UPF sets up working group to evaluate the use of language in teaching

The University's language policy is a strategic issue for UPF. The institutional regulatory framework, language training, language certification of teachers and students, and the use of languages in teaching are some of the aspects that, in recent years, have driven the publication of specific studies. A synthesis of the most relevant works and indicators can be found in the UPF Language Policy Report, published in April 2019 by the office of the vice-rector for Teaching Projects.

Specifically, the use of languages in teaching has been an issue that has been addressed within the various governing bodies of the University (such as the University Senate or the Language Policy Committee) and was strengthened by the University at the time through the constitution of a specific working group. The group was chaired by the vice-rector for Teaching Projects, professor Cristina Gelpí, and comprised the coordinator of the Language Services, two programming and evaluation technicians, two lecturers, and two representatives of the Student Council, in addition. two members of the FNEC; its creation, the result of joint interest by UPF and of this student association, was also an electoral commitment by the rector Jaume Casals. The working group was commissioned to draw up a report that will be published soon and which should allow a diagnosis of the current use of languages in teaching, from an innovative perspective hinging around three axes: 1) drafting an academic study that unifies the concept of "teaching language"; 2) conducting a survey on students' and lecturers' perception of the use of languages in the classroom; and 3) the critical assessment of the instruments available to the University to effectively measure the use of languages in classrooms.

The final report, together with the existing data, will allow the working group to assess the current situation of languages in UPF classrooms and propose measures based on the results obtained.

Grup de treball de la UPF sobre les llengües de la docència 2020-2021: treballs iniciats i consideracions per al futur, by Cristina Gelpí (in Catalan)