



Annual Report of the UPC Doctoral School

2025

Responsible for drafting	Responsible for approving and ratifying	Date of the approval and ratification
Secretary of the Doctoral School	Standing Committee School Board	27/01/2026 17/02/2026



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Preamble

It is a pleasure to present the 2025 Annual Report of the Doctoral School of the UPC, a document that covers the advances, initiatives and challenges faced in a year in which we extended our commitment to excellence in doctoral education.

This year, we continued to focus on improving doctoral candidates' experience, increasing the cross-disciplinary training offer and promoting internationalisation and collaboration with the business environment. A highlight was the first annual graduation ceremony of the UPC Doctoral School, which has become a significant moment for academic and institutional recognition, as well as the participation in international networks and strategic projects that allowed us to establish new links and opportunities for our students and researchers.

The implementation of new digital tools and the strengthening of communication with the doctoral community, with initiatives such as the Doctoral Newsletter, are a demonstration of our commitment to adapting to current and future needs.

I wish to express my most sincere gratitude to all the people who are part of this community: doctoral candidates, thesis supervisors, programme coordinators, managers and directors. Thanks to your shared effort, we continue to move towards new goals and challenges with firmness and enthusiasm.

We invite you to discover and appreciate the fruits of our work in the pages that follow.

Cristina Canal Barnils

Director of the Doctoral School of the UPC

1. Introduction

The year 2025 was a period of consolidation and progress for the UPC Doctoral School that was marked by a determined commitment to high-quality doctoral training that is focused on people. The actions taken were aligned with our strategic areas, emphasising doctoral candidates's experience, the connection with industry and international outreach.

Improving the doctoral experience at the UPC

Within the framework of the first strategic area, actions to improve the quality of the training process were consolidated and promoted. The catalogue of the new Cross-disciplinary Training Plan, which includes courses designed to strengthen personal and professional competencies that focus on responsible research and innovation (RRI), was revised and updated. The seventh edition of the course "Com finalitzar la tesi doctoral: la redacció i el dipòsit de tesi" [How to finish your thesis: drafting and deposit] was held, showing its consolidation as a key resource at the end of doctoral degrees. The course, which covers the management and administration of the doctoral process and the thesis, is complemented by an academic and scientific course linked to the last stage of the thesis, "The final countdown: how to plan and write your PhD thesis effectively", taught by the director of the Doctoral School, Cristina Canal. Also worth mentioning is the course "Deposit and defence of the doctoral thesis: requirements, processes and paperwork", which complements the previous course and offers doctoral candidates a full overview of the process to follow to complete the deposit. It is worth noting that this year more than 270 doctoral students took courses offered in the School's Cross-disciplinary Training Catalogue.

The new application, PheDra, which integrates the monitoring, deposit and assessment of doctoral theses and provides students with a more efficient and accessible experience, was the action requiring the greatest effort and time. In 2025 the deployment of PheDra was completed to cover all processes, from the beginning of the thesis to its defence, including the assessment of the research plan. At the same time, much of the documentation available in ATENEA-PhD was transferred to PheDra, depending on the needs of each process, such as the defence of the research plan.

The Doctoral School maintains close ties with the UPC Innovation and Community Bureau to work towards the common goal of ensuring the well-being of both doctoral candidates and professors linked to the School.

Foster relations with industry

The commitment to strengthening the relationship with the industrial fabric was implemented in the deployment of dissemination actions for the Industrial Doctorates Plan and in direct work with companies and entities to promote the completion of industrial doctorates at the UPC. In parallel, the preparation of a proposal in the highly competitive MSCA Doctoral Networks call allowed contact to be established with a significant number of companies, identified as potential partners for the development of industrial doctorates. This set of actions contributed to consolidating the UPC's position as a leading institution in this field.

Consolidating international leadership

The UPC Doctoral School actively participates in strategic international networks such as the Unite! Doctoral School, to which it contributes the development of joint initiatives aimed at doctoral training, mobility and interuniversity cooperation. It is also a member of the EUA Council for Doctoral Education (EUA-CDE) and, from 2025, the PRIDE network, strengthening its presence in European spaces of reflection and innovation in the field of doctoral studies.

In parallel, the UPC PhD International Mention Fellowships call was promoted, which complements Erasmus+ doctoral grants and promotes the international mobility of doctoral candidates, while encouraging collaboration with prestigious institutions through cotutelles, joint projects and agreements. In this context, and within the framework of the collaboration agreement signed between the UPC and the Palestinian An-Najah National University, specific work is being done on establishing and strengthening collaborations at the doctoral level.

Promotion of the doctoral community and recognition

The year 2025 continued the dynamic begun the previous year, with a set of activities aimed at strengthening the cohesion of the doctoral community and highlighting the research conducted by our doctoral students. Within this framework, several outstanding actions were carried out, including:

- The Eighth Open Day, which included the institutional final of the “Your Thesis in 4 Minutes” competition.
- Organisation of the #HiloTesis competition to select UPC representatives for the national competition.
- The welcome ceremony for new doctoral candidates, held on 11 November, at which the Special Doctoral Awards were presented.

It is worth highlighting the celebration, for the first time at the UPC, of the UPC Doctoral Graduation Ceremony, which took place in April. The event was particularly emotional and had a high level of participation, becoming a significant milestone in the institutional recognition of doctoral education.

Overall, these activities reinforced the Doctoral School's commitment to welcoming, accompanying and supporting doctoral candidates, as well as to raising the profile of and promoting doctoral research.

Institutional recognition and leadership change

This year, the Doctoral School actively participated in institutional events such as the meeting of the Catalan Association of Doctoral Schools (ACED) and the Conference of Directors of Doctoral Schools, as well as in several specialised working groups promoted within the framework of these bodies.

Beyond attendance at annual meetings and conferences, the doctoral schools maintain ongoing collaboration through shared work tools, such as e-mail distribution lists, which facilitate the exchange of experiences, the collective resolution of questions

and open debate on issues of common interest. Similarly, specific working committees are formed to address specific issues; this year, it is worth highlighting the participation of the UPC in the committee for updating the Ministry's TESEO platform, contributing to the coordination and exchange of good practices in Catalonia and Spain.

Internally, and as a result of the changes initiated the previous year, a new structure of the Doctoral School's management team was consolidated in 2025. The appointment of Cristina Canal as the director led to the vacancy of the assistant director post, occupied by Lluís Jofre, who in turn left the position of secretary. Since February, this responsibility has fallen to Jordi Pons Prats.

Looking to the future

After a year of consolidation and promotion of new initiatives, the Doctoral School faces the next milestones with a view aimed at the continuous improvement of doctoral education and the strengthening of its institutional outreach. The actions taken in 2025 demonstrate the commitment to a high-quality doctoral experience, aligned with the University's strategic objectives and with the needs of a constantly evolving academic and social environment.

This report includes the collective work of the doctoral community and constitutes a solid starting point to continue advancing in the development of rigorous, innovative and impactful doctoral education while facing the challenges of the coming years with determination.

2. Data of the Doctoral School

2.1 Offer of places

This subsection includes the evolution of the offer of new places on doctoral degrees at the UPC, allowing analysis of its planning and adaptation to academic and research needs over the last few years.

Table 1. *Evolution of the number of doctoral places offered per academic year (from 2014-2015 to 2020-2021)*

Acad emic year	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27
Tot al	800	770	780	672	643	622	622	629	637	639	639	649 (*)	642 (**)

(*) Governing Council Decision CG/2025/02/06 Offer of new places on doctoral degrees in the 2025-2026 academic year

(**) Offer of new places on doctoral degrees in the 2026-2027 academic year. Pending approval by the competent governing bodies

Evolució de l'oferta de places

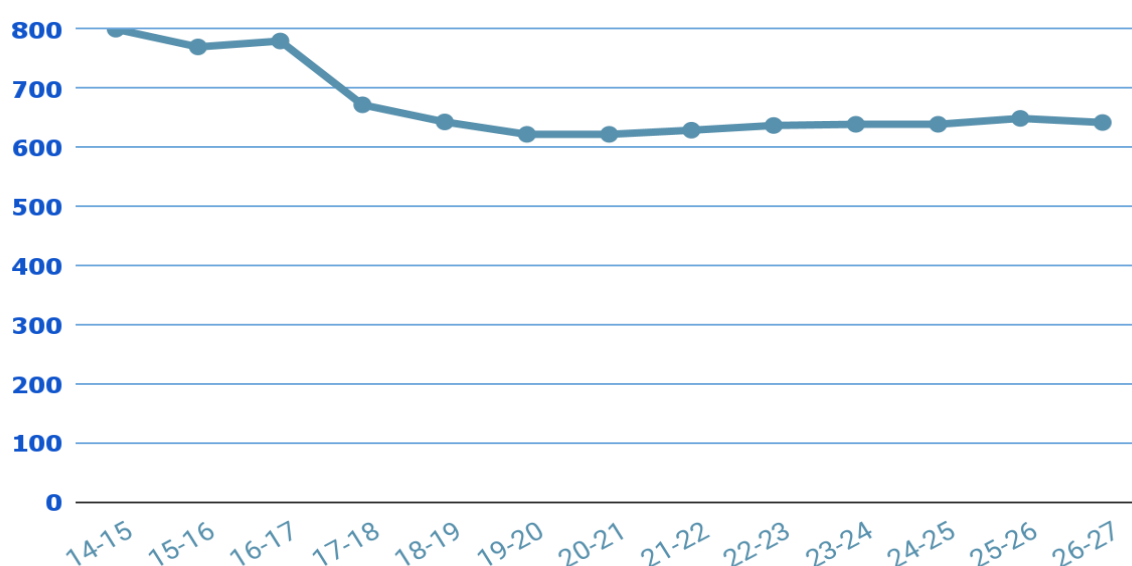


Figure 1. Aggregate evolution of the number of doctoral places offered per academic year (from 2014-2015 to 2026-2027).

In the 2025-2026 academic year, a joint offer of 649 places was made on the UPC's 46 doctoral programmes, which represents an increase of 10 places compared to the offer of the previous academic year, due to the launch of the new doctoral programme in Design.

2.2 Enrolment

This section presents the evolution of enrolment data for doctoral studies at the UPC, both in terms of the total volume of students and new enrolments, and allows for the analysis of the main trends in recent academic years.

Table 2. *Evolution of the total number of students enrolled in doctoral studies (from 2014-2015 to 2020-2021)*

	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
Total	2531	2407	2197	2187	2199	2117	2053	2139	2123	2191	2275	2207 (*)

Table 3. *Evolution of the total number of new students enrolled in doctoral studies (from 2014-2015 to 2020-2021)*

	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
Total	517	740	540	594	503	402	443	471	447	550	539	422 (*)

(*) Details consulted in PRISMA on 13/01/2026. Enrolment period for the 20256-2026 academic year: from 22/09/25 to 24/10/25. *Pending access (completion of master's degrees, visa-related procedures, etc.).*

As shown in the tables above, the substantial increase in enrolment of new students the previous academic year consolidated and remained stable with 536 new doctoral students, covering 84% of the places offered. Of the total number of new students, 34.7% were women, which represents an increase of almost 3 percentage points.

The total number of enrolled students grew 3.6%, reaching 2,284 doctoral candidates in the 2024-2025 academic year (32% women in comparison with 31% the previous year). Students receiving grants made up 42% of the total, following the upward trend of the last few years, and 81% of students are pursuing their doctoral degree full-time.

2.3 Doctoral theses

This subsection analyses activity related to doctoral theses, including deposits, defences and assessment results, as key indicators of progress and outcomes of doctoral training.

Table 4. *Number of doctoral theses deposited by year and month (2017–2025)*

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
January	20	23	22	21	10	12	13	13	15

February	18	28	15	26	14	22	22	19	15
March	26	11	30	16	23	25	44	27	40
April	16	17	17	4	17	30	34	33	30
May	62	34	30	13	24	29	43	39	36
June	61	40	43	42	42	32	32	42	30
July	34	26	37	31	41	31	42	54	50
September	34	62	56	28	38	60	53	64	58
October	41	22	40	33	26	13	7	26	30
November	23	22	29	79	26	14	29	16	23
December	13	21	17	16	17	14	17	11	26
Total	348	306	336	309	278	282	336	344	353

Table 5. *Number of doctoral thesis defences with completed assessment by year and month (2017–2025)*

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
January	12	20	25	24	28	23	16	20	13
February	21	24	21	20	32	16	18	16	15
March	26	23	15	22	18	18	31	19	20
April	12	19	27	4	18	29	16	17	16
May	23	21	21	6	18	18	31	23	32
June	36	31	27	19	15	29	42	35	38
July	63	44	52	59	59	48	58	66	49

September	55	23	24	25	28	20	21	35	36
October	22	31	31	23	29	35	32	47	28
November	44	39	40	33	35	37	37	46	48
December	23	29	45	49	25	15	31	35	35(*)
Total	337	305	328	284	305	288	333	359	330(*)

The number of theses deposited and defended in the 2024-2025 academic year was 331, 70% of which obtained a mark of Excellent with a cum laude distinction. Details extracted from the Control Panel, PowerBI, on 08/01/2026.

Table 6. Number of doctoral theses defended by doctoral programme during the 2024-2025 academic year

ACADEMIC YEAR	2024-2025				
PROGRAMME	Women	% women	Men	% men	Total
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN ARCHITECTURE, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT			1	100.0%	1
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN URBAN AND ARCHITECTURAL MANAGEMENT AND VALUATION	3	60.0%	2	40.0%	5
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN ARCHITECTURAL, CIVIL AND URBAN HERITAGE AND REFURBISHMENT OF EXISTING BUILDINGS	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	2
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN	3	50.0%	3	50.0%	6
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN ARCHITECTURAL, BUILDING CONSTRUCTION AND URBANISM TECHNOLOGY	5	62.5%	3	37.5%	8
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN THEORY AND HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE	2	50.0%	2	50.0%	4
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN URBANISM	4	100.0%			4
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN AEROSPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY			1	100.0%	1
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN ENGINEERING, SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	2
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN OPTICAL ENGINEERING	2	50.0%	2	50.0%	4
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN STATISTICS AND OPERATIONS RESEARCH	1	33.3%	2	66.7%	3
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN COMPUTATIONAL AND APPLIED PHYSICS	1	9.1%	10	90.9%	11
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN PHOTONICS	9	34.6%	17	65.4%	26
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN APPLIED MATHEMATICS	2	28.6%	5	71.4%	7
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN AGRI-FOOD	2	40.0%	3	60.0%	5

TECHNOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY					
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS			2	100.0%	2
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN MARINE SCIENCES	4	57.1%	3	42.9%	7
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING	6	54.5%	5	45.5%	11
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING	2	13.3%	13	86.7%	15
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING	3	20.0%	12	80.0%	15
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING	1	12.5%	7	87.5%	8
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN TRANSPORT ENGINEERING AND INFRASTRUCTURE					
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN NAUTICAL AND MARINE ENGINEERING AND NAVAL RADIO-ELECTRONICS					
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING AND STRUCTURAL DYNAMICS			5	100.0%	5
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN SUSTAINABILITY	7	77.8%	2	22.2%	9
ERASMUS MUNDUS JOINT DOCTORATE IN SIMULATION IN ENGINEERING AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT (SEED)					
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE	2	20.0%	8	80.0%	10
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN BIOINFORMATICS (2022 curriculum)			1	100.0%	1
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN COMPUTING	1	25.0%	3	75.0%	4
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING			9	100.0%	9
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN NETWORK ENGINEERING	1	20.0%	4	80.0%	5
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE	3	42.9%	4	57.1%	7
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN SIGNAL THEORY AND COMMUNICATIONS	6	24.0%	19	76.0%	25
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT			1	100.0%	1
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT (interuniversity)	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	2
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN AUTOMATIC CONTROL, ROBOTICS AND VISION	2	11.8%	15	88.2%	17
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN SUPPLY CHAIN AND OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT					
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING	4	57.1%	3	42.9%	7
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING	3	75.0%	1	25.0%	4
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN CHEMICAL PROCESS ENGINEERING	2	28.6%	5	71.4%	7
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING	1	10.0%	9	90.0%	10
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN MECHANICAL, FLUIDS AND AEROSPACE ENGINEERING	1	12.5%	7	87.5%	8
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN NUCLEAR AND IONISING RADIATION ENGINEERING			2	100.0%	2
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN THERMAL			5	100.0%	5

ENGINEERING					
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN TEXTILE AND PAPER ENGINEERING					
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN POLYMERS AND BIOPOLYMERS	4	57.1%	3	42.9%	7
DOCTORAL DEGREE IN NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT	3	75.0%	1	25.0%	4
TOTAL	93	31.4%	203	68.6%	296

Table 7. Assessment results for doctoral theses and award of the cum laude distinction by academic year (from 2018-2019 to 2025-2026)

Academic year	Mark and distinction					Total number of defences
	Absent	Pass	Good	Excellent	Excellent with a cum laude distinction	
2018/2019	---	2 (0.62%)	10 (3.1%)	75 (23.22%)	236 (73.06%)	323
2019-2020	---	3 (0.84%)	11 (3.10%)	83 (23.38%)	258 (72.68%)	355
2020-2021	---	2 (0.83%)	15 (6.25%)	45 (18.75%)	178 (74.17%)	240
2021-2022	---	2 (0.68%)	10 (3.40%)	72 (24.48%)	210 (71.43%)	294
2022-2023	---	---	8 (2.51%)	75 (23.58%)	235 (73.89%)	318
2023-2024	---	3 (0.87%)	14 (4.06%)	94 (27.32%)	233 (67.73%)	345
2024-2025	---	1 (0.30%)	18 (5.47%)	84 (25.53%)	226 (68.69%)	329
2025-2026	---	0 (0.0%)	1 (3.12%)	5 (15.624%)	26 (81.25%)	32 (*)

Table 8. Evolution of the total number of Industrial Doctorate projects awarded and started at

the UPC (2012–2025)

Year	Total awarded by the Generalitat	Total awarded Started at the UPC
2012 (pilot)	17	11
2013	55	17
2014	78	21
2015	84	25
2016	91	25
2017	90	32
2018	93	27
2019	90	24
2020	106	27
2021	113	24
2022	117	23
2023	122	40
2024	152	33
2025*	120	25
Total	1,328	354 (26.6%)

*Call for applications open: pending decision on 11 applications
Details consulted in BDD-DI USSED on 11/12/2025

2.4 Agreements for research stays

This section presents data on agreements governing doctoral candidates' research stays as a element that is key to international mobility, interinstitutional collaboration and the enrichment of the doctoral experience.

Table 9. Number of agreements for research stays signed, under review or pending signature, by type and academic year (from 2020-2021 to 2025-2026)

SIGNED	Category	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	Under review	Pending signature
	Cotutelle	27	15	17	22	27	3	42	8
	Erasmus Mundus and Marie Curie cotutelle	7		4	7	1	6	1	3
	Educational cooperation agreement		3		6	2			
	University stays								
	Stays in companies and organisations	11	6	5	8	4		1	1
	Framework agreements and other agreements	1		2		2	1	2	
	TOTAL	46	24	28	43	36	10	46	12

Table 10. Number of agreements for research stays abandoned, by type and academic year (2019-2020 – 2024-2025).

ABANDONATS	Category	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
	Cotutelle	1	4	3	2	2	3
	Erasmus Mundus and Marie Curie cotutelle						
	University stays		1				1
	Stays in companies and organisations	1	1			3	
	Framework agreements and others						

	TOTAL	2	6	3	2	5	4
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Data as of 15/12/2025

2.5 Special Doctoral Awards - 2025 call

Winners of the 2022-2023 graduation year

Below is a list of winners of the Special Doctoral Awards in the last call by type. The Special Doctoral Awards recognise academic excellence and the quality of doctoral theses defended at the UPC.

Architecture, Building Construction and Urbanism

Winner

Supervisor

Biere Arenas, Rolando Mauricio	Marmolejo Duarte, Carlos Ramiro (supervisor) Garcia Almirall, Maria Pilar (co-supervisor)
Saldaña Puerto, César	Azara Nicolas, Pedro (supervisor)

Sciences

Winner

Supervisor

Abiuso, Paolo	Acín Dal Maschio, Antonio (supervisor)
Angelats Company, Eduard	Colomina Fosch, Ismael (supervisor)
Barbero, Mattia	Corchero Garcia, Cristina (supervisor)
Das, Ipsita	Efetov, Dmitri (supervisor)
Peña Gutiérrez, Sara	Royo Royo, Santiago (supervisor)
Urtiaga Erneta, Iñigo	Cabre Vilagut, Xavier (supervisor)
Wang, Baoying	Meseguer Serrano, Alvaro (supervisor) Mellibovsky Elstein, Fernando Pablo (co-supervisor)
Wang, Yongjie	Konstantatos, Gerasimos (supervisor)

Civil and Environmental Engineering

Winner**Supervisor**

Cabañé Cañas, Albert	Roca Fabregat, Pedro (supervisor) Pela, Luca (co-supervisor)
Castañar Pérez, Inocencio	Baiges Aznar, Joan (supervisor) Codina Rovira, Ramon (co-supervisor)
Komarizadehasi, Seyedmilad	Turmo Coderque, Jose (supervisor) Lozano Galan, Jose Antonio (co-supervisor)
León Medina, Jersson X.	Pozo Montero, Francesc (supervisor) Tibaduiza, Diego Alexander (co-supervisor)
Marcillo Delgado, Juan Carlos	Álvarez García, Alicia (supervisor) Garcia Carrillo, Agueda (co-supervisor)
Wu, Haiqing	Vilarrasa Riaño, Víctor (supervisor)

ICT Engineering**Winner****Supervisor**

Alemaný Prats, Pol	Vilalta Cañellas, Ricard (supervisor) Muñoz Gonzalez, Raul (co-supervisor)
Castell Uroz, Ismael	Barlet Ros, Pere (supervisor)
El Gharbi, Mariam	Gil Gali, Ignacio (supervisor) Fernandez Garcia, Raul (co-supervisor)
Ferrer Cid, Pau	García Vidal, Jorge (supervisor) Barceló Ordinas, Jose Maria (co-supervisor)
Leyva Pupo, Irian	Cervello Pastor, Cristina (supervisor)
Liu, Peini	Guitart Fernandez, Jordi (supervisor)
Ojaghi Kahjogh, Behnam	Adelantado Freixer, Ferran (supervisor) Verikoukis, Christos (co-supervisor)

Industrial Engineering**Winner****Supervisor**

Barja Martínez, Sara	Villafáfila Robles, Roberto (supervisor) Aragüés Peñalba, Mònica (co-supervisor)
Clemente León, Alejandro	Costa Castello, Ramon (supervisor)

Lapo Calderón, Byron Gonzalo	Sastre Requena, Ana Maria (supervisor)
Morena Gatus, Angela Gala	Tzanov, Tzanko (supervisor)
Parareda Oriol, Sergi	Mateo Garcia, Antonio Manuel (supervisor) Casellas Padro, Daniel (co-supervisor)
Pore, Ameya Ravindra	Casals Gelpi, Alicia (supervisor) Fiorini, Paolo (co-supervisor)
Suarez Cambra, Daniel	Batet Miracle, Lluís (supervisor) Mas De Les Valls Ortiz, Elisabet (co-supervisor)
Song, Jie	Gomis Bellmunt, Oriol (supervisor) Cheah Mañé, Marc (co-supervisor)

3. Bodies of the Doctoral School

3.1 Standing Committee of the Doctoral School

Composition

Ex officio members

- Director: Cristina Canal Barnils
- Assistant director: Lluís Jofre Cruanyes
- Academic secretary: Jordi Pons Prats
- Head of the USSD: Ana Canales Martínez
- Administrative staff representative at the Doctoral School: Maria Eugènia Miranda Valiente

Elected members

- **Architecture, Urbanism and Building Construction:** Prof. Carlos Ramiro Marmolejo Duarte; Prof. Maria Magdalena Mària Serrano;
- **Sciences:** Prof. Maria Isabel Achaerandio Puente, Prof. Lluïsa Quevedo Junyent;
- **Civil and Environmental Engineering:** UNFILLED and UNFILLED
- **ICT Engineering:** Prof. Carlos Antonio Andújar Gran; Prof. Olga Muñoz Medina
- **Industrial Engineering:** Prof. Antonio David Dorado Castaño; Prof. Roberto Villafáfila Robles.
- **Doctoral student representative:** David Rovira Ferrer

Changes in membership:

- The assistant director of the Doctoral School, Cristina Canal Barnils, left the post vacant when she took office as the new director of the Doctoral School on 12 November 2024.
- The secretary of the Doctoral School, Lluís Jofre Cruanyes, left the post and became the assistant director of the Doctoral School on 1 February 2025.
- Jordi Pons Prats became the School's new secretary on 1 February 2025.

Face-to-face meetings

- 27 January 2025
- 18 March 2025
- 13 May 2025
- 1 July 2025
- 14 October 2025
- 16 December 2025

Virtual meetings (off-line)

- 4 June 2025
- 19 November 2025

3.2 Doctoral School Board

Composition

Ex officio members

- Director: Cristina Canal Barnils
- Assistant director: Lluís Jofre Cruanyes
- Academic secretary: Jordi Pons Prats
- Head of the USSD: Ana Canales Martínez
- Administrative staff representative at the Doctoral School: Maria Eugènia Miranda Valiente

Elected members

- **Architecture, Urbanism and Building Construction:** Prof. Anna Pagès Ramon, Prof. Ana María Lacasta Palacio, Prof. Maria Magdalena Mària Serrano, Prof. Carlos Ramiro Marmolejo Duarte, Prof. Ernest Redondo Domínguez, Prof. Guillem Carabí Bescós, Prof. Maria Rubert de Ventós.
- **Sciences:** Prof. Maria Isabel Achaerandio Puente, Prof. Marta Pérez Casany, Prof. Ramón Herrero Simón, Prof. Josep Ignasi Rojas Gregorio, Prof. Lluïsa Quevedo Junyent, Prof. Enric Ventura Capell, Prof. Marc Alier Forment, Dra. Verònica Ahufinger.
- **Civil and Environmental Engineering:** Prof. Gonzalo Ramos Schneider, Prof. Pavel Ryzhakov, Prof. Miguel Cervera, Prof. Martí Rosas Casas, Prof. Alberto Ledesma Villalba, Prof. Francesc Xavier Martínez de Osés, Prof. César Mösso Aranda, Prof. Sebastià Olivella Pastallé, Prof. Marianna Garfí.

- **ICT Engineering:** Prof. Xavier Hesselbach Serra, Prof. Jaime Óscar Casas Piedrafita, Prof. Olga Muñoz Medina, Prof. Marta Casanellas Rius, Prof. Carlos Antonio Andújar Gran, Prof. Davide Careglio, Prof. Angela Nebot Castells.
- **Industrial Engineering:** Prof. Carlos Enrique Alemán Llanso, Prof. Jasmina Casals Terré, Prof. Eulalia Planas Cuchí, Prof. Maria Blanca Roncero Vivero, Prof. Guillem Pere Cortés Rossell, Prof. Antonio David Dorado Castaño, Prof. Beatriz F. Giraldo Giraldo, Prof. Emilio Jiménez Piqué, Prof. Álvaro Luna Alloza, Prof. Carlos David Pérez Segarra, Prof. Vicenç Puig Cayuela, Prof. José Maria Sallán Leyes, Prof. Roberto Villafáfila Robles, Prof. Vicenç Fernández Alarcón, Prof. Manel Mateo Doll.
- **Doctoral candidates:** Aniol Sala Pascual, Matteo Arioli.

Face-to-face meetings

- 6 February 2025
- 17 July 2025

Virtual meetings (off-line)

- 24 November 2025

3.3 Doctoral Student Council of the UPC

Although it is not strictly a body of the Doctoral School, it is worth highlighting the reactivation and renewal of the UPC Doctoral Student Council. The body's directors were renewed with elections for a new chair and a new secretary. We must acknowledge the work done by the previous chair, now Dr Aniol Sala Pascual, who led the Council in this stage of renewal, which concluded with elections for the posts.

Composition

- Chair: David Rovira Ferrer, doctoral degree in Electronic Engineering.
- Secretary: Gladys Alfonsina Ochoa Freire, doctoral degree in Natural Resources and Environment.

4. Doctoral programmes

Below are the current doctoral programmes grouped by area:

Architecture, Urbanism and Building Construction

1. Architecture, Energy and Environment
2. Design
3. Urban and Architectural Management and Valuation
4. Architectural, Civil and Urban Heritage and Refurbishment of Existing Buildings
5. Architectural Design
6. Architectural, Building Construction and Urbanism Technology
7. Theory and History of Architecture
8. Urbanism

Sciences

9. Aerospace Science and Technology
10. Engineering, Sciences and Technology Education
11. Optical Engineering
12. Statistics and Operations Research
13. Computational and Applied Physics
14. Photonics
15. Applied Mathematics
16. Agri-Food Technology and Biotechnology

Civil and Environmental Engineering

17. Structural Analysis
18. Marine Sciences
19. Environmental Engineering
20. Civil Engineering
21. Construction Engineering
22. Geotechnical Engineering
23. Nautical and Marine Engineering and Naval Radio-Electronics
24. Earthquake Engineering and Structural Dynamics
25. Sustainability

ICT Engineering

26. Computer Architecture
27. Bioinformatics
28. Computing
29. Electronic Engineering
30. Network Engineering

- 31. Artificial Intelligence
- 32. Signal Theory and Communications

Industrial Engineering

- 33. Business Administration and Management
- 34. Automatic Control, Robotics and Vision
- 35. Supply Chain and Operations Management
- 36. Materials Science and Engineering
- 37. Biomedical Engineering
- 38. Chemical Process Engineering
- 39. Electrical Engineering
- 40. Mechanical, Fluids and Aerospace Engineering
- 41. Nuclear and Ionising Radiation Engineering
- 42. Thermal Engineering
- 43. Textile and Paper Engineering
- 44. Polymers and Biopolymers
- 45. Natural Resources and Environment
- 46. Electric Energy Systems

5. Management report

5.1 Executive summary

Continuing with the changes in the School's management team initiated the previous year, and after the incorporation of Dr Cristina Canal as the School's director, Dr Lluís Jofre Cruanyes left the post of academic secretary to be appointed assistant director, and Dr Jordi Pons Prats joined the team as the School's academic secretary.

During this academic year, the Doctoral School continued to develop its Strategic Plan, within the framework of the UPC's, and focused on three major objectives: to improve the doctoral experience, consolidate the Doctoral School as an international benchmark and strengthen ties to industry.

5.2 2023–2025 Doctoral School Strategic Plan

The Doctoral School continued to make progress in achieving the milestones established in the Strategic Plan for the 2023–2025 period. These milestones are detailed below.

Strategic milestone 1: Improve the doctoral experience at the UPC

- Create an online application that integrates the monitoring, deposit and assessment of doctoral theses.
- Design a new cross-disciplinary training plan that includes the promotion of RRI (responsible research and innovation).
- Improve the quality of reception, support and guidance services throughout doctoral studies.

Strategic milestone 2: Promote relations with industry

- Provide training in research valorisation and entrepreneurship.
- Increase the number of doctoral theses with an Industrial Doctorate mention.
- Increase interaction with industry to increase graduate employability.

Strategic milestone 3: Position the UPC Doctoral School as an international benchmark

- Promote the participation of the Doctoral School in international networks.
- Increase collaboration with prestigious international institutions (cotutelles, joint projects, agreements, etc.).
- Increase the degree of internationalisation of doctoral theses.

During this year, there was adequate progress in all the indicators associated with the strategic milestones and specific objectives. In 2026, once the new 2026–2030 UPC Action Plan has been approved, the Doctoral School will continue to develop its Strategic Plan in alignment with the UPC's strategic objectives.

5.3 Improve the doctoral experience at the UPC

Also within the first milestone of the School's Strategic Plan—improving the doctoral experience—work has continued on providing tools to improve the emotional well-being of doctoral students and promote their interaction and integration. We are working with other UPC departments to cover any issues related to the well-being of the School's community.

The celebration of the Welcome Ceremony has been consolidated as a tool for welcoming new students, and in 2025 the Graduation Ceremony for the new UPC doctoral degree holders was held for the first time.

The Doctoral Student Council, once its regulations had been renewed and elections were held to choose the representatives of the programmes, called elections for its chair and secretary, initiating a new stage of full participation in the School's governing bodies and collaborating in the promotion of doctoral candidates' activities.

As mentioned at the beginning of the document, the School maintains a close relationship with the Innovation and Community Bureau, to ensure the well-being of the doctoral community.

5.4 Internationalisation

At the School, we have worked to give a clear impetus to the international visibility and prominence of the Doctoral School. We attended the Annual Meeting of the Council for Doctoral Education of the EUA (EUA-CDE), held at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, the theme of which was "20 years of progress: celebrating the achievements and shaping the future of doctoral education in Europe". In addition, we became members of PRIDE, the Network for Professionals in Doctoral Education, a network for collaboration with other European higher education institutions in the field of doctoral education.

Once again, we maintained and intensified our participation in Unite!, working on the organisation of the 11th Dialogue: Unite! Students, Our Soul, Our Core, held in February at the UPC, at which the Doctoral School organised the alliance's first three-minute thesis competition. We later attended the 12th Dialogue: Connect–Collaborate, held at Aalto University, Finland, and helped to organise the Unite Research Week and the calls for applications for joint grants and led the advances that the signing of the Unite Doctoral School's governance model involved.

Also in the field of internationalisation, we promoted grants that are complementary to Erasmus grants for stays abroad, to help doctoral students obtain an international mention, as well as new grants from Banco de Santander for trainee research staff. The Doctoral School has a high proportion of international students, who represented 52.8% of the total number of students in the 2024-2025 academic year, and 28.4% of

theses were defended with an international mention, an increase of almost 15% over the previous academic year.

5.5 Relations with other doctoral schools

Below we list and show images of some of the activities related to representation and participation in events and committees.

- Attendance at the meeting of the Catalan Association of Doctoral Schools (ACED), 27 June 2025, at the University of Girona.



Figure 2. Group photo of the meeting at the UdG

- Participation as speakers at the 13th National Conference of Directors of Doctoral Schools (CDED), 23-24 October 2025, University of the Balearic Islands. <https://agenda.uib.es/137788/detail/xiii-conferencia-de-directoras-y-directores-de-escuela-de-doctorado-cd>



Figure 3. Group photo of conference participants

- Attendance at the Annual Meeting of the Council for Doctoral Education of the EUA (EUA-CDE), held at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, from 4 to 6 June 2025.



Figure 4. Photo of the participation of the School's representatives at the conference

5.6 Promotion of industrial doctorates

We strengthened the promotion of industrial doctorates, organising specific sessions and working on attracting funding for the completion of theses in collaboration with industry. At the UPC we continue to lead industrial doctorates in Catalonia, with 25 new Industrial Doctorate projects awarded in 2025 (21% of all projects awarded by the programme). At the closing date of the report, the last call, to which 11 applications were submitted, is pending resolution.

5.7 Doctoral promotion and communication

Within the promotional activities of the Doctoral School, activities aimed at students were intensified. We list the most important activities below and show some photos of the events.

- 1st edition of the "Your Thesis in 3 Minutes" competition:
As part of the programme of the 11th Unite! Dialogue: Students, Our Soul, Our Core, on 26 February the first edition of a competition took place in which 15 doctoral students from universities in the Unite! alliance competed by explaining the content of their research in an informative and accessible way for a non-specialised audience.

The UPC was represented by Patricia Victoria López Gómez, a doctoral candidate on the doctoral degree in Biomedical Engineering, with the presentation "From Lab to Life: How Hydrogels are Changing Medicine", and Guillem López Paradís, a doctoral candidate on the doctoral degree in Computer Architecture, with the lecture "The Case for Data Centre Hyperloops".

The jury announced the winners during the plenary session of the 11th Dialogue on 28 February, and the results were the following.

- 🏆 1st place: Nuno Miguel Cabecinhas Gonçalves (Universidade de Lisboa)
- 🥈 2nd place: Patricia Victoria López Gómez (Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya)
- 🥉 3rd place: Nuno Ricardo de Oliveira Jordão (Universidade de Lisboa)

- Regular publication of the Newsletter: continuing the action initiated the previous year, the publication of the School's newsletter was maintained, twice a month or less frequently depending on communication needs. All publications are available at <https://doctorat.upc.edu/ca/escola/newsletter-de-lescola-de-doctorat/2025>
- Graduation ceremony:

In 2025, the Doctoral School organised the institutional graduation ceremony for UPC doctoral degree holders for the first time. It was aimed at graduates of the years 2024 and 2025 (up to the date of the ceremony). This initiative aims to publicly recognise the research conducted at the University through its doctoral degree holders and to highlight the role of doctoral degrees as a fundamental part of the academic and scientific activity of the UPC.

The ceremony took place on **10 April 2025** in the **Vèrtex Auditorium (North Campus)** and had a high degree of participation. At the ceremony, the rector of the UPC conferred the doctoral cap and institutional badge on the new doctoral degree holders. The programme included several institutional interventions, the participation of a member of the class representing the graduates and a performance by the UPC Choir. The event concluded with a commemorative toast.

From this first edition, the graduation ceremony for UPC doctors will become an annual event held every April that aims to recognise and celebrate the successes of the new doctoral degree holders.



Figure 4. Photo of the graduates attending the event

- Open Day:

With the aim of informing and guiding people interested in starting doctoral studies, the Doctoral School held the **8th Open Day** on **8 May 2025**, in the Vèrtex Auditorium. The conference was especially aimed at master's students and future doctoral candidates and was held in a face-to-face format with live

broadcast through the institutional YouTube channel, thus facilitating its reach and participation.

The day included the presentation of the UPC's doctoral offer, highlighting the value of research, innovation and talent, and providing practical information on the ways of accessing doctoral programmes. The role of the UPC Doctoral Student Council as a representative body for doctoral students was also made known.

As part of the event, the institutional final of the **8th edition of the “Present Your Thesis in 4 Minutes” competition**, with the participation of the ten finalist doctoral candidates. The awards given were the following.

- **First prize:** José Enrique Domínguez Vidal, of the doctoral degree in Automatic Control, Robotics and Vision, who represented the UPC in the interuniversity final.
- **Second prize:** Jordi Doménech Fons, of the doctoral degree in Network Engineering.
- **Third prize:** Patricia López Gómez, of the doctoral degree in Biomedical Engineering.

This meeting has become consolidated as a key tool for disseminating doctorates and making the UPC's doctoral research more visible.



Figure 5. Winners of the "Present Your Thesis in 4 Minutes" competition at the UPC level

- Grand final of the 8th edition of the "Present Your Thesis in 4 Minutes" competition

The Catalan Foundation for Research and Innovation (FCRI) and the Ministry of Research and Universities of the Generalitat de Catalunya, through the Interuniversity Council of Catalonia, organised—together with twelve Catalan universities and with the collaboration of the “la Caixa” Foundation—the 8th edition of the "Present Your Thesis in 4 Minutes" competition. On 3 July, the grand final of the competition was held in the Auditorium of the Espai Fundació “la Caixa” in Girona, where 12 finalists (7 women and 5 men) participated, selected from the 154 contestants (56% women, 44% men) who competed in the internal qualifying stages at Catalan universities. As a representative of the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, José Enrique Domínguez Vidal participated with his interesting thesis "Human Intention and Its Use in Human-Robot Interaction".



Figure 6. Participants in the interuniversity final of "Present Your Thesis in 4 Minutes"

- 5th edition of the #HiloTesis competition "Your Doctoral Thesis on Social Networks"

The Doctoral School joined the fifth edition of the #HiloTesis competition "Your Doctoral Thesis on Social Networks", which is called by the Scientific Dissemination and Culture Network (RedDivulga) of the R&D Sectoral Committee of the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities. This is an initiative to promote the development of communication and scientific dissemination skills of future or recent doctoral degree holders, explaining what they do, how they do it and why they do it in society. For this reason, they will have to disseminate their doctoral thesis in the form of a thread on the Bluesky social network, adapting the content in simple, accessible and attractive language. In this edition, [the thread selected to represent the UPC was that of José Enrique Domínguez Vidal](#), a doctoral candidate on the doctoral degree in Automatic Control, Robotics and Vision.

Of the 489 participants who shared their doctoral thesis in the form of a thread on Bluesky, these were the award winners:

- Irene Teixido-Orries (UdL), [toxinas invisibles que puede contener un desayuno saludable](#).
- Katherine Simbaña-Rivera (ULPG), [cómo puede afectar a la salud un volcán incluso cuando parece estar dormido](#).
- Daniel Rodríguez-Iglesias (UBU), [si las primeras herramientas humanas no solo sirvieron para cazar, sino también para matar](#).
- Betsaida Ojeda Pérez (UCO), [las drásticas consecuencias que tiene para el hígado la excesiva ingesta de comida basura durante años](#).

- Laura Zabala (EHU), [cómo se puede lograr reducir el excesivo consumo energético de los edificios.](#)
- Charlotte Messiaen (UMH), [cómo el deporte impulsa habilidades clave para las que personas con discapacidad intelectual tengan más oportunidades laborales.](#)
- 2025 Welcome Ceremony
 The UPC Doctoral School held the 2025-2026 Welcome Ceremony on 11 November for new doctoral students. It combined a training session with an institutional ceremony and the award of the 2025 Special Doctoral Awards. The training session was carried out by various UPC units and services, which presented the new doctoral candidates with the main tools, resources and support programmes available for research and university life. The event, led by the director of the Doctoral School, was attended by numerous academic authorities and included the inaugural conference by Professor Maria Pau Ginebra, entitled “The PhD as a Journey to the Limits of Knowledge”. During the ceremony, the rector of the UPC, Professor Francesc Torres Torres, was in charge of presenting the Special Doctoral Awards to the awardees, in recognition of the excellence of their doctoral theses.



Figure 7. A moment in Prof. Ginebra's participation in the graduation ceremony

5.8 Promotion of cross-disciplinary training

During this academic year, the offer of cross-disciplinary training aimed at enhancing the skills of doctoral students and promoting their employment was expanded. Among the new training activities, specialised workshops on preparing project proposals, writing scientific articles, management skills, data visualisation and design thinking stand out.

The 8th edition of the course "How to Complete the Doctoral Thesis: Thesis Writing and Submission", which continues to be a key piece for supporting doctoral candidates in the final stage of their doctorate, was met with great success.

This year, the UPC, in collaboration with the Doctoral School and the European Patent Office, launched its first edition of specific training on intellectual and industrial property. With the participation of 59 registered participants, the course provided doctoral candidates with essential knowledge on protecting intangible assets and integrating intellectual property into the business strategy.

Detailed information on the cross-disciplinary training provided in 2025 is available on the Doctoral School website:

<https://doctorat.upc.edu/ca/doctorands/formacio-transversal>

5.9 Modification of procedures

As a reminder, this point is emphasised due to its importance. In coordination with the Office of the Rector and the Academic Council, the calculation of PAD and DiC points related to the Doctoral School was modified last year. The calculation is based on the following.

- **PAD points:**

- Theses without an international mention: $4 \text{ PAD}/(\# \text{supervisors})$ over three academic years
- Theses with an international mention: $4.5 \text{ PAD}/(\# \text{supervisors})$ over three academic years
- Scaled to the number of PAD assigned to the Doctoral School (currently 3,000 PAD).
- Not assigned to external supervisors.

- **DiC points (programme coordination):**

- $\text{DiC points per programme } D = 9 \cdot (Ac \cdot At)$
- $Ac = 0.5$ for all degrees
- $At = 0$ ($0 \leq Nt < 5$), 1 ($5 \leq Nt < 9$), 2 ($9 \leq Nt < 13$), 3.5 ($13 \leq Nt < 17$), 4.5 ($17 \leq Nt$)
- Nt = Number of theses read averaged over three academic years
- If the programme is less than 4 years old $Nt = \text{Enrolled students}/4$

5.10 Doctoral management application: PheDra

This year, use of the new application [PheDra](#) became consolidated. Since its launch, more than 400 theses have been deposited and the defence and assessment of more than 290 theses has been managed through PheDra. Among the new functionalities implemented in 2025, annual assessment stands out, and recently the management of the defence of the research plan and doctoral student applications. However, other improvements were incorporated to facilitate usability and management by the academic committees of the programmes.

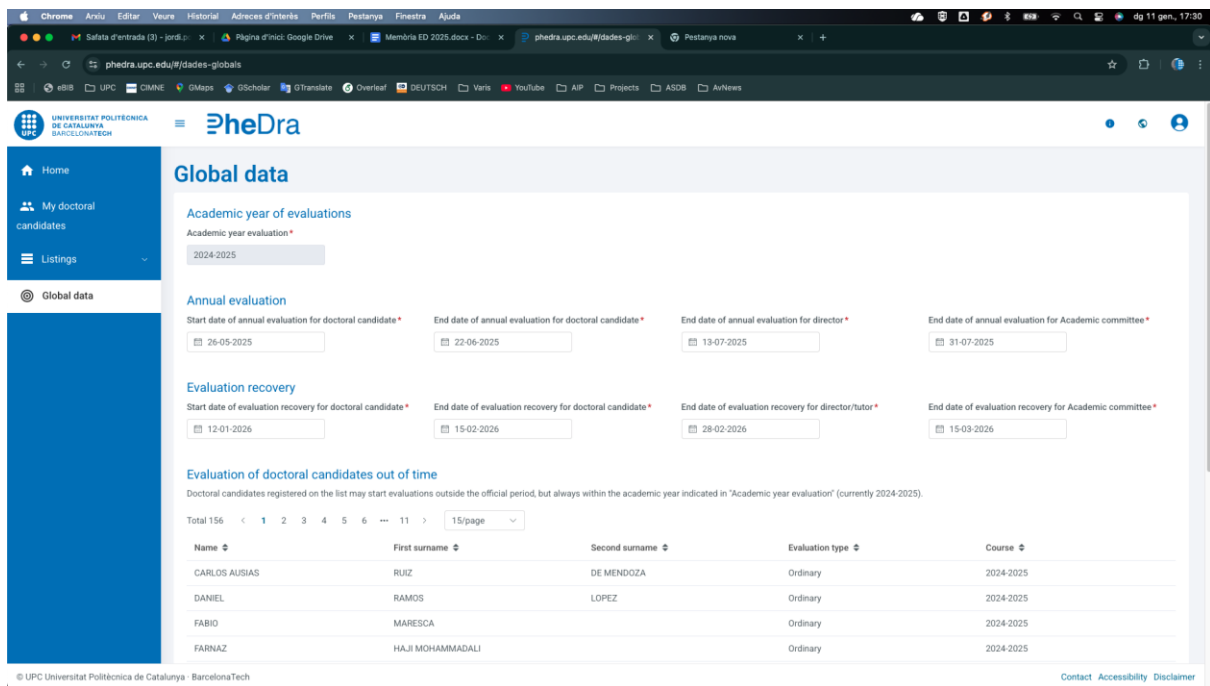


Figure 8. Example of the information in the PheDra application

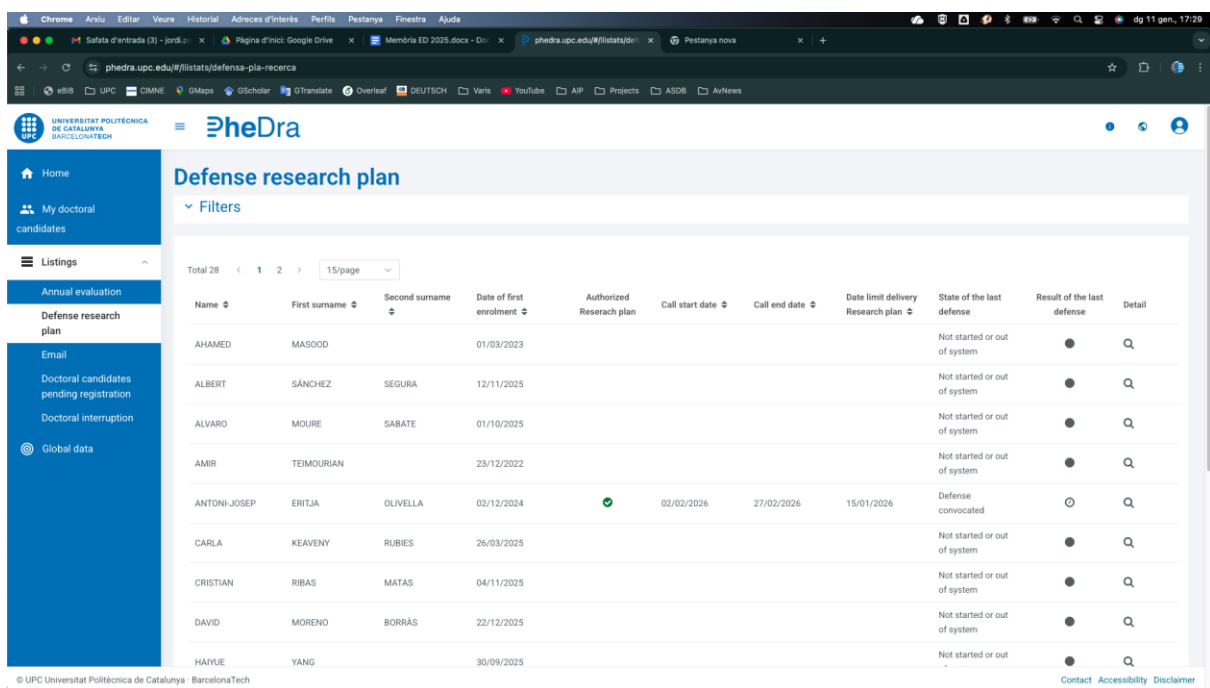


Figure 9. Research plan data in the PheDra application

Despite the normal adjustments and adaptation process in the introduction of a new IT tool, the application has already made it possible to streamline many of the procedures associated with the thesis, especially the more complex ones such as the doctoral thesis deposit, and has allowed a qualitative leap associated with the quality

and traceability of the processes and documentation associated with the thesis, which is especially important in maintaining the institutional accreditation of the Doctoral School.

5.11 Budget of the Doctoral School

The budget executed by the Doctoral School in 2025 was as follows.

Table 11. Budget execution of the thesis committee expenses item. 2025 tax year

EXPENSES FOR THESIS EXAMINATION COMMITTEES			
INITIAL ALLOCATION	MODIFICATIONS	2025 EXPENSES	REMAINING BALANCE
€115,000		€110,121.37	€4,878.63

Table 12. Budget execution of the specific actions item for doctoral degrees (dissemination and other expenses). 2025 tax year

SPECIFIC ACTIONS FOR DOCTORAL DEGREES: DISSEMINATION AND OTHER EXPENSES			
INITIAL ALLOCATION	MODIFICATIONS	2025 EXPENSES	REMAINING BALANCE
€35,000	+ €466.56	€32,712.09	€2,754.47

Table 13. Budget execution of the payments to thesis reviewers item. 2025 tax year

PAYMENTS TO THESIS REVIEWERS			
INITIAL ALLOCATION	MODIFICATIONS	2025 EXPENSES	REMAINING BALANCE
€50,000		€24,925	€25,075

Table 14. Budget execution of the Santander grants item. 2025 tax year

SANTANDER GRANTS			
INITIAL ALLOCATION	MODIFICATIONS	2025 EXPENSES	REMAINING BALANCE
€50,000		€50,000	€0

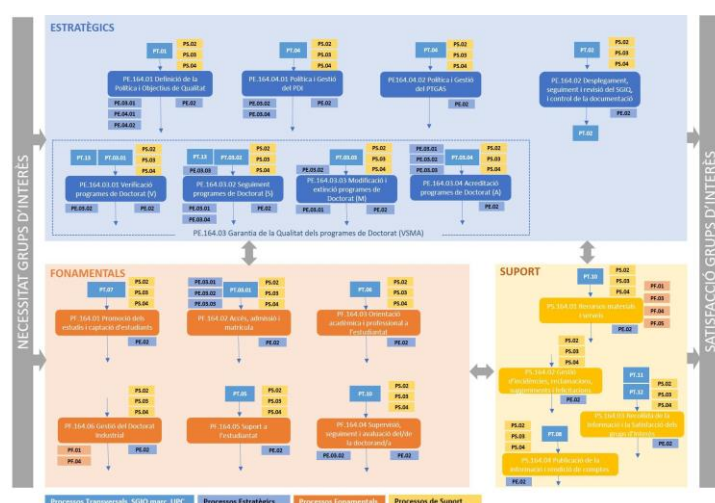
6. Quality

6.1 Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS)

6.1.1 Process review

In 2025, all the processes of the Doctoral School's IQAS were reviewed, and the School's Improvement Plan was reviewed and updated. In this in-depth review, the need to create new processes and update some existing ones was detected. However, it was decided to implement these changes in 2026 so as to pool efforts. Below is the list of current processes, as well as the process map that shows the relationship between them.

IQAS PROCESSES OF THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL	
STRATEGIC PROCESSES	PE.164.01 Definition of the quality policy
	PE.164.02 Deployment, follow-up and review of the IQAS and document control
	PE.164.03 Quality guarantee of doctoral programmes (VSMA)
	PE.164.03.01 Verification of doctoral programmes (V)
	PE.164.03.02 Sign-off of doctoral programmes (S)
	PE.164.03.03 Modification and discontinuation of doctoral programmes (M)
	PE.164.03.04 Accreditation of doctoral programmes (A)
	PE.164.04.01 Teaching and research staff policy and management
	PE.164.04.02 Technical, management, administrative and service staff policy and management
FUNDAMENTAL PROCESSES	PF.164.01 Promotion of degrees and student recruitment
	PF.164.02 Access, admission and enrolment
	PF.164.03 Academic and professional guidance for students
	PF.164.04 Supervision, monitoring and assessment of doctoral candidates
	PF.164.05 Student support
	PF.164.06 Industrial Doctorate management
SUPPORT PROCESSES	PS.164.01 Material resources and services
	PS.164.02 Management of incidents, complaints, suggestions and compliments
	PS.164.03 Information collection and stakeholder satisfaction
	PS.164.04 Publication of information and accountability



6.2 Biennial Doctoral Programme Monitoring Reports

In line with the favourable institutional accreditation obtained in **2025**, the Doctoral School formally initiated this year's procedure for the preparation of the Biennial

Doctoral Programme Monitoring Reports corresponding to the period 2025-2026. This process is set up as the key instrument for monitoring and evaluating academic quality after the success achieved in the AQU pilot programme. This campaign stands out for the implementation of a new digital quality management tool (<https://gestorqualitat.upc.edu/sqq>), designed to optimise data traceability and streamline report generation by coordinators. With an execution schedule that culminates in early 2026, this procedure not only allows verification of compliance with academic standards and the correct evolution of the theses read; it also facilitates the detection of areas for improvement and the proposal of substantial modifications. In this way, the School guarantees that the high levels of implementation recognised in the institutional visit are maintained and extended across all doctoral programmes at the institution.

6.3 Renewal of members of the Quality Committee

Regarding student representation in governing bodies, the process to fill the vacancy on the Quality Committee was completed with a representative from the Doctoral Student Council. Once the management team of the Council was defined, on 17 October 2025, a working meeting was held to agree on the designation of the representative member, in which Gladys Alfonsina Ochoa was chosen. The appointment followed the established institutional circuit, with approval by the Standing Committee on 14 December 2025 and ratification pending by the School Board in February 2026. With this incorporation, the Governing Bodies section of the institutional website was updated to make the replacement of Cristina Rovira by the new representative effective, thus guaranteeing the full participation of the doctoral student community in the School's monitoring and quality processes.