Regulations governing the structure and operation of research and knowledge transfer at the UOC

Text approved by the Research and Knowledge Transfer Committee on 31 October 2024, by the Executive Board on 4 November 2024 and by theStanding Committee of the FUOC's Board of Trustees on 3 December 2024.

UOC Research and Knowledge Transfer Regulations 2024 3.0

Preamble

Both Spanish Organic Law 2/2023 of 22 March on the University System (LOSU) (Article 97) and Catalan Law 9/2022 of 21 December on Science (Article 24.2) state that universities have the necessary autonomy to create basic structural units for their university research in every area of knowledge, mainly in the form of research groups, faculties and research centres.

The Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) Organizational and Operational Regulations similarly establish (Article 5) that the UOC may create research centres or institutes to give effect to the university's research policy and lead the development of the fields and lines of research to which it gives strategic priority. Likewise, Article 8 states that research institutes can be created as centres for scientific, technical or artistic research.

As is well known, the UOC was founded in 1995 to teach and carry out research on distance teaching methodologies and techniques and foster research and innovation in the knowledge society. Over the past 30 years, it has evolved in all its areas of activity, but it is the last decade that has seen the most significant growth in every aspect of research and knowledge transfer, such as the ability to attract competitive projects, scientific output, knowledge transfer alliances in both the private and public sectors, recruitment of research staff, commitment to open science and qualitative assessment of research.

When Àngels Fitó took up office as rector in April 2023, the Executive Board set its strategic priorities. The specific ones for research and knowledge transfer were to raise the profile of the UOC as a university of excellence in research and knowledge transfer, to structure, promote and showcase the transfer of knowledge, and to provide the UOC with the necessary structure and resources to consolidate its research.

In line with the above priorities, these Regulations introduce a new structural unit for research at the UOC that is consistent with the increase in both current and future research at the university and with the aim of continuing to address current social challenges, based on the premise that the UOC's teaching and research staff are suitably equipped and capable of achieving the high standards of excellence expected by society of the UOC and by the UOC of all its staff.

As is customary at the UOC, the main features of the organizational principles governing its restructuring are scientific independence, meritocracy and regular assessment; autonomy in management; and highly professional support services to help achieve excellence in research. The university's commitment to open science and qualitative research assessment is also worth noting.

This new structural unit comprises the UOC's research units, which are akin to the research centres envisaged in the current laws and regulations and include and combine the efforts

of the UOC's research groups and their teaching and research staff, as well as of the specialist, management and administrative and service staff that support the UOC's research and knowledge transfer activities. The Research Units work to achieve the research missions, which are defined collectively based on the challenges set by the European Commission and the UOC's own research activity and which form the basis of interdisciplinary work.

The UOC's research and knowledge transfer community has identified the strategic research priorities and expressed them as five research missions to help design a specific approach to research and address the most significant current challenges, creating a more direct impact on society.

The research missions for 2030 are: Education of the future; Social transition and sustainability; Culture for a critical society; Planetary health and well-being, and Ethical and human-centred technology.

In their efforts to achieve these missions, the research groups must work in an interdisciplinary way within the framework provided by the research units. Research groups are organized under these structural units based on their shared characteristics but transcending disciplinary boundaries, in accordance with a broad framework for research and collaboration that enables them to tackle the missions identified. As can be seen in Article 41 of the LOSU and Article 24.2 of the Catalan Law on Science, research units seek to foster cooperation, multidisciplinarity and interdisciplinarity, as well as integrated administrative management procedures, and they have the necessary means to carry out their functions properly and efficiently.

Finally, these Regulations contain an updated description of the members and functions of the Research and Knowledge Transfer Committee (CRiT), the body tasked by the Governing Council with setting strategies and actions based on the UOC's research and knowledge transfer policy. The CRiT is the successor of the Research and Innovation Committee resulting from the merger of the Research and Doctoral Committee and the Innovation Committee in 2016.

Article 1. Definitions

The following terms are defined as follows:

a) Research mission (RM): A strategic research priority that seeks to provide a specific direction for the research conducted by academic staff at the UOC by addressing the main challenges currently facing society and to have a more immediate impact on society.

b) Research unit (RU): A non-teaching structural unit engaged in carrying out research and knowledge transfer projects that seeks to encourage interdisciplinary research. It consists of UOC research groups and teaching and research staff who are not affiliated to any research group at the UOC.

c) Research group (RG): This is the basic structural unit of research at the UOC. It is composed of a group of academic staff and any other UOC staff that may be decided, who work towards shared scientific goals and collaborate on single-discipline or multidisciplinary research lines or projects with common interests.

d) Unaffiliated teaching and research staff (UTRS): This term covers teaching and research staff at the UOC who are not affiliated to any particular RG. It is a temporary role for teaching and research staff who have recently joined the UOC and have not yet joined any specific RG. The main aim of this designation is to help new UOC staff members join a specified RG. In exceptional cases, a decision as to whether an unaffiliated staff member is to join a specific RG or return to other academic duties at their faculty must be made.

e) Research Information System (RIS): A computer system containing the identity details of each teaching and research staff member, research group and research unit, as well as their scientific output, research and knowledge transfer activities and other information. It is akin to the CRIS (Current Research Information System) in place at most universities. At the UOC, it is linked to the Universitas XXI GIR tool and the Dialnet CRIS research portal.

The Research and Knowledge Transfer Committee (CRiT)

Article 2. The Research and Knowledge Transfer Committee

2.1   The CRiT is made up of the following members:

- The Vice Rector for Research, Knowledge Transfer and Entrepreneurship, who chairs the committee.
- The director of the Doctoral School
- The directors of the research units
- The directors of the research centres or institutes
- The faculties' associate deans for research, as liaisons
- The Deputy General Manager for Research and Knowledge Transfer

2.2 The CRiT may be assisted by other members of the UOC's academic or administrative staff, who have the right to speak but no vote and may be invited to attend meetings.

2.3 It has the following functions:

- Producing, coordinating and evaluating the university's research and knowledge transfer policies, strategies and action plans in accordance with the guidelines set by the Governing Council.
- Coordinating and evaluating the academic structures for research and knowledge transfer.
- Designing, holding calls for, awarding and evaluating UOC grants for research and knowledge transfer.
- Coordinating the drive to obtain external funding for research and knowledge transfer, and deciding how the research funds (understood as the remaining budget) obtained from these external fundraising actions are to be used.
- Defining and monitoring the indicators and evidence required to make decisions, and the dissemination of the UOC's research and knowledge transfer activities.
- Promoting a research culture that prioritizes open science and societal impact.
- Providing leadership for the ethics and integrity of the research and knowledge transfer developed by the UOC community.

Research units (RUs)

Article 3. Structure of research units

3.1. Research units are created by the Governing Council at the proposal of the UOC's Vice Rector for Research, Knowledge Transfer and Entrepreneurship (VRRKTE) after consulting the Research and Knowledge Transfer Committee (CRiT), based on the preliminary work carried out by the UOC's teaching and research staff.

3.2. At the time of approval of these Regulations, there should be a total of five RUs, although this may change as provided in the preceding paragraph in the event of significant changes to the UOC's research policy or to the results of the assessments of the RUs and their RGs.

3.3. Where possible, RUs are linked to areas associated with the research missions described in the preamble. Initially, these are the five missions envisaged for 2030: Education of the future; Social transition and sustainability; Culture for a critical society; Planetary health and well-being; Ethical and human-centred technology.

3.4.   At the UOC, RUs are akin to research centres as defined in the Organizational and Operational Regulations and the current legislation and regulations.

Article 4. Composition of research units

4.1.   Each RU is headed by a director and composed of both RGs and UTRS.

4.2.   The director of the RU

4.2.1. The director of each RU is appointed by the Rector at the proposal of the VRRKTE. After going through the corresponding selection process, the chosen person is appointed for a term of five years, with the possibility of renewal for one further five-year period.

4.2.2. The director reports to the VRRKTE.

4.2.3. The person in this role is responsible for establishing and coordinating the RU's strategic plan and goals and for overseeing the RGs and the UTRS in collaboration with the associate deans for research. Their duties also include fostering strategic alliances, managing the budget, representing the RU, helping draw up the UOC's Strategic Plan, encouraging an interdisciplinary approach and leading the assessment of the RU.

Article 5. Organization of research units

5.1.   When fully established, RUs include a director, at least one associate dean for research of the faculties that have teaching and research staff in the RU, the coordinators of the RGs assigned to it, the teaching and research staff affiliated to those RGs, UTRS and any other UOC staff that may be decided.

5.2.   Each RU has a Scientific Coordination Committee made up of the director of the RU, at least one associate dean for research of the faculties that have teaching and research staff, the coordinators of RGs, and a representative of the UTRS.

5.3.   The representative of the UTRS in the Scientific Coordination Committee is chosen by the director of the RU following the corresponding internal process.

5.4.   RUs must have a Scientific Committee made up of non-UOC experts appointed by the RU's Management Committee who work in the same areas of knowledge as the RU. This committee, which performs an advisory role, helps monitor and assess the activity and results of both the RGs and the RU itself.

5.5.   RUs have a Management Committee. This body has the following functions:

- Approving and monitoring the RU's strategic plan and annual goals at the proposal of the director of the RU;
- Assessing the RGs' compliance with their Strategic and Action Plan every two years, in accordance with the procedure that may be put in place;
- Supporting the director of the RU in their management role and collectively deciding on their replacement if they resign or are removed from office.

5.6.   The Management Committee is composed of the director of the RU, at least one associate dean for research from the faculties that have teaching and research staff in the RU, the VRRKTE and the Deputy General Manager for Research and Knowledge Transfer.

5.7.   RUs may receive basic funding for their specific activities. The amount of this funding will be decided every year based on the RU's Strategic and Action Plan and the available funds in the UOC's budget. This funding will be supplemented with the amount internally allocated to the RGs.

Article 6. Assignment of research groups and unaffiliated teaching and research staff to research units

6.1.   The initial process of assigning a RG to a RU starts with an application by the UTRS or the RG's coordinator or representative.

6.2.   The application must meet the requirements set out in the specific call, which will be posted on the noticeboard and will also include the requirements for RGs that are applying for basic funding.

6.3.   The CRiT is the body in charge of approving, at its chair's proposal, the assignment of RGs to RUs. The decision will be made based on the applications received in the call and ensuring that the RUs' membership structure remains faithful to their spirit.

6.4.   The CRiT reserves the right to assign RGs to a RU other than the one applied for. It may do this based on exceptional criteria relating to the university's strategy, whether the areas match and the final balance of members in the RUs; and it may do so both for the initial assignment and at any time until the RG is dissolved. The coordinators of the affected groups must be informed of this change, with reasons.

6.5.   UTRS wishing to join a RU must submit an individual application and follow the procedure set forth in this Article 6.

6.6.   Teaching and research staff at the UOC must be linked to a RU in order to do their research.

6.7.   If a RG or a UTRS fails to submit an application to join a RU, they will be deemed to have accepted their assignment to the RU decided by the CRiT.

6.8.   Once the RUs have been created and the RGs and UTRS have joined them, a call for applications to move to a different RU will be held every two years.

Article 7. Assessment of research units

7.1.   The CRiT assesses the RUs every four years based on an activity report submitted by their directors.

7.2.   In addition to this four-yearly assessment, an advisory pre-assessment is carried out internally by the RUs' management committees every two years.

7.3.   The activity report must conform to the model provided for each call and must include, among other indicators, those relating to fundraising in research and knowledge transfer projects, scientific output, interdisciplinarity, open science, action plan and budget monitoring and the impact of the projects and visibility actions carried out, as well as a qualitative narrative of the RU's progress and expected development.

7.4.   Only the quantitative data appearing in the RIS may be used for the activity report.

7.5.   The RU's Scientific Coordination Committee must be informed of the result of the assessment of the RU and of the CRiT's recommendations.

7.6.   The CRiT may seek assistance from both UOC and external staff to carry out the assessment.

7.7.   A negative result in the assessment of a RU will trigger the restructuring of the RU, which will be carried out under the CRiT's supervision. This may lead to the dissolution of the RU or, following an appropriate process, to the appointment of a new director. The Management Committee will manage the RU during this transition.

7.8.   A negative result in this assessment will also result in the director of the RU being removed from the post. If this person is a member of the faculty's teaching and research staff, they will return to their academic work for their faculty.

Research groups

Article 8. Structure of research groups

8.1.   RGs are given institutional recognition by the CRiT at the proposal of a UOC teaching and research staff member and in accordance with the model provided for this purpose and with Article 9 herein.

8.2.   The creation of a RG is subject to the following requirements:

- RGs must have at least five members, three of whom must be doctoral degree holders and have a contract with the UOC.
- RGs must be coordinated by a member who holds a doctoral degree and has proven research experience.
- RGs can include teaching and research staff, as well as doctoral students at the UOC and external staff who do not have a contract with the UOC, staff hired out of the RG's budget and members of the UOC's specialist, management and administrative and service staff.
- UOC staff members can only belong to one RG at the UOC.
- The members of a RG must work on a joint line of research that is guaranteed and consistent over time as provided in the group's Strategic and Action Plan.
- RG members must have an ORCID identifier and keep the details of their activities up to date in the RIS.
- RGs must be attached to a RU.

8.3.   Provided that the above requirements are met, RGs may be coordinated by more than one teaching and research staff member.

8.4.   RG co-coordinators are appointed internally for alternating terms of at least two years, although more than one teaching and research staff member may be named as coordinator for external purposes.

8.5.   The RU to which the RG is attached may place other requirements on the RG in accordance with the RU's specific strategic plan.

8.6.   Any RG applying for recognition by the Government of Catalonia under a call for recognition (research group support, SGR) must first obtain recognition as a UOC RG. In addition, the names of the UOC staff members included in the SGR recognition application must match those officially appearing in the RIS. However, two or more internal groups may decide to apply together as a single SGR group in order to be eligible for funding. In such cases, the group recognized by the UOC – and appearing in the RIS – will be considered

the existing group for internal purposes, and the joint group created for the SGR call will only exist for the purposes of the call.

Article 9. Research group recognition procedure

9.1.   In accordance with the Second Transitional Provision, all RGs already recognized by the UOC on the date of approval of these Regulations are considered recognized for internal purposes. In order for a new RG to obtain this recognition, its coordinator must submit an application to the CRiT.

9.2.   The application must demonstrate that the group applying for recognition meets the requirements set forth in Article 8.2.

9.3.   The application must include a request to join an existing RU, as well as a Strategic and Action Plan for the RG.

9.4.   The RG's Strategic and Action Plan must include a four-year plan setting out its research and knowledge transfer goals and a financial plan.

9.5.   RGs whose application does not comply with Articles 9.3. or 9.4 will be deemed to have waived the funding provided for under Article 11.

9.6.   The CRiT is the body with responsibility for approving, at its chair's proposal, the recognition of RGs. When doing this, it must strive to ensure that their lines of research match the UOC's research goals.

Article 10. Composition, organization and operation of research groups

10.1.   RGs must be structured as provided in Article 8 herein.

10.2.   Coordinators

10.2.1. The appointment of the RG coordinator must be approved by the CRiT at the proposal of the VRRKTE and in accordance with the procedure established in the relevant call.

10.2.2. In their performance of this role, RG coordinators report to the director of the RU in relation to research goals, knowledge transfer and the management of the RG.

10.2.3. The coordinator's main duties are leading the Strategic Plan and monitoring the RG's objectives, securing funding, managing the addition of new staff, informing others about the group's activities, coordinating its assessments and collaborating with the RU and the faculties' associate deans for research.

10.3. Research excellence

10.3.1. RGs must meet certain requirements of excellence in research and knowledge transfer. These relate, among others, to the quality of their scientific output, the funding of their research and knowledge transfer activities and their visibility, as provided in Article 12.

10.3.2. UOC-recognized RGs must apply for recognition under official calls for emerging or consolidated RGs.

10.3.3. RGs with official recognition as emerging RGs must apply for consolidated research recognition and strive to retain it.

10.3.4. The scientific output of RG members must be signed as provided in the applicable regulations.

10.3.5. RG members must ensure that their identity details and the information on their research and knowledge transfer activities and scientific output are up to date on their RIS profile. The details of the RG that will be valid for all internal and external purposes are those appearing in the RIS.

10.3.6. Scientific output, including research results, scientific publications, data, codes and methodologies, must be available in open access, except for those results that are considered of interest for protection, dissemination and exploitation under the UOC's Regulations on Intellectual and Industrial Property for R&I Activities, as well as in the cases expressly envisaged in the current legislation.

10.3.7. Where possible, publication in open access should be in the UOC's O2 repository.

10.3.8. RGs must obtain their own funds through competitive calls or external agreements and contracts.

10.3.9. Notwithstanding the foregoing, RGs may apply for internal grants from the UOC and receive them if they fulfil the university's criteria and conditions.

10.3.10. The information that gives RGs visibility both inside and outside the UOC must be kept up to date in the RIS and in any internal and external platforms that may be decided.

10.3.11. Internal and external visibility platforms must comply with the UOC style guide at all times, and the UOC brand, represented in its standard form, must always be included.

10.3.12. RGs must provide evidence of their actions both internally and externally by means of qualitative impact narratives and discipline-specific indicators of success.

Article 11. Internal funding and the research group coordinator's role in this regard

11.1.   RGs at the UOC can apply for basic funding under a competitive call to help them achieve excellence in their research and knowledge transfer work.

11.2.   Furthermore, RG coordinators are specifically tasked with this function. If a RG coordinator's work for the UOC requires a time investment of 50% of their working hours or more, the additional working hours may be undertaken by another member of the RG.

11.3.   Teaching and research staff must teach at least six credits per semester.

11.4.   The conditions applicable to the funding and the increase in working hours mentioned above will be set out in the specific call to be held by the UOC and will be subject to the availability of funds in the budget.

11.5.   Neither the award of basic funding to RGs nor its amount is permanent or recurring. Instead, they are linked to the relevant RG's Strategic and Action Plan submitted in the specific call and are assessed every four years as provided in Article 12.

Article 12. Assessment of research groups receiving internal funding

12.1.   The CRiT will assess each RG every four years based on the Strategic and Action Plan submitted by its coordinator, following the procedure that may be decided.

12.2.   In addition to this four-yearly assessment, a non-binding pre-assessment is carried out every two years by each RU's Management Committee.

12.3.   The Strategic and Action Plan must conform to the model provided for each specific call and must include, among other indicators, those relating to scientific output, compliance with open science principles, the monitoring of the group's action plan and

budget, the impact of the projects and visibility actions carried out, and a qualitative narrative of the RG's progress and expected development.

12.4.   Only the data appearing in the RIS may be used to assess the RG.

12.5.   The RG coordinator must be informed of the result of the assessment and of the recommendations made by the RU's Management Committee or the CRiT.

12.6.   If the members of the CRiT have no expertise in the RG's area, the assistance of UOC or external specialist staff may be sought for this purpose.

12.7.   A negative result in the four-yearly assessment of the RG will put an end to its basic funding and the RG coordinator's increase in working hours and may lead to the dissolution of the RG.

12.8.   The RU's Management Committee may establish a specific procedure to assess the RGs that do not receive internal funding and/or the UTRS that belong to them.

Article 13. Modification and dissolution procedure

13.1.   The CRiT must be informed of any changes to the name, characteristics or composition of a RG, which must be approved by the director of the RU to which the RG is attached.

13.2.   The CRiT must be formally informed if a RG decides to dissolve itself.

Repealing provision

Without prejudice to the provisions of the Fourth Transitional Provision, the following are repealed:

- Regulations governing the structure and operation of research groups at the UOC. Text approved by the Executive Management Committee on 21 July 2014.
- Research and innovation governance at the UOC. Text approved by the Executive Board on 4 April 2016.

Transitional provisions

1. In addition to the ordinary call for applications for RGs to join RUs, the CRiT will consider requests by RGs to change RU during the six months immediately following the approval of the assignment.

2. Existing RGs with a different composition from that set forth in Article 8 are granted two years from the approval of these Regulations to comply with that article. The CRiT will consider dissolving any RGs that fail to do this by the end of the transition period.

3. For the purposes of these Regulations, the RGs listed in Appendix 2 hereto that have successfully passed a competitive assessment process in the last five years will retain the score obtained in that assessment for that five-year period.

4. Until they are dissolved, the research centres in existence when these Regulations come into force will continue to operate as usual and will be governed by the provisions of the previous regulations applicable to them.

5. New teaching and research staff must apply to join a RG within one year from the date they joined the UOC.

Final Provision. Entry into force

These regulations will enter into force on the day following their publication on the UOC's E-Services Portal, and following approval by both the CRiT and the UOC's Governing Council.

Appendix 1: UOC Research Groups in existence at the time of approval of the Regulations

Research group	Acronym	Researchers	Principal investigator
Artificial Intelligence and Data for Society	AID4So	Amidei, Jacopo Ferreira de Sa, Jose Gregorio Kaltenbrunner, Andreas	Kaltenbrunner, Andreas
Artificial Intelligence for Human Well-being	AIWELL	Benito Altamirano, Ismael Bustos Rodriguez, Maria Cristina López Camuñas, José Manuel Masip Rodo, David Merino Arranz, David Nuñez Do Rio, Juan Manuel Perez Millan, Agnès Rehman, Mujeeb Ur Ventura Royo, Carles Lapedriza Garcia, Àgata	Lapedriza Garcia, Àgata
Crisi, alteritat i representació	ALTER	Iñigo Clavo, Maria Martínez Robles, David Poza Poyatos, Alberto Prado Fonts, Carles Brasó Broggi, Carles	Brasó Broggi, Carles
Behavioural Design Lab	BDLab	Boixadós Anglès, Mercè Duarte Anselmi, Giuliano Eduardo Gómez-Zúñiga, Beni Hernàndez Encuentra, Eulàlia Llorens Roman, Jordi Merino Rubio, Lidia Pousada Fernández, Modesta Selva Olid, Clara Armayones Ruiz, Manuel	Armayones Ruiz, Manuel
Barcelona InTerdisciplinary research group on plAnetary heaLth	BITAL	Domènech Panicello, Carola Moreno Gay, Ariadna O Brien, Shannon Leigh Triguero Mas, Margarita O'Callaghan Gordo, Cristina	O'Callaghan Gordo, Cristina
Care and Preparedness in the Network Society	CareNet	Alonso García, Pablo Arenas Conejo, Míriam Beneito Montagut, Roser Cakir, Pelin Cassián Yde, Nizaiá Cifre Sabater, Maria Duran Lombardía, Marina Hermoso de Mendoza Pi, Victor Jiménez Alonso, Belén López Gómez, Daniel Lozano Bright, Carmen Maestres Useche, Brígida Cristina Máiz Mazuela, Catuxa Inés	Rodríguez Giralt, Israel

		Molina Sourdat, Alexandre Paul Pie Balaguer, Asunción Ramírez March, Álvaro Sánchez Criado, Tomás Rodríguez Giralt, Israel	
Child Tech Lab	ChildTech	Contreras Higuera, Williams Fernández Molina, Joana Tat, Diana Utami Edysuyanto, Athifah Crescenzi-Lanna, Lucrezia	Crescenzi-Lanna, Lucrezia
Communication Networks and Social Change	CNSC	Calleja López, Antonio Fernandez Paredes, Tatiana Fernández-Ardèvol, Mireia Linares Lanzman, Juan Márquez Muñoz, Laia Mompo Ruiz, Adria Montoya Espinagosa, Inés Morey Cortès, Francisca Peiruza Parga, Joel Rodríguez García, Enrique Rosales Climent, Andrea Sáenz Leandro, Ronald Andrés Suárez Gonzalo, Sara Paz Borge Bravo, Rosa	Borge Bravo, Rosa
Complex Systems @ IN3	CoSIN3	Ibáñez Marcelo, Esther Omarzadeh, Davoud Rodríguez Casañ, Ruben Solé Ribalta, Albert Borge Holthoefer, Javier	Borge Holthoefer, Javier
Disseny, Art, Tecnologia i Societat	DARTS	Berga Carreras, Quelic Blasco Soplon, Laia Chacón Pérez, Jonathan García Méndez, Andrea Paula González Díaz, Paloma Melenchón Maldonado, Javier Mor Pera, Enric Sánchez de Serdio Martín, Aida Elisenda Vilà Òdena, Irma Soler-Adillon, Joan	Soler-Adillon, Joan
Digital Business Research Group	DigiBiz	Ammetller Montes, Gisela Escobar Rivera, Dalilis Lladós Masllorens, Josep Meseguer Artola, Antoni Ramos de Luna, Iviane Rimbau Gilabert, Eva Ruiz Dotras, Elisabet Sabadell i Bosch, M.Mar Rodríguez Ardura, Inma	Rodríguez Ardura, Inma

Dret, Internet i transformació digital	DITD	Alascio Carrasco, Laura Teresa Bossacoma Busquets, Pau Cerrillo Martínez, Agustí Diaz Jover, Maur Fabra Abat, Pere Gil Seaton, Ayllen Martínez Zorrilla, David Mekuriya, Endalkachew Abera Migliari, Wellington Moguel Fernández, Jordi Presicce, Laura Ruiz Martín, Anna María Vilalta Nicuesa, Aura Esther Vilasau Solana, Mònica Peguera Poch, Miquel	Peguera Poch, Miquel
Research group in Education and ICT	EDUL@B	Arguedas Lafuente, Marta Maria Baztán Quemada, Pablo Caballé Llobet, Santi Cabrera Lanzo, Nativitat Cerro Martínez, Juan Pedro Conesa Caralt, Jordi Cufuna, Delsa Silva Amino Daradoumis Haralabus, Atanasi Duart Montoliu, Josep M. Escala Maccaferri, María Nella Español Fernandez, Delia French, Craig Forsyth Guàrdia Ortiz, Lourdes Guitart Hormigo, Isabel Hernández Morlans, Teresa Ibáñez del Río, Nerea Lucena Samarini, Monica Madrid Gari, Carlos Maina, Marcelo Fabian Mominó de la Iglesia, Josep Ma. Ortega Ochoa, Elvis Gerardo Riccò, Isabella Romero Carbonell, Marc Romeu Fontanillas, Teresa Sangrà Morer, Albert Strecker, Tanja Conni Zanetti, Paula Andrea Guitert Catasús, Montse	Guitert Catasús, Montse
STEAM University Learning Research Group	EduSTEAM	Casado Martínez, Carlos Cobo Rodríguez, Germán García Solórzano, David Marco Galindo, M. Jesús Minguillón Alfonso, Julià Sancho Vinuesa, Teresa	Sancho Vinuesa, Teresa

eHealth-TransLab Research Group	eHealth Lab	Baena Garcia, Antoni Cabutto, Daniela de Palma, Gaetano Luca Moretó Melero, Sònia Nieto Luna, Rubén Pérez Navarro, Antoni Porta i Hernández, Xènia Urrutia Fuentes, Carlos Francisco Carrion Ribas, Carme	Carrion Ribas, Carme
Research Group in Epidemiology and Public Health in the Digital Health Context	epi4health	Aguilar Martínez, Alicia Andrés Reig, Erik Blázquez Sucarrat, Iris Esquius de la Zarza, Laura Fortes Muñoz, Paula Lafon Guasch, Aina Macip Maresma, Salvador Massip Salcedo, Marta Medina Luque, Francesc Xavier Pichel Mira, Rafael Rius i Bonet, Júlia Robles Muñoz, Marina Saigi Rubió, Francesc Torrado Cortés, Cristina Torrubiano Balcells, Marta Bosque Prous, Marina	Bosque Prous, Marina
Ètica, equitat i eines digitals per a la millora de la salut	e-RLab	Alabert López, Marc Aymerich Martínez, Marta Inzitari, Marco Yuguero Torres, Oriol	Yuguero Torres, Oriol
Feedback and assessment To Learn in online learning environments	Feed2Learn	Cavaro, Florentina Espasa Roca, Anna Luna Luján, Jose Manuel Mayordomo Saiz, Rosa M. Guasch Pascual, Teresa	Guasch Pascual, Teresa
Finance, Macroeconomics and Management	FM2	Bistuer Talavera, Cristobal Hintzmann Colominas, Carolina Llobet Dalmases, Joan Plana Erta, Dolors Uribe Gil, Jorge Mario	Uribe Gil, Jorge Mario
eGovernança: administració i democràcia electrònica	GADE	Balcells Padullés, Joan Barreda Díez, Mikel Batlle Rubio, Albert Ferrer Juan, Sergi Mas Elias, Jordi Padró-Solanet Grau, Albert Paneque Martin, Andreu Ronzhyn, Oleksandr Siddiqui, Ayaz Ahmed Vidal-Folch Duch, Lorenzo Cardenal Izquierdo, Ana Sofía	Cardenal Izquierdo, Ana Sofía

Grup de recerca en Aprenentatges, Mitjans i Entreteniment	GAME	Aranda Juarez, Daniel Arnedo Moreno, Joan Bernal Triviño, Ana Bourdin Kreitz, Pierre Clares Gavilán, Judith Compte Pujol, Marc Costa Gálvez, Dolores Estanyol Casals, Elisenda Herrera Sánchez, Sonia Jiménez Morales, Manel Jony, Akinul Islam Lalueza Bosch, Ferran Lopez Borrull, Alexandre Martínez Martínez, Silvia Montaña Blasco, Mireia Ollé Castellà, Candela Pujol Ozonas, Cristina Sanz Martos, Sandra Turhalli, Neval Sánchez Navarro, Jordi	Sánchez Navarro, Jordi
Gènere i TIC	GenTIC	Bivol, Miruna Di Tullio Arias, Anabella Laura López Pérez, Beatriz Soledad Mathias Souto, Luana Müller, Jörg Noguera Duran, Ana Maria Palmén, Rachel Louise Romano Serrano, Maria José Romero Moreno, Aran Segura Nebot, Rocío Sáinz Ibáñez, Milagros	Sáinz Ibáñez, Milagros
Grup d'estudi en Geopolítica, Conflicte i Drets Humans	GEOCONDAH	Cardona Valles, Mariona Elizalde Carranza, Miguel Ángel Steible, Bettina Torrent Oliva, Ignasi Rajmil Bonet, Daniel	Rajmil Bonet, Daniel
Laboratori d'Estudis Literaris Globals	GlobaLS	Campanella Casas, Lucia Cantó Milà, Natàlia Kersaan, Swaeny Nina Tanasescu, Cristian Yagci, Fatma Selin Roig Sanz, Diana	Roig Sanz, Diana
Grup de Recerca sobre les Relacions entre Àsia i Pacífic - Europa	GRAPE	Farrés Fernández, Guillem Khayrizamanova, Irina Mora Roás, Enrique Rivera Escartin, Adrià Vidal Lopez, Lluc	Vidal Lopez, Lluc

Grup de recerca en Cognició i Llenguatge	GRECIL	Ahufinger Sanclemente, Nadia Amela Calavera, Adrià Balboa Castells, Raquel Benet Nácher, Nuria Esteve Gibert, Núria Ferinu Sanz, Laura Giberga Moreno, Albert Guillamón Novo, Alba Igualada Perez, Alfonso Martín Méndez, Leire Martínez Garcia, Cristina Morales Hidalgo, Paula Morgan, Gary Múries Cantán, Olga Andreu Barrachina, Llorenç	Andreu Barrachina, Llorenç
Grup de recerca en Educació	GREDU	Bautista Pérez, Guillermo García Vallès, Xènia Lluch Molins, Laia López Costa, Marta Masdeu Yelamos, Eduard Fernandez Ferrer, Maite	Fernandez Ferrer, Maite
Grup d'Estudis sobre Literatura	GRESOL	Ballart Lladós, Clara Canadell Rusiñol, Roger Figueras Capdevila, Narcís Gassol Bellet, Olívia Iribarren Donadeu, Teresa Lacueva Lorenz, Maria Moreno Mulet, Àlex Nicolau Jiménez, Adriana Rotger Cerdà, Neus	Rotger Cerdà, Neus
Grup de Recerca Interuniversitari en Aplicacions Lingüístiques	GRIAL	Morales Moreno, Albert Oliver Gonzàlez, Antoni Vàzquez Garcia, Mercè Coll-Florit, Marta	Coll-Florit, Marta
Internet Computing & Systems Optimization	ICSO	Ammouriova, Majsa Barriga Rodriguez, Roberto Cobarsí Morales, Josep Ghorbanioskalaei, Elnaz Marco Simó, Josep Maria Pita Lozano, Antonio Valle Nieda, Carlos Riera Terrén, Daniel	Riera Terrén, Daniel
Llengua, cultura i identitat en un món global	IDENTICAT	Ballesté Isern, Eduard Barbieri Muttis, Nicolás Domènech Bagaria, Ona González Balletbó, Isaac Martínez Sanmartí, Roger Morales Serrano, Ricard Puigdevall Serralvo, Maria Teresa Pujolar Cos, Joan Riba Renom, Nolasc Colombo Vilarrasa, Alba	Colombo Vilarrasa, Alba

Intervenció en Psicologia Clínica i de la Salut i Promoció del Benestar	IPCSPB	Castellano Tejedor, Carmina Marsà Sambola, Ferran Medina Alcaraz, Juan Carlos Omedas Morera, Pedro Pineda Marin, Claudia Saavedra Roa, Diego Alejandro Seinfeld Tarafa, Sofia Vallejo Medina, Pablo Montesano del Campo, Adrian	Montesano del Campo, Adrian
Grup de recerca interdisciplinària sobre les TIC	I2TIC	Baraza Sánchez, Xavier Cerdán Chiscano, Mónica Cortadas Guasch, Pau Enache Zegheru, Mihaela Ficapal Cusí, Pilar Gonzalez Reyes, Carlos Grau Valldosera, Josep Jiménez Zarco, Ana Isabel Liviano Solís, Daniel Méndez Ortega, Carles Miró Pérez, Albert Pol Motellón Corral, Elisabet Peñarroja Cabañero, Vicente Torrent Sellens, Joan	Torrent Sellens, Joan
Knowledge and Information Management in Organizations Research Group	KIMO	Garcia Alsina, Montserrat Ortoll Espinet, Eva Canals Parera, Agustí	Canals Parera, Agustí
K-ryptography and Information Security for Open Networks	KISON	Ahmad Kassem, Jamil Ares Robledo, Fernando Buceta Giráldez, Iago El Chaimae, Rebahi Garcia Font, Victor Garcia Llagostera, Albert Guirado Luna, Adria Iqbal, Muhammad Junaid Kabir, Farzana Kohpayeharaghi, Sagheb Koohpayeh Araghi, Tanya Mahdavi Oliaee, Mahdi Masood, Muhammad Yasir Núñez Gómez, Carlos Pineda Burgueño, Gorka Prieto Blázquez, Josep Raza Shaikh, Muhammad Rifà Pous, Helena Sanchez Castaño, Friman Serra-Ruiz, Jordi Soria Comas, Jordi Torralba Agell, Adrià Megías Jiménez, David	Megías Jiménez, David
Laboratori d'Educació Social	LES	Abellán Fabrés, Gemma Bretones Peregrina, Eva Hernandez Santos, Adalberto Moyano Mangas, Segundo Paniagua Rodriguez, Alejandro Planella Ribera, Jordi	Ferrer Esteban, Gerard

		Solé Blanch, Jordi Ferrer Esteban, Gerard	
Critical studies in culture, design and networked communication	MEDIACCIONS	Anglada Pujol, Ona Ardèvol Piera, Elisenda Bartomeu Magaña, Elena Foglia Romero, Efrain Marco Cánoves, Irma Massaguer Busqueta, Lluc Roig Telo, Antoni Udenze, Silas San Cornelio Esquerdo, Gemma	San Cornelio Esquerdo, Gemma
Gèneres en Transició: Masculinitats, cossos i afectes	MEDUSA	Vayreda Duran, Agnès Núñez Mosteo, Francesc Rivas Venegas, Miguel Sanchez Garcia, Jairo Vayreda Duran, Agnès Enguix Grau, Begonya	Enguix Grau, Begonya
Management & eLearning	MeL	Elasri Ejjaberi, Amal Ferreras Garcia, Raquel Fitó Bertran, Angels González Cambray, Ramon Jony, Akinul Islam Lara Navarra, Pablo Marin Miravet, Victor Martínez Argüelles, M. Jesús Muñoz Martínez, Marina Pages Serra, Maria Carmen Pla García, Cintia Pujol Jover, Maria Ramos Carrasco, Jose Carlos Tuneu Puig, Adrià Serradell López, Enric	Serradell López, Enric
Measuring and Improving Student Success	MISS	Calvo Boixet, Anna García González, Iolanda Ginesta Dolcet, Helena Meneses Naranjo, Julio Reyes Reyes, José Israel Sáenz Castro, Diana Paola Angulo Brunet, Ariadna	Angulo Brunet, Ariadna
Filosofia per als reptes contemporanis	MUSSOL	Aibar Puentes, Eduard Gozalo Salellas, Ignasi Hermoso de Mendoza Pi, Victor Tesconi, Susanna Garcés Mascareñas, Marina	Garcés Mascareñas, Marina
Cognitive Neuroscience and Applied Data Science Lab	NeuroADaS Lab	Calabria, Marco Caselles Ballester, Vicent Ciongoli, Francesco Garcia Fernandez, Juan Luis Grueso Saez, Sergio Guallar Rodriguez, Lucas Hernández Sauret, Ana Muñoz Marrón, Elena	Prados Carrasco, Ferran

		Padilla Franco, Concepción Redolar Ripoll, Diego Subirats Maté, Laia Prados Carrasco, Ferran	
Transdisciplinary research on contemporary social challenges	NODES	Bombana, Briana Angélica Fauth, Gabriela Fiori, Mirela Iglesias Costa, Mariela Martins Macedo, Ines Ornellas Rios da Silva, Adriana Vivas Elias, Josep Xarles Jubany, Gemma Creus Quinteros, Amalia Susana	Creus Quinteros, Amalia Susana
Noves perspectives en turisme i oci	NOUTUR	Alsina Folch, Mar Barrullas Bonet, Judit Corrons Giménez, August Francesc Díaz Luque, Pablo Gomis López, Joan Miquel González Reverté, Francesc Morales Pérez, Soledad Villarejo Muñoz, Lluís Wilson, Julie Garay Tamajón, Lluís Alfons	Garay Tamajón, Lluís Alfons
Nutrició, Alimentació, Salut i Sostenibilitat	NUTRALiSS	Chiva Blanch, Gemma Fàbregues Feijóo, Sergi Jurado González, Patricia San Onofre Bernat, Nadia Bach Faig, Anna	Bach Faig, Anna
Perspectives sobre Art, Ciència, Tecnologia i Societat	PACTS	Alsina González, Pau David Sánchez Cardona, Luz María Burbano Valdés, Andrés Eduardo	Burbano Valdés, Andrés Eduardo
Recerca en ensenyament i aprenentatge de llengües amb tecnologies de la informació i la comunicació	realTIC-UOC	Cristofol Garcia, Blanca Robbins, Jacqueline Roland Kjemtrup, Kaspar Rosso Herrero, Ana Styles, Laura Jane Appel, Marie Christine	Appel, Marie Christine
Societat, Estat i Cultura	SEC-History	Busquets Alemany, Anna Cerdá Suárez, Santiago Fuster Sobrepere, Joan Gil Garrusta, Marc Gomez Pradas, Muriel Pujadas Mora, Joana Maria Rodríguez Granell, Ana Claret Miranda, Jaume	Claret Miranda, Jaume

Systems, Software and Models	(SOM) RESEARCH LAB	Bañeres Besora, David Berenguer Mueller, Raquel Cánovas Izquierdo, Javier Luis Cobos Garcia, Sergio Delgado Camacho, David Eduardo Gómez Llana, Abel Martín Villafruela, Jorge Morales García, Sergio Planas Hortal, Elena Clarisó Viladrosa, Robert	Clarisó Viladrosa, Robert
Sustainability, Management and Transport Research Group	SUMAT	Cugueró Escofet, Natàlia Lamolla Kristiansen, Laura Patiño de Artaza, Helena Rodriguez Donaire, Silvia Sismanidou Kalfadimou, Athina Suau Sánchez, Pere	Suau Sánchez, Pere
Fiscalitat, relacions laborals i empresa	TAXBUSINESS	Álvarez Gómez, Fernando Anglès Juanpere, Benjamí Beltran de Heredia Ruiz, Ignasi Cucurull Poblet, Tatiana Fernández García, Antonio Garcia Albero, Jordi Gili Saldaña, Mª Àngels Julià Barceló, Maria Ricou Casal, Mónica Rovira Ferrer, Irene Torrubia Chalmeta, Blanca Delgado García, Ana María	Delgado García, Ana María
Technology-mediated SLA Research Lab	TechSLA Lab	Canals Fornons, Eulàlia Fernandez Michels, Pedro Grañena Gimeno, Gisela	Grañena Gimeno, Gisela
Technology-Enhanced knowledge and interaction group	TEKING	Córcoles Briongos, César Pablo Rodríguez González, M. Elena Serra Vizern, Montse	Guerrero Roldán, Ana Elena
Laboratori de Transformació Urbana i Canvi Global	TURBA Lab	Albuquerque de Mattos, Júlia Argüelles Ramos, Lucía Calvo Boixet, Blanca Cardullo, Paolo Clua Infante, Ana Maria Colacios Parra, Raquel Corres Gallardo, Andrea del Carmen Espelt Rodrigo, Ricard Franco Guillén, Núria Garcia Casañas, Cristina Gutiérrez Cueli, Inés Heras López, María Kovacic, Zora Kulaeva, Zarina Lynch, Casey Ryan March Corbella, Hug Navas Perrone, Maria Gabriela Nóblega Carriquiry, Andrea	Ribera Fumaz, Ramon

		Ruiz Mallen, Isabel Sella, Carlo Serrano Balaguer, Ivan Vaz Dos Santos, Magdalena Yáñez Serrano, Paloma Yuruk Yuruk, Asli Ribera Fumaz, Ramon	
Urbanització, Comerç i Logística Sostenible	URBANLOG	Calero Jiménez, Juan Miguel Castillo Gutiérrez, Cristian Chepurna Chepurna, Maryna Maddahi, Ali Otero Romero, Thierry Pacheco Bernal, M. Carmen Pierri Daunt, Ana Beatriz Puig Gómez, Albert Tusell Vila de Abadal, Iu Viu Roig, Marta Alvarez Palau, Eduard J.	Alvarez Palau, Eduard J.
Victimologia empírica i aplicada	VICRIM	Avendaño Bedoya, Silvana Balcells Magrans, Marc Garcia Hervás, Marc Josep Hernández Hidalgo, Patricia Linde Garcia, Antonia Marsol Gutiérrez, Alba Martínez Sanromà, Oriol Montiel Juan, Irene Tamarit Sumalla, Josep Maria	Tamarit Sumalla, Josep Maria
Wireless Networks Research Lab	WINE	Adelantado Freixer, Ferran Alfayoumi, Sobhi Alsultan Alsultan, Mohammed Boquet Pujadas, Guillem Brunet Gil, Pol Cabezas Grebol, Mariano Cano Bastidas, Cristina Ciriquian Zaragoza, Jan Codina Barbera, Marc Fernández de las Heras López de Gureñu, Ion Gatnau Sarret, Marta Jorba Esteve, Josep Lopez Soriano, Sergio Marquès Puig, Joan Manuel Martínez Huerta, Borja Melià Seguí, Joan Montilla Marin, Sergio Pisa Dacosta, Ivan Tuset Peiró, Pere Vilajosana Guillén, Xavier	Vilajosana Guillén, Xavier

Appendix 2: UOC Research groups that have successfully passed an external assessment in the last five years

Grup	Centre
Communication Networks and Social Change (CNSC)	Internet Interdisciplinary Institute -IN3
Laboratori de Transformació Urbana i Canvi Global (TURBA Lab)	Internet Interdisciplinary Institute -IN3
Wireless Networks Research Lab (WINE)	Internet Interdisciplinary Institute -IN3
Laboratori d'Estudis Literaris Globals (GlobaLS)	Internet Interdisciplinary Institute -IN3
K-ryptography and Information Security for Open Networks (KISON)	Internet Interdisciplinary Institute -IN3
Care and Preparedness in the Network Society (CareNet)	Internet Interdisciplinary Institute -IN3
Complex Systems @ IN3 (CoSIN3)	Internet Interdisciplinary Institute -IN3
Gènere i TIC (GenTIC)	Internet Interdisciplinary Institute -IN3
Systems, Software and Models (SOM) RESEARCH LAB	Internet Interdisciplinary Institute -IN3
Artificial Intelligence and Data for Society AID4So	Internet Interdisciplinary Institute -IN3
Grup de recerca en Cognició i Llenguatge (GRECIL)	eHealth Center
Artificial Intelligence for Human Well-being (AIWELL)	eHealth Center
Cognitive Neuroscience and Applied Data Science Lab (NeuroADaS Lab)	eHealth Center
Behavioural Design Lab (BDLab)	eHealth Center
Ètica, equitat i eines digitals per a la millora de la salut (e-RLab)	eHealth Center