RESOLUTION of 4 February 2013 by the Vice-Rector for Research, Innovation and Transfer of the University of Barcelona, opening the call for applications for grants facilitating the temporary incorporation of prestigious lecturers and researchers into research groups, departments and institutes operating under the framework of the Barcelona Knowledge Campus (BKC) of the University of Barcelona during 2013 (PIE-BKC 2013).

The objective of this call is to encourage internationally renowned lecturers to spend temporary periods of work at the University of Barcelona at the suggestion of UB lecturers, who will act as evaluators and as the primary link between the Visiting Lecturers of Excellence (Professors Invitats d’Excel·lència, PIE) and the University of Barcelona.

Successful PIEs will be incorporated into the staff of departments, centres, institutes and research groups associated to the following faculties operating with the structure of the BKC: Faculty of Fine Arts, Faculty of Biology, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Pharmacy, Faculty of Physics, Faculty of Geology, Faculty of Mathematics, and Faculty of Chemistry. The grants periods, which may be of two possible durations, must be completed during 2013.

In accordance with the above, and by virtue of the powers granted to me by the applicable legislation

I HEREBY RESOLVE

One. To offer grants for temporary periods of work by international lecturers and researchers in departments, centres, institutes and research groups associated to faculties of the University of Barcelona, of two possible durations. This call is organized under the general framework of the BKC project, in the Fortalecimiento 2011 talent attraction sub-programme, subsidized by the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport through the Campus of International Excellence (Campus d’Excel·lència Internacional, CEI) programme.

Two. To allocate this grant call the total sum of €100,000, which will be charged to the budget line 10010001561001 D/690000100/R2011A/G00 M2INOBKC2C IN0BKC2C for the Barcelona Knowledge Campus.
Three. To publish this resolution and the attached conditions on the website of the University of Barcelona’s Research Management Office (OGR) and the website of the Barcelona Knowledge Campus (bke.ub.upc.edu).

Jordi Alberch
Vice-Rector for Research, Innovation and Transfer

Barcelona, 4 February 2013

Notwithstanding the above resolution, which shall be considered to exhaust all administrative proceedings, in accordance with Article 8 of Law 29/1998, of 13 July, governing contentious administrative jurisdiction, contentious administrative proceedings may be opened through the courts of Barcelona. Proceedings may be instigated up to two months after announcement of the resolution in question, in accordance with the provisions made in Article 46 of Law 29/1998. Other forms of appeal may also be lodged, at the discretion of the complainant.

The interested party may also choose to present an appeal of reversal directly to the organism in question, in which case the appeal must be lodged within one month of notification of the decision. In this case, contentious administrative proceedings may not be opened until such time as an express or implicit resolution to the appeal of reversal has been announced, in accordance with the provisions made in Article 116 of Law 30/1992, of 26 November, on the legal framework of Public Administrations and common administrative procedures, modified by Law 4/1999 of 13 January.
Conditions of the grant call for the temporary incorporation of prestigious international lecturers and researchers into research groups, departments and institutes operating under the framework of the Barcelona Knowledge Campus (BKC) of the University of Barcelona.

PREAMBLE

In 2009, the University of Barcelona (Universitat de Barcelona, UB) and the Technical University of Catalonia (Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, UPC) submitted a joint proposal for the recognition of Campus of International Excellence (CEI) status for the strategic aggregation called the Barcelona Knowledge Campus (BKC) (http://bkc.ub.upc.edu/), which was duly awarded. In 2011, the BKC submitted a proposal under the Fortalecimiento sub-programme of the annual CEI call and was awarded funding in the area of academic excellence to be directed at the attraction of scientific and academic talent.

Under this general framework, the BKC partners organize the BKC Visiting Lecturers of Excellence programme (Professors Invitats d'Excel·lència, PIE), which provides funding to support the temporary incorporation of prestigious lecturers and researchers from major international universities and research centres into UB centres and research groups operating within the BKC framework, during 2013.

The grant call is necessarily a selective programme restricted to specific areas and faculties involved in the activities of the BKC, and does not apply to the Faculty of Economics and Business, which has secured its own funding for talent attraction initiatives promoted through the Economics Job Market programme.

1. Object of the call
The object of this call is the award of grants to support the cost of temporary periods of work at the UB by prestigious lecturers and researchers from major international universities and research centres, who will be temporarily incorporated into the staff of departments, centres, institutes and research groups associated to the following faculties operating within the BKC framework: Fine Arts, Biology, Law, Pharmacy, Physics, Geology, Mathematics and Chemistry.
Grants are available for periods of two possible durations:

**Mode A:** Minimum period of **one week**, to be completed before 31 December 2013.

**Mode B:** Minimum period of **2 weeks**, to be completed by 31 December 2013.

The total bursary for the grants provided under this call is **€100,000**, from subsidies for the *Fortalecimiento 2011* talent attraction sub-programme under the CEI-BKC budget for 2011, charged to the budget line 10010001561001 D/690000100/R2011A/G00 M2INOBKC2C IN0BKC2C. The grant call is organized under the general framework of the *Campus of International Excellence (CEI)* programme of the *Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport*.

The total number of grants awarded will be between 20 (if all applicants request 2-week grant periods) and 33 (if all applicants request 1-week grant periods).

The grant awarded – the specific value of which will be determined by the mode selected – will be used to cover the following costs:

a) all travel expenses incurred – reservations will be managed by the UB through the BKC Coordination and Management Unit;

b) all or some of the relevant accommodation and subsistence expenses, according to the average cost parameters established in the general regulations of the UB, if the arrangements are directly managed by the University and the BKC Coordination and Management Unit;

c) **compulsory** medical and/or accident insurance for the PIE arranged by the UB-BKC to cover eventualities arising during the grant period;

d) direct payment to the lecturer/researcher as a gratuity for the work carried out during the grant period of any amount remaining from the total value of the grant once the above costs have been deducted.

Part of the grant may be liable for taxation, in which case the corresponding amount will be paid at source and deducted from the sum received by the PIE. Management of points a) to d) will be carried out by the BKC Coordination and Management Unit (Carrer Baldiri Reixac 2, tel. +34 934 020 904).

Grants awarded under this call may be combined with funding received from the host group, department or institute intended to increase the potential remuneration of the grant period or facilitate longer grant periods than those covered by the terms of this call, provided that any expenditure directly attributable to the PIE grant is duly justified under the terms established in this document.

**2. Requirements for applicants**

For both modes, applicants must be PhD holders and have a tenured or tenure-track position at a prestigious international university or research centre.

The Supervising Lecturer at the UB must sign and submit the application once it has been completed and signed by the PIE applicant. The application must be accompanied
by a proposed **work plan**, adapted to the duration of the grant period. The plan may encompass a range of activities, to be carried out simultaneously or alternately, including the following:

- The preparation of a project for a competitive funding agency, which must be stipulated in the work plan.
- On-going work as part of a research project or the completion of an existing project, provided that it involves the participation of BKC lecturers and/or researchers. The acknowledgements in the literature generated by the project must make specific reference to the BKC.
- Provided that they are listed as complementary activities, other work such as seminars and courses **led by the PIE**. Participation in a seminar, course or other event of similar characteristics should not be included. The host group/supervising lecturer may ask the PIE to lead a seminar on an area of his/her expertise, which must be clearly advertised as a BKC event.

The proposed work plan must be authorized by the corresponding principal investigator or Supervising Lecturer at the UB and approved by the head / director of the host department, centre or institute. Previous collaboration with the BKC may be considered an additional merit in the candidate selection process, but it is not a formal requirement, as established in Condition 6.

### 3. Programme duration and total value

The period for the execution of the grant programme shall end on **31 December 2013**. If the corresponding expenditure has not been made by this deadline, the grant allocation will be withdrawn. **The total duration of the grant may not be divided into separate periods.**

A maximum allocation of **€100,000**, with the following amounts for each grant mode:

**Mode A**: minimum duration of one week, grant of **€3,000**.
**Mode B**: minimum duration of two weeks, grant of **€5,000**.

### 4. Applications and supporting documentation

Applications must be made using the standard form attached to this document and should be submitted to the faculty that houses the department, centre, institute or research group to which the PIE will be assigned. The form can also be submitted to any office of the University of Barcelona General Registry.

The following documentation must also be submitted:

a) A completed work plan for the grant period, indicating the specific activities to be carried out, as established in Condition 2. The work plan must be **no more than one page in length** and should contain the **proposed calendar for the grant period**, indicating the start and end date and days required for travel to and from Barcelona. The calendar must not run beyond the period covered by the grant call (which ends on 31 December 2013). Once the PIE’s application has been accepted, the Supervising Lecturer at the UB will approve the proposed
calendar and notify the Delegate to the Rector for Campuses of International Excellence, who will initiate the procedure to allocate the necessary funds. **No changes may be made to the dates of the grant period after this point.**

b) Full curriculum vitae of the applicant.

c) Signed authorization by the Supervising Lecturer at the UB and the head / director of the corresponding host department / institute, if applicable. The Supervising Lecturer shall be responsible for overseeing the successful development of the grant period in accordance with the conditions established in this document and for reporting to the UB.

d) Photocopy of the passport / national identity document of the Supervising Lecturer and the applicant.

5. Deadlines
The deadline for the submission of applications is **8 March 2013, at 1pm.**

6. Evaluation and selection
Applicants will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:

- a) The strength of their CV and professional/academic record of the PIE applicant
- b) The novelty and relevance of the project outlined in the work plan and its degree of internationalization.
- c) The degree of inter-departmental, inter-faculty or inter-university activity encompassed by the work plan. Positive consideration may also be given to PIEs whose work plan envisages collaborative work with UPC research groups (although candidates cannot be employees of the UPC).
- d) Affiliation to a university of particular international prestige.

To account for the specific scientific characteristics of the different knowledge areas integrated into the BKC framework, the selection process has two phases.

In the first phase, the Research Committees of the host faculties will assess the applications in their respective areas. The committees must draw up short-lists of no more than **6 candidates per faculty**, ordered according to weightings assigned to each of the above selection criteria by the committee in question.

If two or more candidates are assessed equally, positive consideration will be given to previous collaboration with the department, centre or institute to which the application is addressed.

Once the initial assessment process has been completed, the short-list of candidates, the respective assessment scores, the names of the Research Committee members responsible for the assessment, the weighting assigned to the selection criteria and written justification for the selected short-list must be sent to the BKC Coordination and Management Unit (Carrer Baldiri Reixac 2).

The definitive selection is made in the second phase by the Scientific and Advisory Board of the BKC, which is formed by members of the UB, the UPC and the Spanish
National Research Council (CSIC) and chaired for this specific purpose by the Delegate to the Rector for Campuses of International Excellence, who coordinates the University of Barcelona’s involvement in the Barcelona Knowledge Campus project. External experts can be appointed to contribute to the selection process at the request of the Scientific and Advisory Board, subject to approval by the Vice-Rector for Research, Innovation and Transfer of the UB.

The Scientific and Advisory Board studies the short-lists drawn up by the Research Committees and compiles a final list of candidates for each grant arranged in order of merit, which is then submitted to the Vice-Rector for Research, Innovation and Transfer of the UB for final consideration, together with a reserve list to cover the possible withdrawal of successful candidates once grants have been awarded.

7. Resolution
Resolutions with respect to the award of grants will be made by the Vice-Rector for Research, Innovation and Transfer of the University of Barcelona and communicated directly to the UB lecturers involved in the grant call. Grant awards will also be announced on the websites of the UB and the BKC, in addition to notification by email to the relevant parties.

Final decisions on the award of grants shall be announced within a maximum period of two months, starting on the day after the period for submission of applications is opened. If no express resolution has been made by the end of this period, all applications shall be understood to have been rejected.

If a successful candidate withdraws from the grant call following the resolution of the Vice-Rector for Research, Innovation and Transfer, award of the grant to this candidate will be revoked and the sum will be awarded to a candidate from the reserve list.

8. Final report
The PIE and the Supervising Lecturer at the UB must submit a final report that details the results of the grant period and describes any scientific and academic output deriving from the work carried out at the University of Barcelona, as well as a breakdown of all expenditure corresponding to cases described in Condition 6.d) and incurred directly by the PIE, without the intervention of the UB. The report must be submitted to the Delegate to the Rector for Campuses of International Excellence within one month of completion of the grant period.

9. Interpretation
Any doubts or queries arising in the interpretation of these conditions shall be resolved by the Vice-Rector for Research, Innovation and Transfer of the University of Barcelona.