



Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia



Highlights 2015

IBEC



For me, the year 2015 will always be memorable as the one in which IBEC received the Severo Ochoa Excellence Award, becoming the nineteenth Spanish centre to do so.

The award is a huge milestone in the evolution and consolidation of IBEC, and is the confirmation of a success story that started only a few years ago. This recognition validates our new IBEC Strategy for 2014-2017, with the panel of evaluators giving the go-ahead for our plans.

In fact, the Severo Ochoa was one of many successes in 2015, as you will find out in this booklet. We received the 'Human Resources Excellence in Research' stamp from the European Commission, and three new European Research Council (ERC) grants went to our group leaders. IBEC's collaboration with the Obra Social "La Caixa" has been going from strength to strength, with the launch of a joint programme on Healthy Living and Active Ageing and two projects funded under the first CaixaImpulse call, as well as those funded under the established RecerCaixa one. 2015 also saw IBEC continue to coordinate Nanomed Spain, the Spanish Platform for Nanotechnology; and

the Spanish node of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology's Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) for healthy living and active ageing, EIT Health.

During the year we celebrated 5 *Nature* group papers; 107 indexed journal papers in total, 77% of them in the first quartile; a new patent; and 13 PhD theses. 2015 also saw our collection of cutting-edge equipment receive the welcome additions of a BioAFM microscope and a 3D bioprinter for tissue engineering and regeneration. As we move into 2016, it's going to be a hard year to beat – but we're more than ready to try!

For more information about the successes on the following pages and the rest of the year's achievements, consult the full Annual Report 2015 at www.ibecbarcelona.eu/about-us/documents.

Josep Samitier
Director of IBEC

Prizes in 2015

Severo Ochoa Excellence Award



Identifies and promotes research centres in Spain that stand out as international references in their fields.

IBEC is one of 20 centres to receive it, and the third youngest.

HR Excellence in Research

The EC's 'Human Resources Excellence in Research' stamp recognises IBEC's commitment to improving its policies in line with the European Charter and Code.



Banc Sabadell Award for Biomedical Research

Xavier Trepap



Premio Fundación Princesa de Girona Investigación Científica

Samuel Sánchez



ICREA Academia Award

Gabriel Gomila



European Research Council (ERC)

Samuel Sánchez
(Proof of Concept)



Nuria Montserrat
(Starting)



Elena Martínez
(Consolidator)



Strategic alliances

Major European initiatives

EIT Health  Health

The participation of IBEC as a core partner in the Knowledge Innovation Community (KIC) on Health of the European Institute of Technology (EIT) represents a recognition of the relevance of the institute in the international arena in health research and innovation, as well as a unique opportunity for its further internationalization.

Research agreements

Fundació “La Caixa” 

IBEC and La Caixa developed a Joint programme in Healthy Ageing Research. The four projects selected to be developed in 2016-2017 are expected to contribute to the development of one of IBEC's areas of application, Bioengineering for Active Ageing, and to be the seed for innovations to be further translated through EIT Health.

Coordinated by IBEC

NANOMED
S P A I N

NanoMed Spain

The Spanish Nanomedicine Platform is a forum managed by IBEC that brings together research centres, hospitals, companies and government representatives to unite public and private interests in the development of common strategies.

Joint units with industry

Genomica 

IBEC and Genomica S.A.U. (Grupo Zeltia), the leading Spanish company in molecular diagnostics, created a Joint Research Unit that will provide an operational framework for close interaction on various R&D activities related to healthcare.

Clinical and translational collaborations



News highlights and press coverage

ICREA research professor Samuel Sánchez appeared in articles in *El Mundo* and *El Periódico* talking about his career so far, his appointment at IBEC and the work he will be continuing on micro- and nanomotors.



Nuria Montserrat was featured in an article in *El Mundo* discussing her ERC grant and the work she has been doing generating "mini-kidneys" from human pluripotent stem cells.



Eduard Torrents was the subject of an article in the *Diari de Terrassa* about his work early in the year which identified a important factor in *E. coli* infection, opening the way to developing targeted drugs against the potentially deadly condition.

IBEC group leader and ICREA research professor Xavier Trepats winning of this year's Banc Sabadell Award for Biomedical Research appeared in *La Vanguardia*, among others.



Two projects led by IBEC researchers Xavier Puñet and Eduard Torrents were selected for funding under the first CaixaImpulse call.



The March edition of *Time Out Barcelona* featured IBEC's spin-off, Rob Surgical Systems.



Pau Gorostiza's work was included in an extensive article about the science of light in the magazine *Muy Interesante*.

IBEC in numbers 2015

Scientific impact

1 new patent in 2015

6 ongoing ERC projects

13 theses defended

107 publications

of which
77% in Q1

113 projects

Outreach and media

570 visitors
general public, teachers and students

873 Facebook friends

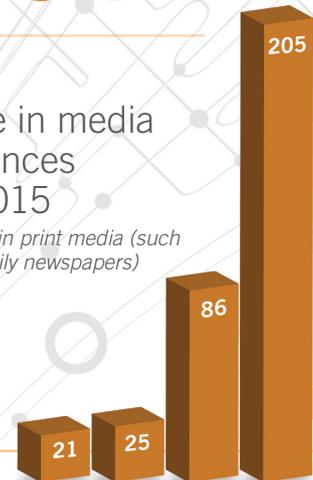
1266 Twitter followers

1788 LinkedIn followers

86754 website visits

Increase in media appearances
2012-2015

Appearances in print media (such as national daily newspapers) in Spain only

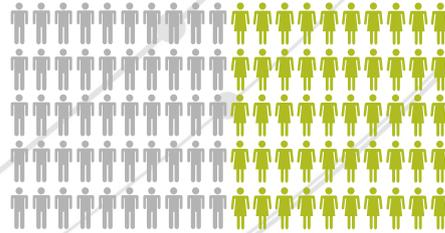


Staff

5 ICREA researchers

17 research groups

27 support staff



50%
of staff in 2015
were female

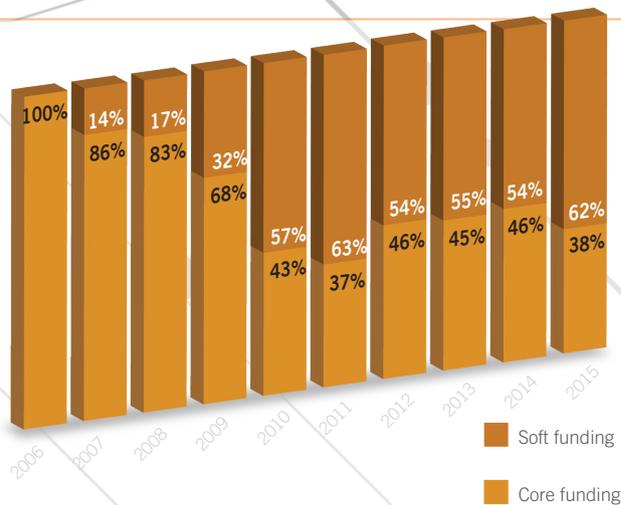
28 countries represented

230 total staff

Finance

Soft vs. core funding 2006-2015

Core funding is funding from trustees. Soft funding includes competitive projects



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Our new 3D
bioprinter....

...putting IBEC at the cutting-edge of
advances in tissue regeneration