Gemma has been working with UCEAP for the past 12 years. She is the Program Administrator and Coordinator for both the Autonomous University of Barcelona and the University of Barcelona programs and is available to meet with students at both locations.

The University of Barcelona program hosts students from UCEAP and the University of Illinois. Gemma has developed excellent relationships with students from each institution, as well as the administrators and professors at the host universities.

Gemma was born in Barcelona and is very enthusiastic about the city. One of her favorite parts of her job is helping students to make a smooth transition into a foreign environment, often to the point that students begin to identify themselves as Barceloneses (Barcelona-born) after their first month in the city.

Gemma meets the students in Barcelona as soon as they arrive and gets to know them very well throughout the duration of the program. She is able to assist them with their everyday questions and issues. As the need arises, she is available to provide guidance and support to students needing medical assistance.

Though the main part of her job is dedicated to the students’ well-being, Gemma is always thinking of new internships opportunities, activities, language exchange meetings with locals, and field trips. She considers the Barcelona internship program to be the leader in Spain.

Past students continue to stay in contact with Gemma after their programs end. She enjoys receiving photos and learning about their lives in the U.S. Whenever past students return to Barcelona, they always stop by the office to visit and introduce her to their families.