May), DTI Foundation (June), Afrovaca Project (July), Aire Association (September), Mediterranea Saving Humans (October), UNRWA and Doctors Without Borders (November), and Malaika Solidaria Association (December). The community now exceeds 125 members and has incorporated 2 new organisations from the PCB (25 in total).

Health and wellness

During 2025, the PCB community continued to benefit from the range of health and wellness activities that contribute to physical and emotional improvement on offer during the working day. Over three months, a total of 41 people regularly attended the yoga classes, held with a qualified trainer one day a week in two shifts. The physiotherapy service, which was launched in 2022, is now available two days a week with a qualified therapist visiting an average of seven patients per week.

Networking and drinks at PCBeers

Description of income	Budget of the amounts	Closing of amounts
→ Rentals	14,243	14,272
→ Provision of services	10,232	10,777
→ Grants / Donations	31	29
Ordinary Income	**24,506**	**25,078**
Description of expenditure		
→ Staff	−4,468	−4,552
→ Maintenance and services	−12,188	−12,670
Ordinary expenditure	**−16,656**	**−17.222**
EBITDA	**7,850**	**7.856**
→ Finantial costs	−1,625	−1.562
EBTDA	**6,225**	**6,294**
→ Depreciation	−4,499	−4,595
→ Capital grants implemented	1,236	1,256
Results	**2,962**	**2,955**

Amounts in thousands of euros. Year-end 31 December 2025.

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