

MARTINA CASTELLS PROGRAM FOR ATTRACTING RESEARCHER TALENT

Approved by Governing Council agreement of 27 July 2020

Call for public competition for the contracting of Distinguished Research Staff

Approved by Commission for Scientific Policy and Transfer agreement of 20 October 2021

1. General description

The competitive process for awarding the grants of Martina Castells Programme to attract excellent research talent after an initial temporary contract lasting two years and funded by the URV, followed by a high-level position funded by other entities (where the URV is the host entity) in order to promote the recruitment and training of researchers and their mobility in the URV's strategic sectors and to foster quality and competitiveness among the teaching and research staff of our University.

2. Regulations

- Organic Law 6/2001, of 21 December, on Universities, modified by Organic Law 4/2007, 12 April, and developing regulations.
- Law 1/2003, of 19 February, on Universities of Catalonia and developing regulations.
- Decree 202/2003, of 26 August, which approved the Statute of the Rovira i Virgili University, modified by Government agreement GOV/23/2012.
- Law 14/2011, of 1 June, on Science, Technology and Innovation.
- Collective agreement of the teaching and research staff of the Catalan public universities, of 10 October 2006.
- Regulations for contracting research personnel to carry out works or provide services for specific scientific or technical research projects, approved by the Governing Council on 8 July 2005 and its modifications.
- Regulation for contracting Distinguished Researchers approved by the Governing Council on 30 October 2012.

3. Positions on offer

Two (2) research positions as described in article 23 of Law 14/2011, of 1 June, on Science, Technology and Innovation in the frame of the Martina Castells Programme for attracting researcher talent.

4. Object

To undertake research activities, to manage teams, research centres, scientific and technological facilities or programmes that are particularly relevant to the University's



functions and objectives with the ultimate aim of obtaining an ICREA senior contract or similar.

5. Characteristics of the contract

- Research staff.
- Specific works or service contract linked to the execution of a specific technical or research project.
- Category: Distinguished Researcher.
- Duration of the contract: 1 year extendable for a 2nd year.
- Full/Part Time: Full Time of 37,5 hours per week.
- Gross salary: 55.158,72 euros per year.

6. Candidate requirements

a) General requirements:

- Be 18 years old or over and will not have reached retirement age.
- Not have any defect or disease that prevents the normal development of the corresponding functions.
- Not have been dismissed from the service of any of the public administrations through disciplinary action, or be unable to carry out public service.
- Not be disqualified from entering the public service through incompatibility, as defined by Law 53/1984, 26 December, regarding staff incompatibilities in the public administrations.

b) Specific requirements:

- They must hold a doctoral degree or equivalent.
- To be eligible, candidates must have been assessed via the ICREA or ERC selection process and they must have the minimum number of points to be shortlisted for the ICREA or the ERC A or B.

7. Presentation of applications:

Applications will be presented via the [General Registry](#) of the Universitat Rovira i Virgili. Preferably, via the Electronic Registry using a 'Instància genèrica' and attaching the following documents:

1. Application Form. It must include, among other things, the following information:
 - a. Identification data of the Research group.



- b. Process for the integration of the researcher in the teaching and research staff of the University once the distinguished researcher contract has ended.
- c. Desired impact on the URV.
- d. Candidate's personal information
- e. A statement of your research done in the last 5 years (2000 characters maximum).
- f. A list of the 5 most relevant publications.
- g. A statement of purpose explaining your future research plan (3000 characters maximum).
- h. The contact details of 4 referees.
- i. Other merits.

2. Candidate's documentation:

- a. DNI / NIE / Passport currently in force.
- b. Curriculum Vitae.
- c. PhD degree.
- d. Evaluation report from ICREA o ERC.
- e. Reference letters of at least 2 of the referees mentioned on the application form.

Other channels in accordance with article 16 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, regarding the common administrative procedure of the public administrations are:

- The registries of any administrative body that belongs to the General Administration of the Spanish State or to any administrative body of the autonomous communities of Spain.

- Any office of the Spanish Postal Service, in the manner established by the regulations. If the documentation is sent by certified post, the documentation must be presented at the corresponding office of the Spanish Postal Service in accordance with article 31 of Royal Decree 1829/1999, of 3 December, in an open envelope so that the application, letter or communication addressed to the URV can be dated and stamped before the it is certified. If the application is not dated and stamped by the corresponding office of the Spanish Postal Service, the date on which the application arrives at the registry of the URV will be regarded as the date on which it has been submitted.

- The diplomatic representations or the consular offices of the Spanish state abroad.

Applicants who do not submit their documentation via the online registry or the physical registry of the URV must inform the URV's Human Resources Service about the mean used to submit the application by sending an email to gestiodepi@urv.cat within the specified application period.

The deadline for applications: **from 25 October 2021 (CEST) until 12 November 2021 (CET).**

The application form must be completed in English and the length of the projects may not exceed 11,000 words.

8. Admission of candidates

Once the deadline for presenting applications has expired, provisional list of candidates who have been admitted and excluded will be published on the URV's [Martina Castells website](#), if necessary specifying the reason for exclusion.

Within 10 working days from the day after the publication, applicants can amend their application or, if appropriate, present their arguments to the Vice-rector for Research and Scientific Planning. If candidates do not amend the defects that have led to their exclusion within the specified period, they will no longer be considered to have applied and their exclusion will be definitive.

Once the deadline described in the point above has expired, the definitive list of candidates who have been admitted and excluded will be published at the same address as the provisional list.

9. Selection procedure

The URV will appoint an internal panel of experts from among the distinguished professors in various fields of knowledge.

Applications submitted will be graded between 0 and 100 points by the internal panel of experts. The panel of experts will evaluate the documentation submitted according to the following evaluation criteria:

1. Curriculum Vitae and ICREA / ERC evaluation reports: up to 50 points.
2. Research project and knowledge transfer of the applicant researcher: up to 25 points.
3. Impact for the University in terms of generational change: up to 25 points.

The minimum total score required to pass the assessment is 85 points and applications with a lower score are rejected.

10. Resolution

The rector will announce the decision no later than 30 October 2021, naming a candidate for each vacancy in the order proposed by the internal panel of experts until all vacancies have been filled. The position may also be declared unfilled.

11. Hiring and incorporation of the researcher

Within 2 months of the publication of the selection resolution of the researchers, the University must conclude a distinguished researcher contract with the researcher, which may be incorporated within one year from the date on which the grant was awarded.



If a candidate renounces their appointment or if the contract is unsigned, the rector will appoint the next candidate on the list in order of preference.

If the proposed candidate is from a non-EU country, he/she must comply with the necessary legal requisites in order to be contracted and affiliated to the social security.

12. Incompatibilities

Contracted researchers cannot enter into contracts with other entities during the period of their distinguished researcher contract, unless they have the express authorisation of the University and they respect the relevant regulations on incompatibilities.

The contract will be incompatible with other public or private funding that is intended for the same purpose, with salaries of a similar nature and, in general, with any money received that has the nature of a salary, if the activities carried out for such alternative funds interfere with the obligations for which the research has been contracted by the University.

If this is the case, researchers must inform the University that they receive grants, subventions, income or resources that fund the subsidised activities.

13. Others

In accordance with the Regulations regarding the Industrial and Intellectual Property of the URV, approved by the Governing Council on 30 April 2009, modified by the Governing Council on 22 February 2018 and 7 May 2020, the intellectual ownership of a literary, artistic or scientific work belongs to the author for having created it, although the exploitation rights will have first been transferred to the URV unless there is an agreement to the contrary.

Any publication or other results derived from the contract must cite the funding of the Martina Castells Programme in the appropriate section and the reference number assigned to the funding.

Researchers must ensure open access (free of charge online access for any user) to all peer reviewed scientific publications and data relating to their scientific results.

The distinguished researchers will adhere to the recognised ethical practices and fundamental ethical principles appropriate to their research. The research carried out must comply with the EU's ethical principles, Spanish and international legislation applicable, as well as the [Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU](#).

The URV has developed the ["Code of good practices in research, research training, development and innovation of the Universitat Rovira i Virgili"](#), which should be used as



guidelines to ensure the best practices for excellence in research.

14. Supervision of the awards

Two months before the end of the first year of the contract, the researcher must submit a brief report describing their scientific production (articles and patents) and the projects they have completed.

These reports will be passed to an internal panel of experts who will evaluate them and decide whether the contract is to be continued.

15. Complaints

Any interested party may lodge an administrative appeal against this competition and its conditions at the Administrative Court in Tarragona within two months, counting from the day after notification is received. An appeal for reversal can also be made to the Rector of the URV prior to the administrative appeal and within one month of the day after notification is received.

Likewise, interested parties can appeal to the rector of the URV against the actions of the Committee within one month of having been informed of this decision. This appeal will be understood to have been rejected if the university administration publishes no resolution regarding the appeal within three months after it has been lodged. The opportunity to lodge an administrative appeal at the Administrative Court of Tarragona will expire six months from the day after the appeal lodged with the Rector has been rejected. If a resolution is published regarding the appeal lodged with the Rector, the interested party will have two months starting from the day after they have been notified of this to lodge an administrative appeal.

Likewise, interested parties may lodge any other appeal they deem necessary to defend their interests.

Tarragona, 25 October 2021