

CRiT 18/04/2024

At its meeting on 18 April 2024, the **Research, Innovation and Knowledge Transfer Committee (CRiT)** dealt with the single issue of the **value of knowledge transfer at the UOC**.

The UOC raises more than €1 million every year from services contracts for teaching and research staff with companies (80%) and the public sector (20%). Likewise, the UOC's history of knowledge transfer also includes good indicators for patents, the creation of six spin-offs and numerous initiatives to advise entrepreneurs through Hubbik, the SpinUOC awards, the funding of industrial doctorates, and 12 chairs.

Based on a shared aim at the UOC – **to foster and reinforce knowledge transfer activities at the university in order to be recognized as a driving force in the economy and society** – the Committee assessed the main challenges and drew up a **strategy covering four areas for 2024-2027**:

- Promoting the culture of knowledge transfer
- Exploiting the results of R&I
- Creating value from the results of R&I
- Reinforcing the UOC's entrepreneurial culture

The session included a **debate on the incentives** that can foster teaching and research staff's knowledge transfer, in addition to the **main goal of achieving a social impact**. These incentives are both external (an upcoming call for accreditation of knowledge transfer periods from the Spanish Quality Assessment and Accreditation Agency (ANECA)), and internal (inclusion in personal objectives, salary supplements, funding of the research group, stays and attendance at conferences, short-term intensification of activities, recognition of innovation in UOC classrooms, etc.). These incentives can vary depending on the field of knowledge, the environment, the sector, and the time needed for the knowledge transfer to achieve a social impact.

The Committee also approved the decision to award **10 postdoctoral stays** at the UOC; and the provisional decision for the **Research Intensification Plan**, which involves intensive work on research and knowledge transfer by 12 members of the teaching and research staff in the seven faculties for 2024 and 2025. These *intensifications* are in addition to those funded by some of the faculties.

Finally, Vice Rector **Xavier Vilajosana** announced that a new contract linked to the preparation of qualitative studies has been awarded to **Análisis e Investigación, SL**. Through this service, teaching and research staff can:

- Acquire various types of gift voucher that they can use to reward people for taking part in focus groups and surveys for their projects.
- Subscribe to common fieldwork applications, such as Typeform, SurveyMonkey or Happy Scribe.
- Get specific types of people to take part in Delphi studies, such as corporate executives, university teaching staff, experts in different areas, etc.