Judit Planas

Scientific Coordinator, Computing Division, EPFL Blue Brain Project

Once I finished high school in my hometown, I did my bachelor studies in Computer Engineering at the Technical University of Catalonia (UPC). After that, I got so excited about computers and research, that I decided to continue my studies with, first, a Master's degree in Computer Architecture, Networks and Systems and, finally, with a PhD on Computer Architecture (programming models for High Performance Computing) also at UPC. During the last period, I had the chance to do two internships: the first one was at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign and the second one was at the Blue Brain Project. The internship at Blue Brain allowed me to learn about the Project and made me decide to stay there to continue with a postdoctoral position.

Taking a research path has given me the opportunity to present at international conferences and to meet very interesting and highly qualified professionals (either at the conferences or in the work place).

My career path to date is directly linked to my studies. I worked as a master and then as a PhD student at the Barcelona Supercomputing Center for the duration of both my master and PhD programs. Then, as above, I started a postdoc position at the Blue Brain Project, which has now evolved into a promotion to my current position of Scientific Coordinator. In this role, I help with the management of the Computing Division. This means that I follow up on internal and external projects where the different teams within the Division are involved, making sure that they develop as planned and I also help with coordinating and communicating between this Division and Blue Brain's two other Divisions.

In addition, I make technical contributions on the High Performance Computing applications that are used by the BBP scientists.

In my free time, I like to hang out with friends, traveling and practicing (mainly outdoor) sports, including skiing, hiking, snorkeling, sailing and roller-skating.