SUMMARY OF THE PROGRESS REPORT 2011-2012

A. Improving educational programmes

A1. International positioning:

- Specific collaboration agreement between the UB and the UPC in the area of International Relations.
- Promotion of strategic partnerships for master’s programmes and doctoral training (China, Brazil, MIT). New agreements with leading Chinese universities under the BKCnet framework. Global promotion of postgraduate studies through participation in international fairs.
- Study Abroad programme. Mobility programmes with China.
- Erasmus actions (Staff Week, information sessions on Erasmus placements, coordination of Erasmus Mundus Action 2).

A2. International Postgraduate and Doctoral School:

- Increased offer of Erasmus Mundus master’s programmes. Increased offer of Erasmus Mundus doctoral programmes.
- Organization of transdisciplinary seminars and activities for doctoral students.

A3. Entrepreneurship and innovation:

- Implementation of the ACCEL programme, involving training activities on various subjects. Presentation of projects to private investors: venture capital and family offices.
- Collaboration in the creation of the Xarxa d’Emprenedoria Universitària (University Entrepreneurship Network), identification of entrepreneurial talent, and creation of business vocations.
- Training days on entrepreneurship. Teaching Innovation in University Entrepreneurship symposium.
- Installation of the Laboratory for Creativity and Innovative Projects, providing support for bachelor’s degree and master’s degree final projects with a focus on entrepreneurship.

B. Improving scientific activities

B1. Alliance actions:

- Drafting and reorganization of the catalogue of scientific services and equipment (Technological Portfolio). Publication of the Handbook of instrumental techniques.
for materials, chemical and biosciences research by the Science and Technology Centres.

- Creation of the Entrepreneurship BKC initiative, involving applied and research aspects.
- Creation of the GeoStech Initiative on the geological storage of CO₂, picking up and re-dimensioning the existing work in this field carried out by researchers at the UB, UPC and CSIC.

B2. Upgrading of scientific and technological equipment and modernization of facilities:

- Installation of the Data Processing Centre in the PBC’s Cluster II building.
- Modernization of the Lecture Room Building in the Faculty of Biology, in the second stage of renovating and upgrading areas for research.
- Opening of the Multi-purpose Multi-use Laboratory in the Faculty of Chemistry.
- Improvements to the Faculty of Economics and Business. Upgrading of gas detection and air conditioning systems in laboratories in the faculties of Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Geology.
- Opening of the GEOMODELS Laboratory in the Faculty of Geology, a joint initiative with the Jaume Almera Institute of Earth Sciences (ICTJA-CSIC).

B3. Recruitment and training of researchers and technologists:

- Co-funding of the creation of positions for visiting lecturers in the area of Economics and Business – aimed at talented postdocs selected in the international process called ‘Job market’.

C. Campus evolution towards a socially integrated model

C1. Improvements in accessibility:

- Organization of “Inclusive Campus, Campus without Limits”.
- Additions to the “Virtual Visits” section of the UB Virtual Museum, including a route around the Güell Estate’s Gaudi Pavillions.
- Support for the creation of a scientific journal on accessibility (Journal of Accessibility and Design for All, JACCES), jointly promoted by the ONCE Foundation.
C2. Sustainability:

- Creation of the BKC Campus Mobility Committee.
- Extension of the area monitored to control electricity, gas and water consumption in campus buildings. Improvements to the robustness and reliability of the network.
- Reduction in electricity and gas consumption and CO₂ emissions generated by campus buildings.
- Adaptation of areas for waste management and storage. Reduction of the volume of waste generated by day-to-day activity on the Campus and increase in selective collection of waste.
- Creation of the UB Sustainable Energy Chair, which will be housed in the PCB as part of the Barcelona Economics Institute.

D. European Higher Education Area: adaptation and implementation

D1. Teaching innovation:

- Progress towards further virtualization of classrooms, acquisition of materials to increase interactivity and student participation.
- Introduction of a desktop virtualization system providing remote access to programs and units via the wireless network.
- Organization of Teaching Technology Symposiums to facilitate the development and use of teaching tools among university groups.

D2. Adaptation of spaces, classrooms and services to EHEA requirements

- Improvements to the teaching laboratories in the Faculty of Physics and replacement of network connectivity infrastructures.
- Construction and opening of the Multi-purpose Multi-use Laboratory in the Faculty of Chemistry.
- Remodelling of faculty spaces: Faculty of Fine Arts, Faculty of Law, faculties of Physics and Chemistry, Faculty of Economics and Business.

D3. Strengthening student job prospects:

- Entrepreneurship Seminars for vocational training teachers.
- Creation of Alumni UPC, for the development of new professional and personal relationships, to join the existing Alumni UB network.
- Intensification of contacts with companies to arrange work placements. Organization of field-specific fairs at BKC faculties, aimed at boosting employability.
Organization of seminars to promote business creation among researchers and lecturers in the fields of humanities and the social sciences.

D4. Cooperation programmes with secondary education centres and vocational training centres:

- Continuation of the project “Exploratori dels Recursos de la Natura” (ERN) aimed at promoting the study of science and technologies. Launch of projects: Knowledge Fair and Explore Nature.
- Organization of the Summer Science Campus.
- Launch of internship programmes for vocational training students in unique science facilities, in collaboration with the education authorities through the Barcelona Education Consortium.
- Organization of a Supercomputing Training Day. Implementation of training courses for vocational training staff in the areas of entrepreneurship and health.

E. Knowledge and technology transfer to the business sector

E1. Definition and implementation of the Technological Innovation Centre (CIT):

- Progress in the detection of macro-areas in the synergy between the two universities. Drafting of a joint action strategy for knowledge transfer in common sectors.
- Development of CIT and CITA activities to stimulate the use of the technology generated by research groups with significant commercial potential.

E2. Programmes to bolster innovation:

- Completion of the adaptation of facilities in which international companies will set up temporarily at the BKC.
- Extension of the programme to bolster innovation in business, to train professionals that can provide assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises.
- Integration of new companies into the PCB Bioincubator and graduation of firms that came to the end of the incubation cycle.
- Increase in the number of companies based in the K2M building.
- Organization of University-Business Seminars at the suggestion of the Femcat business owners’ association.

E3. Consolidation and internationalization of research valorization:

- Launch of the Technology Offers catalogue (website of the Patents and Licensing Office). Technology catalogue for national and international fairs and events.
Introduction of funding for one-year substitute teacher contracts, allowing members of teaching staff to devote their time to the creation of technology-based companies.

F. Interaction between the campus and its physical environment

F1. Creation of educational, cultural, social and sporting environments:

- Commencement of basic adaptation work inside the Gaudí-Güell pavilions.
- Opening of the “Plaça de l’Enginy” learning space and rooms configured as social learning spaces.
- Acquisition of equipment for the new cardio and weights room of the Sports service.
- Promotion for the creation of the CEICat network for Catalan CEIs to exchange ideas and share initiatives.
- International conference on Social Learning Spaces, organized by the Ministry of Education in collaboration with the Barcelona Science Park.

F2. Mobility:

- Opening of the PCB car park.
- Installation of a charging station with hook-ups for electric motorcycles.
- Extension of the Bicicampus project.

F3. Building plans:

- Completion of works on the Til·lers building which houses the institutional services and bodies linked to the external relations of the UPC.

_BKC, October 2012_