

The Biotechnology Business Institute signs a strategic collaboration agreement with IRB Barcelona, the Fundació Bosch i Gimpera and UPF Ventures in a new educational model for drug discovery and technology transfer

The Biotechnology Business Institute (BBI) incorporates *Discover and Transfer* to the programs, where the students will be working with real drug candidates of these three institutions.

Barcelona, October 15th, 2018 - IRB Barcelona, the Fundació Bosch i Gimpera (Technology Transfer Office of the University of Barcelona) and UPF Ventures will collaborate with the educational programs of the Biotechnology Business Institute under the strategic framework of an innovative and applied educational model called "*Discover and Transfer*". These collaborations address a pioneer educative model where the students will interact with real cases and will help early stage assets, technology transfers offices and principal researchers to develop their plans either in licensing or setting up new biotech-based companies in the biopharmaceutical field.

For the first time, these alliances enable masters and postgraduate students the interaction with the top institutes research programs in the biomedical field and apply their theoretical classes. In this sense, the *Discover and Transfer* program goes beyond the formative aspects and seeks to inspire entrepreneurship and it increases the commitment of the Institute with these three institutions to help them in their task of knowledge transfer, company set up and licensing plans in the life sciences sector.



Fig. 1: One of the students, during a meeting with the technology transfer office and the research team.

“The main goal of our business school is to grow international scientific profiles in the Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology sector and work towards the best institutions and its innovation to help and develop new licensing deals, companies, and most important, new discoveries to be delivered to the patient.”, explains Juan R. García, Chairman of the Biotechnology Business Institute during the presentation.

The students of the different programs will work throughout different management areas during the academic course together with the technology transfer offices, the board of professors and the main researchers of these centers due to develop the best valuable option for the assets. *Discover and Transfer* encourage the participation of the students in real cases of drug development that will bring them a better comprehension of the professional field that they will be part of.

So far, *Discover and Transfer* strengthens the participation and network of the students with national and international professionals that will made them acquire the applied knowledge needed in the field between science and business, so they will be able to interact with new parts of the ecosystem and reinforce their training.

Fundació Bosh i Gimpera Foundation (FBG)

The Bosh I Gimpera Foundation (FBG) is a technology transfer and innovation unit of the University of Barcelona (UB). The FBG is responsible for transferring the results of the research carried out at the UB to society through the creation of spin-offs, patent licensing and contracts with companies and institutions, thus contributing to the competitiveness of the business framework and the improvement of social welfare. In 2017, the collaboration between the UB and the different socioeconomic agents enabled the development of 820 projects and contracts for € 29.4 million. During the period 2015-2017, a total of 46 technologies have been licensed and 9 spin-offs created.



Bosch i Gimpera
UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA

UPF Ventures

UPF Ventures is an innovation management company run by the Universitat Pompeu Fabra. UPF Ventures works closely with the UPF and their transfer office, as well as with other public and private entities, including research centres, universities, hospitals, startups and large companies. Its projects are based on two driving forces: Turn research and technology into social and economic return and create a bidirectional relationship between the academic world and the company. Our projects are based on two driving forces: turn research and technology into social and economic return and create a bidirectional relationship between the academic world and company.



IRB Barcelona

IRB Barcelona was created in 2005 by the Generalitat de Catalunya (Government of Catalonia) and University of Barcelona, IRB Barcelona is a Severo Ochoa Centre of Excellence, a seal that was awarded in 2011. The institute is devoted to conducting research of excellence in biomedicine and to transferring results to clinical practice, thus improving people's quality of life, while simultaneously promoting the training of outstanding researchers, technology transfer, and public communication of science. Its 26 laboratories and seven core facilities address basic questions in biology and are orientated to diseases such as cancer, metastasis, Alzheimer's, diabetes, and rare conditions. IRB Barcelona has an innovation team completely dedicated to sourcing private partners and establishing a dialogue with them. The institute is an international centre that hosts 400 employees and 32 nationalities.



Biotechnology Business Institute

The Biotechnology Business Institute was founded in 2013 not just as a business school but as an active stakeholder for the international Pharma & Biotech sector in life sciences and drug discovery. The Institute programs offer education based on the most important areas of management in life sciences industry orientated to scientific profiles with a degree in life sciences who want to apply their knowledge in drug discovery processes in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industry. Our educational model, based in innovation, make our students to be at the vanguard of the sector and apply their knowledge into real projects with broad number of professionals that encourage our students to develop their career into companies within an international projection



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