University Community

University Life
Student Committees
The Campus for Peace and Solidarity
University Life

The UOC celebrates the graduation of the corresponding 2,947 graduates from the 2004 – 2005 course.

The class of 2004-2005, that has celebrated its graduation, comprises of 2,052 graduates with recognised qualifications (bachelor’s degree, diplomas and engineering degrees) and 895 master’s degree graduates and postgraduates.

The graduation was celebrated in Barcelona and Madrid as an academic and institutional recognition for the efforts of these individuals.

The graduation ceremony on the 22nd of October, which took place in The Barcelona Auditorium, was chaired by the patron of the graduating year, Daniel Bastida, Rector of the University of Andorra and president of the Joan Lluís Vives Institute. The graduation which was celebrated on the 8th of October in Madrid’s National Music Auditorium was chaired by the patron of the graduating year, Anna Birulés, president of the Business Advisory Council for the UOC and vice-president of Renta Corporación.

As well as this course, the graduates of the UOC can be a part of the graduation year photo.

In addition, a new site for graduates has been created inside the Virtual Campus, which represents the meeting point for more than fifteen thousand UOC graduates. From this site graduates can consult the specific benefits which are offered to them, amongst many other resources, and visit photo albums of the graduates.

More than one hundred and forty activities for the dissemination of knowledge and to maintain presence in the territory.

Out of all of the organised acts, it is worth highlighting the programmes Tribuna Oberta Vilafranca and Tribuna Oberta Terrassa, by means of which the UOC has run conferences on current affairs topics linked to the business economics field. Another programme of conferences, which stands out, is the debates on Education, which is a joint initiative by the Jaume Bofill foundation and the UOC, in this case with speakers related to psychology and the science of education.

In addition, within the framework of meetings held for recognised degrees which are held periodically at the UAB, during this period more than thirty activities have been organised of distinct typology: conferences, round tables, debates, presentations, and so on.

The UOC Choir is created

In the month of September 2005 a group of students initiated the creation of the UOC choir, with the objective of completing the teaching offer and to promote musical and cultural activities amongst our university community.
The forums generate more than 156,000 messages
During the first working year of the new forums, the members of the university community created 472 virtual forums: 358 on the campus in Catalan and 114 on the campus in Spanish. The forums, with a volume of more than 156,000 messages generated and 4,500 habitual users, has grown to become the most dynamic and active site with regards to the participation and exchange of extra academic information.

Another site with a high level of participation is Small advertisements, where users post information relating to buying, selling, renting, offering and exchanging all kinds of objects and services. In this period 1,036 messages on the campus in Catalan and 273 messages on the campus in Spanish have been published.

An job bureau is activated
A UOC job bureau has been created. It is a site where job offers are published and then sent to the bureau by members of the university community. During this period, 713 job offers have been published.

Advantageous conditions of becoming a member of professional colleges
The benefits of the university community (library discounts, subscriptions, documental services, etc.) have grown thanks to the possibility of becoming a member of different professional colleges with advantageous conditions.

Study trips increase
During the month of July various study trips were successfully completed. Thanks to the impetus of the Languages and Cultures studies, the first edition of the studies trip to China was celebrated. Thanks to the Humanities studies, the eleventh edition of the studies trip to Egypt and the first edition to the studies trip to Libya has been organised.

New applications to promote communication inside the campus
From March 2006, the virtual Campus has offered two new applications directed to promote the relationship between its members. On one hand, Perfil is a tool, with which the user can include in a structured way personal information (interests, hobbies, place of residence…) or professional information (place of work, skills). In this way information can be shared with other users. On the other hand, the tool Búsqueda de personas (people search) has also been created, which complements Perfil.

The forums have become a dynamic site for the communication of the UOC community. They have an average of 4,500 users.

The possibilities which the Virtual campus offers increase from course to course. The job bureau or the forums are some of the new initiatives that have been added.
Elections for the student committees

In June, a total of 2,319 students, who represented an 8.5% total of participation, chose their representatives in the last virtual elections for the student committees on the Catalan speaking campus. The level of participation this year (8.5%) has exceeded the elections and the student committees on the Catalan speaking campus from the year 2004 (4.19%) and of the year 2001 (6.25%).

On the Spanish speaking campus, it has not been necessary to vote, since the number of candidates has been equal or inferior to the number of positions vacant, according to the committees themselves.

The final vote, adding up the electoral process of the two campuses, resulted in fifty-four elected students which are to form part of the studies committees, representative bodies and student participation.

Of these fifty-four students, sixteen represent the faculty of Economics and Business studies, sixteen the faculty of Computer Sciences, Multimedia and Telecommunications, six the faculty of Information and Communication Sciences, five the faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, five the faculty of Law and Political Sciences, four the faculty of Languages and Cultures and two the faculty of Humanities.

The committees are the participation and association instrument through which the opinions, the proposals, the interests and the worries of the students, are guaranteed to have an effective influence on improving the institution. Their constitution will enable:

- To guarantee student participation in the day to day function of the UOC.
- To promote improvement proposals.
- To offer new subjects.
- To review the content of some of the subjects.
- The didactic materials.
- To make available in hard copy web materials of some subjects.
- To make available an updated version of educational materials for the subjects studied during the previous semester.
- The academic information of the Virtual Campus.
- To make possible the consultation of qualification statistics, final marks and ongoing evaluation tests.
- To publish student satisfaction questionnaires results concerning the teaching and evaluation of the institution.
- Information regarding the European Higher Education Area.
- The new postgraduate and master's programmes initiative.
The Campus for Peace and Solidarity

A co-operative initiative with international vocation.
The Campus for Peace and Solidarity is an initiative with international vocation whose aim is to co-ordinate, channel and drive the efforts of the different sectors of the university community into co-operative material for its development and support.

The UOC participates, through the Campus for Peace and Solidarity, in the assessment and investigation for the development and the implementation of the use of information technology for the co-operative. It also offers virtual space to non-profit organisations and manages projects to house virtual offices and co-operation actions.

In addition, the UOC presents co-operative and voluntary activities to those able to participate in the different sectors of the community. For example it offers the universities the possibility of carrying out voluntary tasks in areas such as web production and as an NGO consultant, therefore being treated as academic activities based on these areas.

Also the UOC is the driving force behind virtual training initiatives regarding these areas. International co-operation postgraduate courses are offered, plus management courses run by either the NGO’s themselves or the university.

Diversity of international projects to democratize the use of ICT.
One of the projects which has been developed is Viure, conviure i sobreviure. An initiative that has been established with “la Caixa” and whose goal is to produce digital, self-learning, educational materials for people at social risk. They have also started virtual training courses with the Observatory of Development Cooperation of the Barcelona provincial council, Amnesty International, Engineers Without Borders and the Red Cross.

Another important project is the digital literacy teaching programme and the transfer of virtual learning methodology to Morocco, which is carried out jointly by the UOC and the University AbdelMalek Essaâdi (Tetuan). The object of this global literacy teaching project is to provide the Moroccan society with virtual training tools and knowledge to educate university teaching and non teaching personnel, and to make the relevant persons of the civil society aware of the possibilities of ICT applications for distant learning.

Another project which is in progress and being carried out with the Mexican council of Cuautitlán Izcalli concerns the training area for professionals and the investigation of conflictology, coexistence and the development of municipal life.

Knowledge about ICT and their applications conform the solidarity capital which the Campus for Peace and Solidarity offers.

Digital educational materials for societies at risk of exclusion or digital literacy in Morocco are some of the development projects in process at the moment.

http://www.uoc.edu/cooperaction