



**L-Università
ta' Malta**

Annual Report

**The Edward de Bono
Institute for the Design
& Development of Thinking**

01 October 2017 to 30 September 2018



Creativity



**Innovation
Management**



Entrepreneurship



Futures Studies

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Edward de Bono Institute for the Design and Development of Thinking was set up at the University of Malta in collaboration with Professor Edward de Bono in 1992. Initially, the Institute was concerned primarily with teaching Professor de Bono's thinking tools at the University of Malta. Over the years, however, the Institute has expanded and diversified its remit to cover four interrelated subject areas, namely creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship and foresight.

Creativity refers to the generation of ideas that are novel and useful. In today's increasingly competitive environment, creativity is an indispensable asset which enhances opportunity identification and problem solving. Contrary to popular belief, creativity is a skill, and just like any other skill it can be developed with practice through the use of a variety of tools and techniques that have been developed for this purpose.

Innovation refers to the successful implementation of creative ideas to produce something of value. It relates not only to science and technology, but to the introduction of new products, services and processes in any context or industry. Innovation is a necessary step in the creative process, as the benefits of creativity can only emerge if there is a system in place which manages the implementation of ideas.

Entrepreneurship is generally associated with starting up and running one's own business. It is widely considered to be the backbone of the economy as it leads to job creation, innovation and economic growth. However, there is much more to entrepreneurship than business ownership. The European Commission stresses the importance of cultivating an entrepreneurial culture or mindset, and has listed "a sense of initiative and entrepreneurship" as a key competence for life. The entrepreneurship key competence involves the knowledge, skills and attitudes that enable individuals to generate and implement creative ideas, to be self-confident, autonomous and proactive, to plan and execute projects, and to act in socially responsible ways. This key competence is important not only for those wishing to start up and run their own business, but also for those seeking employment or a professional career.

Foresight – or Futures Studies – involves taking a leap into the distant future to create scenarios and visions of the way the world might be. It is about designing, creating and working towards specific scenarios and visions in an attempt to take action in the present, either to arrive at a desirable future or to mitigate unfavourable circumstances. A number of methodologies are applied in the areas of policy (ICT, science and technology, environment, health, education and energy) and private organisations (corporate foresight). The design of desirable future scenarios draws on creativity as it involves the generation of novel ideas and possibilities. The implementation of policies to arrive at a desirable future requires innovation management skills.

2. CONTACT DETAILS

The Edward de Bono Institute for the Design and Development of Thinking, University of Malta
63, Aster, Esperanto Street, Msida MSD 2011, Malta
www.um.edu.mt/create; www.facebook.com/loTM.um; instituteofthinking@um.edu.mt
+356 2340 2434 / +356 2340 3912

3. INSTITUTE BOARD

The Edward de Bono Institute is governed by a Board. Professor Noellie Brockdorff serves as Chairperson and Dr Leonie Baldacchino serves as Vice Chairperson and Director.

In addition to Chairperson and Director, the Board was made up of the following five members during the first part of the academic year 2017-2018:

Professor Vincent Cassar (appointed by the Senate of the University)

Dr Isabelle Calleja Ragonesi (appointed by the Council of the University)

Dr Margaret Mangion (Academic Staff lecturing at the Institute)

Mr Johann Agius (Student Representative)

Mr Jean Karl Micallef Grimaud (Student Representative)

In June 2018, Senate approved the appointment of two new members onto the Board:

Professor Ted Fuller (Professor of Entrepreneurship and Strategic Foresight, Lincoln International Business School, UK)

Professor Russell Smith (Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship and Business Incubation, University of Malta)

Ms Josianne Sciberras acts as secretary to the Board.

4. INSTITUTE STAFF

During the academic year 2017-2018, the Edward de Bono Institute was made up of four full-time resident academic staff, two part-time resident academic staff, one part-time visiting academic staff, and two administrative staff. A number of casual part-time lecturers and interns also contributed to the Institute's teaching, research and communications endeavours throughout the year.

Full-Time Academic Staff



Dr Leonie Baldacchino
B.Psy.(Hons), M.A.,
Ph.D.(Warw.)
Director, Senior Lecturer



Professor Sandra M Dingli
B.A., B.A.(Hons), M.A.,
Ph.D.(Dunelm)
Associate Professor



Dr Margaret Mangion
B.Psy., P.G.C.E., M.B.A.,
D.Soc.Sci.(Leic.)
Lecturer



Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen
B.Ed.(Hons), PG.Dip.Educ.
(Admin. & Mgt.), M.A.
Assistant Lecturer

Part-Time (TR / T) Academic Staff



Dr Petra Caruana Dingli
B.A., B.A.(Hons), M.A.,
D.Phil.(Oxon), M.B.A.(Maas.)
Senior Lecturer



Dr Lisa Pace
B.Sc., M.Sc.,
Ph.D.(Manc.)
Lecturer



Ms Natalie Swaine Nwoko
B.A.(Hons), M.A., PG Cert. in
Therapeutic Play Skills (Cant.)
Visiting Assistant Lecturer

Administrative Staff



Ms Josianne Sciberras
Administrative Assistant



Mr Matthew Tonna Gilford
Clerk

The full profiles of all the academic members of staff are available on the Institute's website at the following link: www.um.edu.mt/create/staff

5. COURSES

During the academic year 2017-2018, the Edward de Bono Institute offered the well-established Master in Creativity and Innovation, introduced the part-time Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for the first time at the University Gozo Campus, and offered a PhD research degree in the areas of Creativity, Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Foresight.

All these courses form part of the 'Get Qualified' Scheme offered by the Ministry for Education and Employment. Upon successful completion, eligible students will benefit from a tax credit of up to 70% of the course fees, thus recovering most of the costs incurred. Moreover, the Institute offered a number of undergraduate study units that form part of a variety of courses at the University of Malta.

Erasmus+ mobility agreements are in place to enable student and staff mobility between The Edward de Bono Institute and the following Universities:

- Business School Berlin-Potsdam (Germany)
- Fachhochschule Brandenburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany)
- University of Potsdam (Germany)
- University of Turku (Finland)
- The Upper Austria University of Applied Sciences, Wels Campus (Austria)

5.1 Taught Programmes

Master in Creativity and Innovation

The Master in Creativity and Innovation is an interdisciplinary programme designed to assist participants to expand their perception, employ creative skills, develop ideas individually and in teams, sustain a creative climate, manage innovation, and apply foresight methodologies to create future scenarios. It offers methods and processes which help to identify opportunities and cultivate appropriate skills and attitudes. It promotes imaginative, flexible and practical thought and action, and improves the ability to respond practically and creatively to problems and opportunities. This programme attracts professionals from a broad base of disciplines from the local and international scene. In October 2017, this Master programme attracted students from Malta, Greece, India, Indonesia, Slovakia, and the UK. Two Erasmus students from the University of Potsdam, Germany, also joined the programme.

This Master programme is available both on a full-time and a part-time basis, with all lectures being held during the daytime. The duration for full-time students is 3 semesters while that for part-time students is 6 semesters. The programme comprises a total of 90 ECTS, of which 60 ECTS are assigned to taught study-units and 30 ECTS assigned to the dissertation. Students who obtain the 60 ECTS assigned to the taught study-units with an average mark of at least 50% and who do not proceed with the course, or having proceeded do not successfully complete the dissertation, are awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Creativity and Innovation.

Further information about the Master in Creativity and Innovation, including entry requirements and the full programme of studies, is available on the Institute website (www.um.edu.mt/create).

Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship

This Diploma is aimed at individuals who would like to further their education and improve their career prospects but are not in a position to attend full-time day courses due to other commitments. Students develop knowledge, transferable skills and attitudes concerning creativity and idea generation, innovation (including innovation management) and entrepreneurship. These are vital both for starting up and running a business and for enhancing employment prospects and advancing careers, since the demand for creative employees who are able to adapt to change, recognise opportunities, solve problems, and lead innovation is rising, both locally and overseas. The programme comprises a total of 60 ECTS, offered over a period of four semesters (i.e., two academic years) of part-time study.

In October 2017, this Diploma was offered at the University Gozo Campus. Lectures for this cohort are held on Fridays and Saturdays from 17.00 to 21.00 and from 08.30 to 12.30 respectively. It will be offered next in October 2018 at the Msida Campus, with lectures there being held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 17.00 to 20.00.

Further information about this Diploma, including entry requirements and the full programme of studies, is available on the Institute website (www.um.edu.mt/create).

Undergraduate Study-Units

During the academic year 2017-2018, The Edward de Bono Institute offered the following study-units to a wide variety of Faculties, Institutes and Centres at the University of Malta:

Semester I

- IOT 1006: Critical Thinking (2 ECTS)
- IOT 1008: An Introduction to Creativity (4 ECTS)
- IOT 2002: Communication and Innovation (4 ECTS)
- IOT 2003: Foresight – A Tool for Scenarios and Visions (4 ECTS)
- IOT 2005: Leadership and Organisational Innovation (2 ECTS)
- IOT 2301: Ideas and Entrepreneurship (4 ECTS)

Semester II

- IOT 1002: Psychology of Creativity (4 ECTS)
- IOT 1009: A Toolkit for Thinking out of the Box (4 ECTS)
- IOT 2006: Creativity, Innovation and Digital Technologies (2 ECTS)
- IOT 2008: Innovation and Entrepreneurship: Practical Approaches (4 ECTS)
- IOT 3110: Creative and Critical Thinking for Public Officers (4 ECTS)

These study-units enable students to develop skills and attitudes that are required in public and private organisations where key competences, transferable skills and knowledge concerning creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship and foresight are considered to be crucially important. These skills and attitudes will enable students to recognise opportunities and will improve their future career options.

Further information about the above study units is available on the Institute website (www.um.edu.mt/create).

In addition to the above, the Institute's academics serviced various other Faculties during 2017-2018, by delivering all or part of the following study units that are related to their multidisciplinary areas of expertise:

BST 2008: Literary Activity in the Baroque Age

CIS 3086: Mobile Device Programming

ENG 2096: The Pre-Raphaelites and their Circle

ENG 3035: Shakespeare in Context

ENG 2092: Travel Writing

ENG 2176: Victorian Poetry

ENG 2042: The English Novel in the Later Nineteenth Century: Henry James

HSC 5123: Critical/Creative Thinking in Ethical Applications to Health Care

LAS 2020: Ideas and Business Venturing

PHI 5006: The Philosophical Foundations of Artificial Intelligence

PHI 2002: The Philosophy of Mind: (a) An Introduction to the Philosophy of Mind; (b) A Contemporary Theory of Mind - John McDowell.

TTC 3105: Travel and Travelogues

5.2 Research Programmes

PhD in Creativity, Innovation, Entrepreneurship or Foresight

In March 2016, the Senate of the University of Malta approved a new Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Degree to be offered by The Edward de Bono Institute as from June 2016 in the areas of Creativity, Innovation, Entrepreneurship or Foresight. The course is aimed at students with a substantial background in one or more of these areas and enables them to specialise in that/those areas at Doctoral level. The course is offered both on a full-time and a part-time basis. The course duration for full-time students is 3-4 years, while that for part-time students is 6-8 years. Applications may be submitted at any time of the year but prospective students are advised to contact the Institute (instituteofthinking@um.edu.mt) in order to discuss their proposal and to identify a suitable supervisor prior to submitting their application for the course.

The Institute welcomed its first PhD candidate, Mr Oliver Saliba, in April 2017, followed by Ms Kristina Buhagiar in February 2018, both of whom hold a Master in Creativity and Innovation from the Edward de Bono Institute. The third PhD candidate, Ms Izumi Nonaka, shall be joining the Institute from Japan in October 2018.

Further information about this PhD Degree, including entry requirements and proposal guidelines, is available on the Institute website (www.um.edu.mt/create).

6. GRADUATIONS

During the graduation ceremony on 20th November 2017, three students received their Post-Graduate Diploma in Creativity and Innovation. On 4th December 2017, thirteen students were awarded the Master in Creativity and Innovation. These students are listed below:

PG Diploma in Creativity and Innovation	Master in Creativity and Innovation
Deirdre Dolan Marita Portelli Andrew Zammit Soler	Nadia Boffa Steven Diacono Judie Farrugia Dan Adrian Irimia Jochen Lenders Gordon Pisani Elizabeth Pulo Luke Saliba Analise Sammut Geraldine Sammut Ruth Schembri Nicola Eileen Tanti Joanne Zammit

7. DISSERTATIONS

The following table provides details about the dissertations of students who graduated with the degree of Master in Creativity and Innovation on 4th December 2017:

Name of Student	Dissertation Title	Supervisor and Examiners
Boffa Nadia	<i>Exploiting entrepreneurial opportunities: The role of intuition and cognitive versatility</i>	Supervisor: Dr Leonie Baldacchino External: Professor Deniz Ucbasaran Local: Dr Margaret Mangion Local: Dr Lisa Pace Chair: Dr Petra Caruana Dingli
Diacono Steven	<i>Entrepreneurial Opportunity Identification within the Circular Economy</i>	Supervisor: Dr Leonie Baldacchino External: Professor Dr Enno Marusel Local: Dr Lisa Pace Local: Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen Chair: Dr Petra Caruana Dingli

Name of Student	Dissertation Title	Supervisor and Examiners
Farrugia Judie	<i>The Impact of Schooling on Students' Creativity</i>	Supervisor: Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen External: Professor Robert Fisher Local: Dr Margaret Mangion Local: Dr Suzanne Piscopo Chair: Dr Leonie Baldacchino
Irimia Dan Adrian	<i>Artistic creativity and the transformative power of psychological pain</i>	Supervisor: Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen External: Dr Dina Zoe Belluigi Local: Dr Petra Caruana Dingli Local: Dr Margaret Mangion Chair: Dr Leonie Baldacchino
Lenders Jochen	<i>AguaGente: A feasibility study of an innovative water conservation project in Malta</i>	Supervisor: Dr Leonie Baldacchino External: Prof Jay Weerawardena Local: Dr Petra Caruana Dingli Local: Dr Lisa Pace Chair: Dr Margaret Mangion
Pisani Gordon	<i>Creating Rubrics to Assess Entrepreneurship, Creativity and Innovation</i>	Supervisor: Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen External: Professor Doan Winkel Local: Dr Margaret Mangion Local: Dr Suzanne Piscopo Chair: Dr Leonie Baldacchino
Pulo Elizabeth	<i>Future search as a tool to enable an entrepreneurial mind-set in organisations: AIESEC as a case study</i>	Supervisor: Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen External: Dr Rosemary Fisher Local: Professor Sandra M Dingli Local: Dr Lisa Pace Chair: Dr Leonie Baldacchino
Saliba Luke	<i>The preconditions influencing the adoption of innovative medical technologies amongst Health Care Professionals. The case of point of care testing</i>	Supervisor: Dr Lisa Pace External: Professor Paul Trott Local: Professor Sandra M Dingli Local: Dr Petra Caruana Dingli Chair: Dr Leonie Baldacchino
Sammut Analise	<i>'Going the Distance!' A study of the relationship between entrepreneurial deliberate practice and firm performance</i>	Supervisor: Dr Leonie Baldacchino External: Professor Deniz Ucbasaran Local: Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen Local: Dr Lisa Pace Chair: Dr Margaret Mangion

Name of Student	Dissertation Title	Supervisor and Examiners
Sammut Geraldine	<i>Investigating the role of environmental NGOs as change agents in the diffusion of green innovations in Malta</i>	Supervisor: Dr Lisa Pace External: Dr Pablo Munoz Local: Dr Margaret Mangion Local: Dr Petra Caruana Dingli Chair: Dr Leonie Baldacchino
Schembri Ruth	<i>Exploring how Employee Interpersonal Relations affect Individual Creativity</i>	Supervisor: Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen External: Professor Yi Liu Local: Dr Joseph G. Azzopardi Local: Dr Petra Caruana Dingli Chair: Dr Leonie Baldacchino
Tanti Nicola	<i>The exploration of thinking tools for daily decision making</i>	Supervisor: Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen External: Professor Liezel Frick Local: Dr Margaret Mangion Local: Professor Sandra M Dingli Chair: Dr Leonie Baldacchino
Zammit Joanne	<i>Developing Financial Literacy as a Key Entrepreneurship Skill through an Alternative Learning Programmes</i>	Supervisor: Dr Leonie Baldacchino External: Professor Doan Winkel Local: Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen Local: Dr Margaret Mangion Chair: Dr Petra Caruana Dingli

An abstract of each of the above dissertations is available on our Institute website at www.um.edu.mt/create/researchareas/dissertations.

8. EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS

During the academic year 2017-2018, the Edward de Bono Institute participated in the following externally funded projects in collaboration with other institutions.

January 2018 – September 2020: CURIO Erasmus+ Project

The Edward de Bono Institute is involved in this project together with The Institute of Digital Games at the University of Malta, Placeholder Interactive (Malta), University of Venice (Italy), and University of Skövde (Sweden). The aims of CURIO are to stimulate students' curiosity in scientific topics at elementary school level through the creation of a digital toolkit. This toolkit will allow teachers and students to create scenarios that can then be played in a gamified, virtual environment. The Institute academic involved in this project is Professor Sandra M Dingli. Further information about this project is available at the following link:

www.um.edu.mt/create/eu_projects/curio

June 2015 – March 2018: CIMULACT HORIZON 2020 Project

In June 2015, The Edward de Bono Institute began CIMULACT – Citizen and Multi-Actor Consultation on Horizon 2020, which is an EU funded project under the Horizon 2020 platform. The total value of this project is Euro 3,299,701.82 with the budget for University of Malta being Euro 76,498.44. The aims of this project include promoting the engagement of citizens in co-creation of the identification of desirable sustainable futures through responsible research and innovation, setting a new standard for public participation through the development, testing and assessment of methods for citizen engagement and making the building of the future more realistic through a wide and democratic public conversation with citizens, experts and other stakeholders. The project involves 29 partners in 30 European countries and it is coordinated by The Danish Board of Technology Foundation, Copenhagen (also known as Fonden Teknologiradet). The academics involved in this project are Professor Sandra M Dingli and Dr Lisa Pace. Further information about this project is available at the following links:

www.cimulact.eu/

www.um.edu.mt/create/eu_projects/cimulact

www.facebook.com/cimulactmalta/

September 2015 – August 2018: CREMO Erasmus+ Project

In September 2015, The Edward de Bono Institute commenced CREMO – Creativity E-Modules in Education, which is an EU funded project under the Erasmus+ 2015 programme. The total value of this project is Euro 397,185 and the budget for University of Malta is Euro 50,642. The project is focused on the development of e-modules that are aimed at developing students' creativity. With stronger capabilities in creativity and thinking skills, students will be better prepared for the constantly evolving nature of today's society, both in their working and private lives. Once the e-modules are developed, they will be made available for use across European educational institutions. They will be designed to fit into any standard curriculum to complement the regular education framework. The project coordinators are University of Aalborg, Denmark. The project incorporates five partners including one from the USA and another from China. The academics involved in this project are Professor Sandra M Dingli and Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen. Further information about this project is available at the following links:

www.um.edu.mt/create/eu_projects/cremo

<http://academyforcreativity.com/>

October 2016 – March 2019: KREATTIV Evaluation Study

The Arts Council Malta engaged Dr Marie Briguglio from the Department of Management, together with Dr Leonie Baldacchino and Dr Margaret Mangion from The Edward de Bono Institute, to carry out an evaluation study on the effectiveness of the KREATTIV funding programme. This funding programme aims at enhancing students' creativity and engaging them in the creative sector by enabling educators and creative practitioners to collaborate on projects related to all genres of art. The total value of the project is Euro 16,850.

July 2018: New Erasmus+ Knowledge Alliances Project Selected for Funding

In July 2018, a new Erasmus+ Knowledge Alliances Project in which the Institute shall be involved as partner was selected for funding. The project DIFME (Digital Internationalisation and Financial Literacy Skills for Micro Entrepreneurs) will run from January 2019 until December 2022 under the coordination of the Malta Business Bureau with partners from Ireland, Greece, Germany, Italy, Bulgaria and the Netherlands. It shall involve an in-depth analysis of existing entrepreneurship programmes offered by HEIs in the EU and beyond, identifying skill gaps with a focus on micro entrepreneurs, and the development of an e-learning platform to be called “SME Hub”. Such a hub will link new entrepreneurs with experienced entrepreneurs and academics, and will aid the integration of young people into the labour market. The total value of the project is Euro 951,761 and the budget for University of Malta is Euro 61,688. The academic involved in this project is Dr Leonie Baldacchino. A part-time Research Support Officer shall be recruited in due course.

9. PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS OVERSEAS

The Edward de Bono Institute’s academic staff participated in a wide range of conferences and events outside the Maltese Islands during the academic year 2017-2018. These are summarised below.

22-23 November 2017: Mediterranean Women Journalists Conference – Bari and Lecce, Italy

Dr Petra Caruana Dingli participated in an international conference organised by the Forum of Mediterranean Women Journalists, held in Bari and Lecce, Italy, on 22-23 November 2017.

24 January 2018: CREMO Partners’ Meeting – Madrid, Spain

On 24 January 2018 Professor Sandra M Dingli attended a CREMO partners’ meeting at the Universidad Complutense in Madrid.

16-19 April 2018: GEC and GEN Annual Meeting – Istanbul, Turkey

From 16 to 19 April 2018, Dr Leonie Baldacchino attended the Global Entrepreneurship Congress (GEC) in Istanbul, Turkey. The GEC is an annual event that gathers thousands of entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, policymakers and other startup champions to identify new ways of helping founders start and scale new businesses around the world. Dr Baldacchino also attended the Global Entrepreneurship Network (GEN) annual meeting to discuss the events held to celebrate the Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) in Malta in November 2017. She was joined at the Congress by Dr Nathaniel Massa from the Faculty of Management, Economics and Accountancy, and two young entrepreneurs.



28-29 April 2018: Visit to Khon Kaen University, Thailand

Professor Sandra M Dingli visited the University of Khon Kaen, Thailand, on 28 and 29 April 2018, where she delivered two workshops on Creative Writing to students and assisted in the evaluation of spoken English Language proficiency by Medical Students.

3-4 May 2018: World Press Freedom Day – Accra, Ghana

Dr Petra Caruana Dingli was invited as speaker at a plenary session of UNESCO World Press Freedom Day 2018, held in Accra, Ghana on 3-4 May 2018.

15-19 May 2018: Erasmus+ Staff Mobility – Berlin, Germany

Dr Margaret Mangion visited Business School Berlin on an Erasmus+ teaching arrangement from 15 to 19 May 2018, where she delivered several lectures on creativity in organisations and discussed future collaboration opportunities.

**28-30 May 2018: The European Social Services Conference – Seville, Spain**

Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen attended the European Social Services Conference in Seville from 28 to 30 May 2018. This was as part of her duties as a member of the Board of Directors of the Foundation for Social Welfare Services.

04-05 June 2018: FTA Conference – Brussels, Belgium

Dr Lisa Pace presented a poster at the 'Futures Oriented Technology Analysis Conference - Future in the Making', which was held in Brussels on 04 and 05 June 2018. The title of her poster was: "Enhancing the relevance of horizon scanning within the Scenario-building Process: a proposed framework". The FTA Conference was organised by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre. It presented future-oriented work in policy-relevant topics and discussed innovative foresight processes and methodologies to tackle complex societal problems.



06-07 July 2018: FutureFest 2018 – Tobacco Dock, London

Professor Sandra M Dingli attended FutureFest 2018, NESTA's flagship festival / conference, at Tobacco Dock, London, England on 06 and 07 July 2018.

07 September 2018: Visit to the 'Idea Marathon' Institute – Tokyo, Japan

Professor Sandra M Dingli and Dr Leonie Baldacchino visited the 'Idea Marathon' Institute in Tokyo, Japan on 07 September 2018, upon invitation by Professor Takeo Higuchi, Chairman of the Council of the Japan Creativity Society.

10-12 September 2018: International Conference on Creativity and Innovation – Osaka, Japan

Professor Sandra M Dingli and Dr Leonie Baldacchino attended the International Conference on Creativity and Innovation in Osaka, Japan from 10 to 12 September 2018. This was organised by the Japan Creativity Society and the Institute for Creative Management and Innovation, Kindai University. They presented a paper on 'Creativity and Digital Literacy: Skills for the Future', which was later selected for publication in the Kindai Management Review, and delivered a workshop on 'Foresight: Creating Scenarios for the Future'. They were also invited to join a Board Meeting of the Japan Creativity Society and attended the launch of the new International Association of Creativity and Innovation. This visit to Japan was an opportunity to share ideas with leading international scholars in the field of creativity and innovation including Professor Gerard Puccio, Professor Ikujiro Nonaka, Prof Shozo Saegusa and Professor Fangqi Xu. There was a great deal of interest in the work of the Institute on the part of conference participants, including in the part-time evening Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, and the Master in Creativity and Innovation.



10. PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS IN MALTA

In addition to the conferences and meetings attended overseas, The Edward de Bono Institute's members of staff participated in various events and activities in Malta during the academic year 2017-2018. These are summarised below.

October 2017 – Malta SME Week



The Institute was involved in the following two events that were organised by the Ministry for the Economy, Investment and Small Business (MEIB) as part of Malta SME Week:

10 October 2017: Let's Evolve – Growth through Innovation' Conference

Dr Margaret Mangion delivered a keynote address during a conference entitled 'Let's Evolve – Growth Through Innovation' on 10 October 2017. This conference was organised by the GRTU as part of Malta SME Week. During the keynote speech entitled 'Innovation for Every Business', Dr Mangion elaborated on the need to innovate in business, no matter how large or small firms may be.



31 October 2017: Research and Innovation Café'

Dr Leonie Baldacchino moderated the 'Research and Innovation Café' which was organised by Malta Enterprise as part of Malta SME Week on 31 October 2017. This conference was addressed by the Minister for the Economy, Investment and Small Business, Honourable Dr Chris Cardona, the Parliamentary Secretary for the Digital Economy, Financial Services and Innovation, Honourable Mr Silvio Schembri, the Chairman of Malta Enterprise Mr William Wait, and the Chairman of the Malta Council for Science and Technology (MCST) Dr Jeffery Pullicino Orlando. A keynote speech entitled 'Transforming Research into Commercial Innovation' was delivered by Mr Aleandro Furlani, founder and CEO of INNOVA, which includes a multi-national start-ups Accelerator, an R&D laboratory and a seed capital company. This was followed by a panel discussion on 'Aligning Research and Industry', presentations and case studies on the funds and support offered locally for R&I, and a number of breakout sessions.



16-17 November 2017: Engaging the Contemporary: Issues in Contemporary Political and Social Philosophy

Professor Sandra M Dingli attended the conference 'Engaging the Contemporary: Issues in Contemporary Political and Social Philosophy', organised by the Department of Philosophy at the University of Malta, where she presented a paper entitled: 'Euphemisms in contemporary language and alternative facts'.

November 2017: Global Entrepreneurship Week



For the tenth consecutive year, The Edward de Bono Institute was the National Host for the Global Entrepreneurship Week activities in Malta. The Institute collaborated with various institutions to organise the following events:

10 – 12 November 2017: Malta Startup Weekend

This was a weekend long, hands-on experience where practicing and aspiring entrepreneurs could find out if their new startup ideas were viable by running a ‘reality check’ of what it takes to make them happen. Around half of Startup’s Weekend attendees had technical backgrounds and the other half represents widely dispersed professions including business, non-profit, etc. On Sunday evening, participants pitched the ideas developed during the weekend to the judges and selected investors. This event was organised by Techstars.

11 November 2017: JAYE Company Programme Strategy Seminar

This seminar, which was organised by JAYE Malta, was the second of a series of three workshops for participants of the Company Programme. With the support of mentors, the teams moved closer to research their market and prepare for the upcoming Business Plan Competition and Product Launch.

13 November 2017: MBA Business Concept Pitching Event

During this event, which was organised by the Department of Management in collaboration with the Edward de Bono Institute, Executive MBA final year students taking the entrepreneurship elective study unit pitched their business concepts to a panel of experts and practitioners involved in the field of entrepreneurship. This provided them with an enhanced opportunity for peer-learning, discussion and expert insights at an early stage of their concept development. Project deliverables of this elective programme ultimately require students to engage in an extended feasibility study assessing potential for their business ideas as a prelude to potentially pursuing the concept and entrepreneurial opportunity further.

15 November 2017: Degree Plus Event

A workshop on entrepreneurship and business idea generation was conducted by Dr Leonie Baldacchino for students taking the unit on Creative and Critical Thinking as part of the Degree Plus programme at the University of Malta.

15 November 2017: Unleash Your Ideas: A workshop for MCAST students

This event was organised by The Edward de Bono Institute in collaboration with the Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology. Edward de Bono Institute lecturers Dr Leonie Baldacchino, Dr Margaret Mangion and Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen, and Master in Creativity and Innovation student Ms Amanda Jo Grech, conducted parallel interactive workshops for approximately 400 MCAST students who are in the final year of their degree course. The aim of the workshops was to introduce participants to a creative thinking tool that they can use to generate ideas for new products and services.



16 November 2017: Malta Enterprise Role and Activities

The aim of this event which was organised by The Edward de Bono Institute in collaboration with Malta Enterprise, was to inform University of Malta students about the current operations of Malta Enterprise, its role and incentives to assist local businesses.



16 November 2017: Budding Rockstars

The Malta Communications Authority in collaboration with The Edward de Bono Institute, The Business Incubator, the Directorate for Education Services, the Secretariat for Catholic Education, Junior Achievement Young Enterprise Malta, the Malta Information Technology Agency and BeSmartOnline organised a conference on entrepreneurship and innovation that was exclusively targeted at the brightest young minds. Top achieving Fifth Form students from all over Malta were introduced to the exciting world of entrepreneurship and innovation through panel discussions, presentations and group activities. They took part in interactive sessions with emerging and established entrepreneurs, and in workshops that stimulated their creative thinking abilities and fostered an entrepreneurial mindset.



17 November 2017 – When S#!T Hits the Fan

This event, which was organised by Junior Chamber International (JCI), was an invitation to all those who wish to listen and get inspired from three speakers who were ready to share their failure stories with an audience of people. Each speaker was given 15 minutes to share their stories which were then followed by a Q&A session.

17 – 18 November 2017: JAYE Start Up Programme Strategy Seminar

This was the second of a series of three workshops for participants of the StartUp programme. Mentors guided the teams in evaluating their business models in preparation for their upcoming Concept Validation Plan presentations.

20 November 2017: Postgraduate Research Seminar

The Edward de Bono Institute held its fourth Postgraduate Research Seminar as part of GEW 2017. The Institute's academic members of staff outlined their research interests, Master in Creativity and Innovation students Ms Kristina Buhagiar and Mr Gordon Pisani delivered presentations about their recently completed dissertations, and Institute PhD candidate Mr Oliver Saliba presented his work in progress during this half-day seminar, which provided a space for scholarly debate among fellow researchers.



24 November 2017: 'Creating a Story: Fact, Opinion and Fiction in the Media'

Dr Petra Caruana Dingli gave a talk on 'Creating a Story: Fact, Opinion and Fiction in the Media' at the conference 'The Fourth Estate in a New World: Citizen Journalism and Security Challenges' organised by the EPP at the Westin Dragonara Resort on 24 November 2017.

11 December 2017: Active Citizen's Fund

Dr Petra Caruana Dingli participated in a Stakeholder Meeting of the Active Citizen's Fund, organised by SOS Malta at the Victoria Hotel on 11 December 2017.

19 January 2018: CURIO Project Launch

Professor Sandra M Dingli delivered a paper entitled 'Unleashing creative potential to foster scientific curiosity' at the launch of the project CURIO held at the University of Malta's Valletta Campus on 19 January 2018. Stakeholders and future users of the toolkit were presented with highlights on technical innovation, new pedagogical opportunities, and the various envisaged social benefits. Dr Stefano Gualeni from the Institute of Digital Games, University of Malta, and Mr Marcello Gómez Maureira from Placeholder Interactive were also speakers at this event.



24 January 2018: Literary Encounters with Baroque Malta

Dr Petra Caruana Dingli delivered a presentation entitled 'Literary Encounters with Baroque Malta' at a symposium organised by the International Institute for Baroque Studies at the University of Malta, entitled 'Valletta in the Baroque Age', held at Spazju Kreattiv, St James Cavalier in Valletta on 24 January 2018.

On 26 January 2018: 'Entrepreneurship and Employability' Conference

A half-day conference on 'Entrepreneurship and Employability – a VET Symbiosis' was held at the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology on 26 January 2018. Dr Baldacchino formed part of a panel where she discussed the value of creativity and entrepreneurial mindsets. The panel discussion was moderated by the University of Malta's Pro-Rector for International Development and Quality Assurance Professor Godfrey Baldacchino.



27 January 2018 – 26 May 2018: Judging of JAYE Start-Up Programme

For the third consecutive year, Dr Leonie Baldacchino formed part of the judging panel for the Junior Achievement Young Enterprise (JAYE) Start-Up programme. This involved several judging phases including a full-day event on 27 January where teams of students from University of Malta, St Martins Institute of Higher Education, and Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology presented their market validation plans to the judges, a National Youth Fair on 24 March where the teams exhibited their products to members of the public, an investors' pitch on 21 April, and the final presentations on 26 May. The competition was won by Celuna, a group of students from St Martin's Institute of Higher Education who are developing a time management gamification app to for students. The Malta Start-Up Programme also included a Best Business Potential Award supported by the Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry, and the Best Social Enterprise supported by Aġenzija Żgħażaġh. The former was won by PrezMinder and the latter by Pawsome, both from St Martin's Institute.



January – February 2018: CURIO Project Focus Groups

Professor Sandra M Dingli collaborated with other project members to organise three focus groups with science educators for the CURIO project during January and February 2018.

23 February 2018: ‘Robo21C’ Erasmus+ Multiplier Event

Dr Baldacchino delivered a presentation on ‘Creativity as a Core Competence for the 21st Century’ during a multiplier event of an Erasmus+ project called ‘Robo21C’ on 23 February 2018. This event was organised by Dr Patrick Camilleri from the Faculty of Education and attended by over 100 primary school teachers. Other speakers included Dr Janet Georgeson from the University of Plymouth (UK) and Emmanuel Zammit – Director of the Directorate of Digital Literacy and Transversal Skills.

27 February 2018: Human Brain Project Consultation Workshop for Citizens

Professor Sandra M Dingli conducted a workshop as part of the Human Brain Project with 40 local citizens at Hilltop, Naxxar on 27 February 2018. The aim of the workshop was to elicit citizens’ views on topics that included Human Brain / Computer Interface, Neuroscience and Artificial Intelligence.

08 March 2018: BPW Careers Day

On 08 March 2018, Prof Noellie Brockdorff and Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen participated in the BPW (Business and Professional Women) Malta Careers Day at the Mediterranean Conference Centre in Valletta. This is an annual event, held under the patronage of H.E. Marie Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Malta, for 14/15-year old girls. This year, H.R.H. Sophie Countess of Wessex visited the event together with H.E. the President of Malta. This event aims at empowering girls and fostering career aspirations by giving them the opportunity to interact with female mentors and role models from a wide variety of fields of expertise.

12 March 2018: CURIO Project Partners Meeting

Professor Sandra M Dingli attended an online meeting for all CURIO project partners on 12 March 2018 where the kick-off event was discussed and where plans for the online platform were presented, assessed and discussed.

16 March 2018: CIMULACT WebEx meeting

Professor Sandra M Dingli attended an online meeting for all CIMULACT project partners on 16 March 2018 to discuss the final stages of this Horizon 2020 project.

23 March 2018: ‘T3QM – Making Entrepreneurship More Accessible’

Dr Leonie Baldacchino participated in a fireside chat together with Dr Michelle Gialanze (Education Consultant at MEDE) and Mr Julian Azzopardi (CEO JAYE-Malta) during a seminar entitled ‘T3QM – Making Entrepreneurship More Accessible’ organised by the FPEI (Foundation for the Promotion of Entrepreneurial Initiatives). This was held at the Malta Chamber of Commerce on 23 March 2018. MEP Marlene Mizzi was also a speaker at this event.

10 April 2018: 'InnovaFoster' Stakeholder Meeting

Dr Leonie Baldacchino moderated a focus group on 'Addressing Lagging Areas in Malta's Startup Ecosystem' as part of the InnovaFoster Stakeholder Meeting held by Malta Enterprise on 10 April 2018. This is an EU project that includes an ecosystem mapping exercise and the formulation of a set of objectives and recommendations to address gaps.

13 – 21 April 2018: World Creativity and Innovation Week (WCIW)



Between the 13th and the 21st April 2018, The Edward de Bono Institute hosted and/or participated in the following of activities to celebrate World Creativity and Innovation Week (WCIW), which was first launched in Canada in 2001 and is now celebrated in 26 countries including Malta. The purpose of WCIW is to inspire new thinking and foster a culture of creativity and innovation.

13 April 2018: Creativity – It can work for you too

This event was held at Speedcast a global organization with offices in Malta. This activity involved an introduction to creative thinking and how creative thinking methods may be used at individual, group and organization levels to gain leverage.



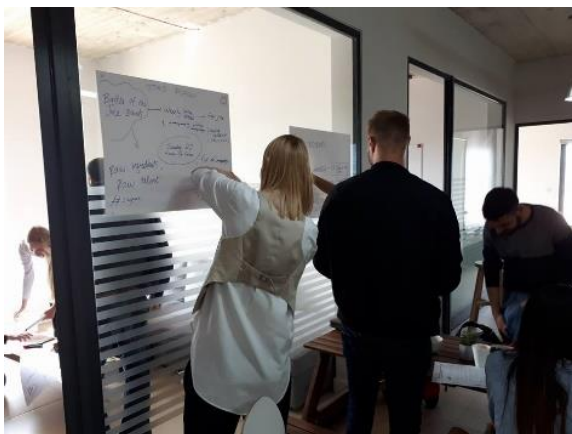
15 April 2018: Artists Unite for Animal Shelters

The Edward de Bono Institute teamed up with Star Events, a start-up events company founded by one of the Institute's Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship students Ms Mariza Baldacchino, to organise 'Artists Unite for Animal Shelters' at Chateau Buskett. This was a display of artistic creativity held to raise funds for five local animal shelters. This event consisted of a fun filled afternoon where the audience enjoyed performances from different dance schools and companies. Staff members and students from the Edward de Bono Institute were on site providing a variety of creativity games and activities.



17 April 2018: BRND WGN Strategic Creative Powerhouse

Another event organized by the Edward de Bono Institute was hosted by Mr. Peter-Jan Grech CEO and Founder at BRND WGN Strategic Creative Powerhouse. During this event, key members of the organization worked with students on the Master in Creativity and Innovation at the University of Malta. The creative processes involved in acquiring new clients and serving the clients successfully explored during an interactive session.



18 April 2018: From Mum to Mumpreneur: How to come up with potential business ideas

The workshop was aimed at women who are interested in starting a business but are still trying to figure out what might work, and who would like to explore how to come up with potential ideas for a new venture.



18 April 2018: Complete the Picture

Ms Shirley Debono, a student on the Institute's Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship and a teacher at the Bishop's Conservatory Secondary School in Gozo, organised an activity to celebrate WCIW with her students. They all started out with the same drawing and were asked to complete the picture individually. Even though the starting point was the same for everyone, their final pictures were all different. They learned that they each have a different perspective and are all creative in diverse ways.

19 April 2018: Transitions – A Panel Discussion

The Edward de Bono Institute hosted a panel discussion with Ms Davinia Mallia Pule of NGAGE – Marketing- PR- Events and Buzymummy.com, Ms Saz Mifsud of Saz Mifsud Design House and Mr Kurt Mifsud founder of the Mediterranean Culinary Academy. All speakers were able to seize business opportunities that shaped their businesses. The audience made up of university students had the opportunity to actively engage in the panel discussion.



20 April 2018: Making Time for Creativity.

This event was held at Ernst and Young Malta. This activity involved an interactive session focusing on wellbeing in the workplace and creativity. The session involved practical tips including breathing exercise for stress relief followed by an introduction to creative thinking and how creative thinking methods may be used across the organization.



20 April 2018: CREMO 'Academy for Creativity' e-Platform Launch and Multiplier event

The launch of the 'Academy for Creativity' e-platform was held on Friday 20 April 2018 at the Waterfront Hotel, Gzira, as part of the celebrations for World Creativity and Innovation Week (WCIW). The participants (approximately 50 educators from Malta and overseas) were introduced to the e-platform, which is the final deliverable of the CREMO Erasmus+ project. The main aim of the multiplier event / e-platform launch was to introduce educators to the platform in an attempt to motivate them to 'multiply' the effect via their students. Speakers at the event included Institute academics Professor Sandra M Dingli who delivered a keynote address entitled 'Skills for the Future' and Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen who delivered another keynote address entitled 'Creativity in Education'. Kristian Brøndum from the Department of Business and Management, Aalborg University, Denmark, delivered a presentation on 'The visions behind the Academy for Creativity project'. Professor Stefano Gualeni from the Institute of Digital Games, University of Malta, and Visiting Professor, Laguna College of Art and Design (LCAD), Laguna Beach, California delivered a presentation on 'The Philosophy of (and within) the Digital'. The e-platform is available to the public at <https://academyforcreativity.com/>



20 April 2018: CREMO Project Meeting in Malta

Following the CREMO / Academy for Creativity event held in Malta, the CREMO project partners held a meeting at the Waterfront Hotel, Gzira, Malta.

25 April 2018: National Workshop on 21st Century Skills in Compulsory Schooling

Dr Leonie Baldacchino conducted a workshop on 'Building Teacher Capacity: How can Professional Educators Promote 21st Century Skills through their Own Behaviour?' during a seminar held by the Ministry for Education and Employment on 25 April 2018.



28 April 2018: Science in the Citadel, Gozo

Dr Leonie Baldacchino conducted an interactive discussion and workshop on creative thinking during Science in the Citadel, which was held on 28 April 2018 in Gozo.



05 June 2018: Malta Entrepreneurship and Startup Forum

Dr Leonie Baldacchino attended a Malta Entrepreneurship and Startup Forum together with many of the local startup ecosystem players on 05 June 2018. Matters discussed included the Valletta Design Cluster project, the Innovafoster project, and a proposed design and innovation action plan for Malta.

13 June 2018: Introduction to Blockchain

Professor Sandra M Dingli attended an event on Blockchain at the University of Malta on 13 June 2018. The session was delivered by Professor Gordon J. Pace and Dr Joshua Ellul from the University of Malta.

23 June 2018: 'Innovation and Trends in Maltese Heritage'.

Dr Petra Caruana Dingli delivered a presentation on 'Innovation and Trends in Maltese Heritage' at a symposium entitled 'Malta's Archaeological Sites at Risk: Seeking Solutions - Synthesizing Public Engagement, Academic Activism, and Political Response'. This symposium was organised by the Department of Classics and Archaeology, University of Malta, on 23 June 2018.

25 June 2018: Book Launch

The launch of the book 'Encounters with Valletta: A Baroque City Through the Ages', edited by Giovanni Bonello, Petra Caruana Dingli and Denis De Lucca was held on 25 June 2018, hosted by H.E. the President of Malta Marie Louise Coleiro Preca at The Palace in Valletta.

July 2018: Meetings with Professor Edward de Bono

During July 2018, the Institute's students had the opportunity to meet Professor Edward de Bono for tea and a friendly chat about creativity and lateral thinking. He heard how the knowledge and skills they were learning at the Institute were being put to good use in their workplace and personal life. He advised them to always think of alternatives and better ways of doing things in order to improve their creativity.



09 July 2018: Brainstorming Session

Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen delivered a brainstorming session with a group of around 50 stakeholders in preparation for the 2018 edition of the International event held annually in November-December, "16 Days of Activism 2018 – Expect Respect – Nothing Less". The event was held on 09 July 2018 and co-ordinated by the Commission of Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence.

13-14 July 2018: Psychiatry and the Arts Conference

Dr Leonie Baldacchino and Dr Margaret Mangion attended the 'Psychiatry and Arts Conference' held at Verdala Palace, Siggiewi, on 13-14 July 2018. Various researchers from Malta and overseas discussed the importance of creativity in its various forms for a healthy, fulfilled life. This conference was organised by the organisers Dr Anton Grech and Dr Mark Agius, with the support of the President of Malta, H.E. Mary-Louise Coleiro Preca.

18 July 2018: Creative and Critical Thinking Workshop

Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen held a 4-hour workshop with Aġenzija Appoġġ, part of the Foundation for Social Welfare Services. The workshop was held with staff, mainly social workers at the LEAP centre in Valletta on 18 July 2018.

19 July: Startup Genome Seminar

Dr Leonie Baldacchino attended a seminar organised by the Malta Communications Authority on 19 July 2018, during which Marc Penzel, Cofounder and COO of the international research organisation 'Startup Genome', presented their 'Global Startup Ecosystem Report, 2018'. He focused on the main findings relating to the strengths and weaknesses of the Maltese startup ecosystem and how it compares to other cities that are covered in the report.

26 July 2018: Blockchain: The new regulatory framework

Professor Sandra M Dingli attended an information session on Blockchain at the Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry on 26 July 2018. This session was organised by the Malta Chamber of Commerce together with EMCS.

28 September 2018: Science in the City

Dr Lisa Pace represented the Institute at Science in the City, which is Malta's annual Science and Arts festival (<http://scienceinthecity.org.mt>), on 28 September 2018. She participated in the 'Meet the Researchers' activity, where she discussed some of the Institute's research topics with the attendees and engaged the younger participants in creative activities.



28 September 2018: 'Building Sustainable Businesses' Conference

Dr Leonie Baldacchino attended this event, which was the final conference of an EU-funded project in which the Malta Business Bureau was a partner. The project, entitled INVEST – Financial and Forecasting Models for Entrepreneurs, developed a flexible and customized training model with the intention of assisting young entrepreneurs in their financial development. The model was presented during this conference, which was held at the Malta Chamber of Commerce in Valletta on 28 September 2018.

11. VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS

The Edward de Bono Institute welcomed several visitors from overseas during the academic year 2017-2018. These are outlined below.

20 March 2018: Visitors from the Karel de Grote University in Antwerp, Belgium

On 20 March 2018, Prof Sandra M Dingli delivered a workshop on creativity for a group of 45 students in the second year of their bachelor degree in Organization Management at the Karel de Grote University in Antwerp, Belgium. The visit to UM was coordinated by Ms Ilse Nuytemans, Creativity Lecturer and Project Coordinator for Teaching Staff Mobility at the Faculty of Business Sciences.

21 March 2018: Visitors from Jan Tindenberg College, the Netherlands

On 21 March 2018, Dr Leonie Baldacchino conducted a workshop on entrepreneurship and innovation for a group of 38 students aged 16-17 (and 2 teachers) from Jan Tindenberg College, the Netherlands, who are studying English for their international baccalaureate in Language and literature.

22 March 2018: NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences, the Netherlands

On 22 March 2018, Professor Sandra M Dingli and Dr Leonie Baldacchino held a meeting and brief interactive workshop for a group of 9 students and two lecturers from NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences, the Netherlands. Following the meeting, they joined a lecture with Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen on creativity and idea generation. The visit was coordinated by Dr Liliya Terzieva, who was formerly a member of staff at UM's project support office, and is now a Senior Lecturer and Researcher and Coordinator of the Master in Imagineering at the above-mentioned University.

17 May 2018: Visitors from different institutions in Belgium and Estonia

On 17 May 2018, Dr Leonie Baldacchino and Professor Sandra M Dingli held a meeting with a group of nearly 30 teachers and head-teachers from different institutions in Belgium and Estonia who were in Malta for a training programme 'Meta Learning and Thinking Skills' as part of KA1 Erasmus+ Course. It was organised by Eekhout academy, Belgium and Mr Peter van de Moortel and Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen were course co-ordinators.

23-25 May 2018: Visitors from the Lycee Saint Erembert, France

A group of 31 students aged 16-17 years and 2 teachers from the Lycee Saint Erembert visited the Institute from 23-25 May 2018 for a 3-day training programme in creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship. The first two days of the programme were held at the University's Valletta Campus, and the third day was held at the Msida Campus. The sessions were delivered by Dr Leonie Baldacchino, Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen, Ms Natalie Swaine Nwoko and Dr David Grech, and Pro Rector Prof Godfrey Baldacchino gave them a brief talk on the last day. On the basis of what they had learned during the workshops, the students presented their creative ideas on how their schools and classrooms could be improved, how they could be more entrepreneurial, and how they imagined education would be in the future. This was the third time a group from this school visited the Institute for this programme, on the initiative of their teacher Ms Manilee Bagheritari. It was made possible with the support of Mr Mario Cassar and Ms Rachelle Mifsud at the Valletta Campus.



11 July 2018: Visitors from 'WAYouth' Italian Student Community

On 11 July 2018, Dr Leonie Baldacchino was invited by Pro Rector Prof Godfrey Baldacchino to attend a meeting and networking lunch with a delegation from the 'WAYouth' Italian Student Community who had competed in national competitions for sustainability. Dr Baldacchino delivered a presentation on the courses and activities that are held at the Edward de Bono Institute and discussed potential collaboration opportunities with Mr Lorenzo Micheli, Community Engagement and Education Manager at the Italian Ministry of Education, Universities & Research, who coordinated the visit and led the group.

25 September 2018: Visitors from the State Vocational School Center for Product Design and Testing Technology, Germany

On 25 September 2018, Dr Leonie Baldacchino held a meeting with 23 students and 3 teachers from Fachschule für Produktdesign (State Vocational School Center for Product Design and Testing Technology - <http://www.bs-selb.de/index.html>), Germany. She provided an overview of the courses and activities held at the Edward de Bono Institute.

12. GUEST SPEAKERS AND OFF-CAMPUS VISITS

The Edward de Bono Institute works hard to establish Industry-Academia links and to expose its students to the world of work, as this will enable them to better apply theory to practice. During the academic year 2017-2018, the members of staff organised a number of off-campus sessions and invited several guest speakers, as outlined below.

12 December 2017: Guest Lecture with Ms Rachel Radmilli

On 12 December 2017, Ms Rachel Radmilli from the University of Malta's Department of Management (FEMA) delivered a lecture on sustainable enterprise as part of IOT 5022: Leadership and Innovation in Organisations.

12 December 2017: Visiting Lecturer Dr Anders Berglund

On 12 December 2017, Dr Anders Berglund, an innovation consultant, design thinking specialist, and Assistant Professor from the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden, visited the Institute to explore avenues for collaboration. He also delivered a lecture for students and staff on design thinking and innovation.

**12 and 14 December 2017, 17 April 2018, 07 May 2018: Guest Lectures by Dr Ivan Grixti**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino invited Dr Ivan Grixti from the Department of Accountancy, University of Malta, to deliver guest lectures as part of each of the following study units:

- IOT 2008: Entrepreneurship and Innovation: Practical Approaches
- IOT 2301: Ideas and Entrepreneurship
- IOT 5033: Entrepreneurship and Business Venturing
- LAS 2020: Ideas and Business Venturing.

Dr Grixti's lectures focused on financial planning and preparing cash flow forecasts for new businesses.

08 May 2018: Visit to Benna

On 08 May 2018, Dr Margaret Mangion organised a visit for the Master in Creativity and Innovation students to Benna (Malta Dairy Products) as part of the study unit IOT 5039: Integrating Creativity and Innovation in Marketing Concepts.

14-30 May 2018: Visiting Lecturer Dr Carlo Spellucci

Visiting lecturer Dr Carlo Spellucci delivered IOT 5034 – Entrepreneurship and Innovation – between 14 and 30 May 2018. This was an intensive study-unit that forms part of the Institute's Master in Creativity and Innovation programme and was delivered by Dr Spellucci over four intensive days, during which he introduced the students to the 'Lego Serious Play' methodology and engaged them in a Design Thinking challenge. The first full-day session was held on Monday 14 May at the Faculty of Media and Knowledge Sciences, University of Malta, while the second and third full-day sessions were held on Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 May at Microsoft Innovation Centre. The fourth session was held on Wednesday 30 May at The Edward de Bono Institute, where the students delivered presentations as part of their final assessment. Dr Spellucci was supported during some of the sessions by his business partner and Lego Serious Play facilitator Mr Mattia Michelangeli.



13. OTHER ACTIVITIES

Degree Plus: Creative and Critical Thinking

Dr Margaret Mangion, Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen and Dr Leonie Baldacchino delivered a new unit on Creative and Critical Thinking as part of the DegreePlus programme (DGP 0942) at University of Malta. Creative thinking involves coming up with new ideas that can lead to creative projects and innovation, while critical thinking involves analysing information rather than accepting it at face value. This unit is of value because students who learn how to think creatively and critically often produce work of better quality and go on to enhance their employment prospects, as the demand for individuals who are able to generate ideas and have a critical outlook on life is growing, both locally and overseas.

Membership on Boards and Committees

During the academic year 2017-2018, Dr Leonie Baldacchino served as a Board Member of the Centre for Entrepreneurship and Business Incubation, University of Malta. She was appointed a member of the new University Research Ethics Committee (UREC), where she serves as Chairman's Delegate for Data Protection.

Professor Sandra M Dingli served as a council member for Junior Achievement Young Enterprise Malta Foundation (until January 2018).

Dr Petra Caruana Dingli is a member of the Civil Society Committee of the Malta Council for Economic and Social Development, a council member of the non-governmental organisation Din l-Art Helwa, and a member of the Today Public Policy Institute. In November 2016, she was elected to form part of the UMASA Executive Council and reappointed for a second term in April 2018.

Dr Margaret Mangion is a member on the World Creativity and Innovation Day (WCID) Advisory Board.

Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen is on the Board of Directors of the Foundation for Social Welfare Services (FSWS) and a member on the World Creativity and Innovation Day (WCID) Advisory Board.

14. STAFF PUBLICATIONS AND ACADEMIC REVIEWING

Publications (Forthcoming)

Baldacchino, L. (forthcoming). *Inclusive Entrepreneurship Policies, Country Assessment Notes. Malta, 2017*. OECD Publishing.

Baldacchino, L. (forthcoming). *Inclusive Entrepreneurship Policies, Country Assessment Notes. Malta, 2018*. Invited Policy Report by OECD Publishing.

Baldacchino, L. (forthcoming). Creativity, entrepreneurship and innovation. In G. Baldacchino, V. Cassar, & J. Azzopardi (Eds.) *Malta and its Workforce: Human Resource Management and Development Perspectives*, Malta University Press.

Baldacchino, L. (forthcoming). Intuition in entrepreneurial cognition. In A. Caputo & M. Pellegrini (Eds.) *The Anatomy of Entrepreneurial Decisions*, Springer.

Caruana Dingli, P. (forthcoming). A Heritage of Beauty: Henry James and the Spoils of Italy. In I. Callus et al. (Eds.) *Festschrift for Professor Peter Vassallo*, University of Malta.

Dingli, S. M. (forthcoming). Euphemisms in Political Language and Alternative Facts. Paper presented at *Engaging the Contemporary 2017: Issues in Contemporary Political and Social Philosophy Conference* at UM on 16-17 November 2017.

Dingli, S. M. & Baldacchino, L. (forthcoming). Creativity and digital literacy: Skills for the future. *Kindai Management Review*.

Pace L. A. (forthcoming). Steering a Sustainability Transition in Tourism: The Role of Policy in Greening Hospitality. In P. Laredo and S. Randles (Eds.) *Responsible Innovation Governance at Stake*. Edward Elgar, UK.

Publications 2017/2018

Baldacchino, L. & Azzopardi, D. (2017). *Inclusive Entrepreneurship Policies, Country Assessment Notes, Malta, 2016*. In *The Missing Entrepreneurs 2017: Policies for Inclusive Entrepreneurship (Fourth OECD-EC Annual Report on Inclusive Entrepreneurship)*. OECD Publishing, Paris, pp. 212-213. OECD Publishing. https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/employment/the-missing-entrepreneurs-2017_9789264283602-en.

Full Report Available at: <http://www.oecd.org/cfe/smes/MALTA-country-note.pdf>

Bonello, G., Caruana Dingli, P. & De Lucca, D. (Eds.) (2018). *Encounters with Valletta: A Baroque City Through the Ages*, University of Malta, Malta

Caruana Dingli, P. (2018). The 'Culture of Writing' in Late Sixteenth-Century Malta: Oliviero and Caterina Vasco's Charitable Deed. *Journal of Baroque Studies*, 2(2), 47-62.

Caruana Dingli, P. (2018). Life in Nineteenth-Century Valletta: Maltese and British Cross-Currents. In G. Bonello, P. Caruana Dingli & D. De Lucca (Eds.) *Encounters with Valletta: A Baroque City Through the Ages*, pp. 289-313. University of Malta, Malta.

Caruana Dingli, P. (2018). The Old Valletta Food Market. In G. Bonello, P. Caruana Dingli & D. De Lucca (Eds.) *Encounters with Valletta: A Baroque City Through the Ages*, pp. 265-277. University of Malta, Malta.

Caruana Dingli, P. (2018). The Waterside of Valletta: Grand Masters, Travellers and Military Men. In G. Bonello, P. Caruana Dingli & D. De Lucca (Eds.) *Encounters with Valletta: A Baroque City Through the Ages*, pp. 213-227. University of Malta, Malta.

Caruana Dingli, P. (2018). Visiting St Peter's Monastery. In P. Caruana Dingli (Ed.) *Peter Serracino Inglott - Adeodata Pisani: A Mystic Nun in Mdina*, pp. 2-12. St Peter's Monastery, Malta.

Dingli, S. M. (2017). Innovation and Leadership. In E. Reig, C. Soler, & B. Quintana-Kawage (Eds.) *Effects of Anti-euphemistic Reasoning on Leaders' Creative Decision Making*. LAP Lambert Academic Publishing.

Goodman, M. & Dingli, S. (2017) *Creativity and Strategic Innovation Management: Directions for future value in changing times*, Second edition, Routledge (Taylor & Francis Group), ISBN 978-1-138-67509-4 [hardcopy] and ISBN 978-1-138-67510-0 [paperback].

[Note: The Goodman & Dingli (2017) publication is an updated and revised version of Goodman & Dingli (2013) with new material, additional topics, sections, case studies and a companion website, see: <https://www.routledge.com/Creativity-and-Strategic-Innovation-Management-Directions-for-Future-Value/Goodman-Dingli/p/book/9781138675100>]

Hanohov, R. & Baldacchino, L. (2018). Opportunity recognition in sustainable entrepreneurship: An exploratory study. *International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behavior and Research*, Special Issue: *Advancing Sustainable Entrepreneurship Through Substantive Research*, 24(2), 333-358.

Editorial Board Membership and Academic Peer Reviewing

During the academic year 2017-2018, Dr Leonie Baldacchino carried out academic reviews for the Journal of Management Studies (Wiley), the Journal of Business Venturing (Elsevier) and Research Policy (Elsevier).

Dr Petra Caruana Dingli acted as peer reviewer for the journal Palgrave Communications (Palgrave Macmillan).

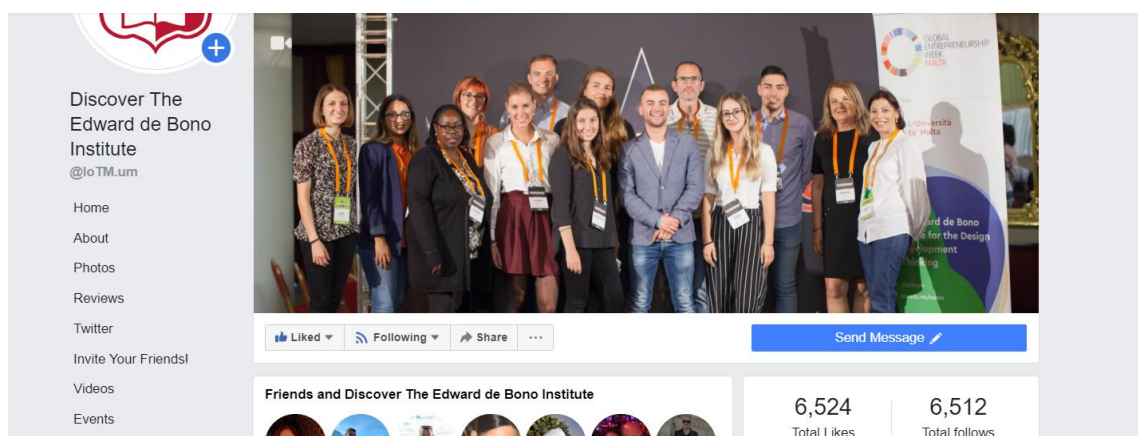
Professor Sandra M Dingli is on the Editorial Board for Philosophical Writings (University of Durham, England), International Journal of Creativity and Human Development, Journal of Innovation Management, Futures, and Journal of Business Models (invited to be a member of the Advisory Board). Additionally, she is a reviewer for the International HETL Association (Higher Education Teaching and Learning Portal), and an occasional reviewer for the Journal of Responsible Innovation, Routledge (Taylor and Francis) Publishers, Routledge (Taylor & Francis) and Cambridge University Press. She is a member of the Editorial Board for the 5th World Open Innovation Conference to be held in San Francisco in December 2018. She is a judge / evaluator for submissions for various European competitions / project proposals (which must be kept confidential for ethical reasons).

Dr Margaret Mangion acted as a reviewer for a chapter in the third edition of The Psychology of Attitudes and Attitude Change by Greg Maio, Geoffrey Haddock, and Bas Verplanken, (Sage Publishers).

Dr Lisa Pace carried out academic reviews for the journal Technological Forecasting & Social Change.

15. SOCIAL MEDIA

The Institute has a very strong social media presence, with a Facebook page called *Discover the Edward de Bono Institute* that has over 6,500 followers. The page is regularly updated with news and photographs related to the Institute's courses, research and events, as well as other newsworthy articles related to the creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship and foresight. This page may be accessed at the following link: www.facebook.com/loTM.um



16. PRESS COVERAGE

During the academic year 2017-2018, the Institute received the following press coverage for its various events and initiatives.

TVM Online News Portal on 17 November 2017



CURRENT AFFAIRS

New projects by students who have an aptitude for technology and business

Posted On November 17, 2017 - Updated 17 November, 2017 10:59am

Report: Daphne Cassar

Around 150 students who excel in technology with an aptitude for business have taken part in a workshop which is meant to help them instill more innovation and creativity.

Form Five students who have achieved high marks in maths, commerce and computer studies took part in workshops to cultivate and sharpen their entrepreneurial skills.

TVM Online News Portal on 17 November 2017 (Cont.)

Dr Leonie Baldacchino from the Edward Debono Institute of Creative Studies said that students often face limitations to expand their creative process because of the syllabus and exams.

She said that from an early age, students should be encouraged to develop an entrepreneurial mentality and creativity.

"Those who have studied and obtained qualifications can create their own work for themselves and others", said Dr Baldacchino.

It was the same occasion three years ago which led a group of students to start a campaign to produce flash cards to help their classmates study for their 'O' level exams.

"The idea was to use these cards as a form of revision by making the syllabus more concise," said Mark Anthony Borg.

"We have always wanted to carry out a project to help students and society," said Kurt Pace Debono.

Visiting these activities organized by the Communications Authority was Parliamentary Secretary for Financial Services, Digital Economy and Innovation, Silvio Schembri, who said that innovation and creativity are the motor of the economy. He urged students not to be afraid to be adventurous and encouraged them to find a balance between their academic studies and activities which help them stimulate their creative process.



The Times of Malta on 26 November 2017

Sunday, November 26, 2017, 00:01

Malta's brightest youths turn tech entrepreneurs for a day



This year's edition of Budding Rockstars.

The 2017 edition of Budding Rockstars was held on November 16 at the Hilton Malta Hotel, St Julian's. The event was attended by 150 Form 5 students and more than 50 educators from 40 Schools in Malta and Gozo.

Budding Rockstars is an innovation event by the Malta Communications Authority, forming part of a wider set of activities aimed at exposing young persons to technology entrepreneurship. The event targeted the highest academic achievers from across all public, church and private schools in Malta and Gozo.

The event provided students with an opportunity to interact with emerging and established tech entrepreneurs and to gain valuable insights on the key characteristics of entrepreneurship. Moreover, participants were encouraged to learn about and consider tech entrepreneurship as a career path.

Various speakers shared their story with the attendees. Erik Bergman spoke about the emotional journey of co-founding Catena Media, a company nowadays valued at €500 million.

In a frank discussion, Angelo Dalli, serial entrepreneur, Keith Fenech from Revulytics, and Peter Grech, CEO and co-founder at BRND WGN, discussed their experience of starting up and growing a successful venture. Despite the different trajectories in their entrepreneurial venture, all agreed that perseverance plays a key part in success. Rachel Cachia and Martina Zammit, co-founders at V Squared Media, noted how strong teamwork is essential in any entrepreneurial adventure. Mark Brooks, CEO at Courtland Brooks, stressed the importance of building one's network, and how having strong connections is critical to the entrepreneur's success.

Other speaking contributions were made by the students from Flair and Intact, winners of the JAYE Company and Start Up Programme respectively. Both teams recounted their successful Junior Achievement Young Enterprise experience and encouraged the attendees to learn entrepreneurship hands-on. In another contribution, Zach Ciappara, spoke about his experience launching FreeHour, a MITA-backed startup providing an app that helps student connect with each other on campus during their free time.

“Speakers shared their story with the attendees”

Throughout a hands-on workshop, coordinated by the Edward de Bono Institute, students were exposed to creativity and innovation techniques aimed at facilitating idea generation in a business context. Students worked in groups to develop novel business concepts that applied ICTs and addressed a problem.

Ideas were afterwards exhibited, voted upon and the teams with the best three ideas were invited to pitch on stage in the final phase of Budding Rockstars.

Visiting the event and meeting students working on their ideas, the Hon. Silvio Schembri, Parliamentary Secretary for Financial Services, Digital Economy and Innovation, recognised that in order for Malta to continue its growth as a digital economy, it needs to secure future leaders

The Times of Malta on 26 November 2017 (Cont.)

that can build innovative, resilient businesses that leave a mark on a global level. He added that it is not enough to have a skilled workforce as nothing can materialise without smart people that can locate opportunity, communicate and inspire, as well as lead in the execution of great ideas.

In a video message, the Hon. Minister for Education, Evarist Bartolo, encouraged the young audience to stop fearing failure, dream big and pursue adventure, whilst accepting that hard work lies ahead of any success. Other messages to the students were sent by the MEPs Miriam Dalli, Roberta Metsola and Marlene Mizzi. The MEPs called for further entrepreneurship while each reserved specific words of encouragement for more ambition amongst girls. In view of the low participation of women in tech, girls were encouraged to step forward and aspire to become leaders of tomorrow's digital scene.



Judging for the final 'pitch competition' was handled by Leonie Baldacchino, University of Malta, Jarek Bialek, Startup Weekend Malta, Alex Borg from MITA Innovation Hub, and Julian Azzopardi from Junior Achievement Young Enterprise. The judges noted how the business idea is very important, but it is ultimately the execution that matters the most. Whereas a strong idea could help the business to grow quickly in the early stages, it takes a strong team to sustain such growth and secure the business long-term.

Edward Woods, Chairman at MCA, thanked all speakers, partners and educators for making the event yet another success. While highlighting the MCA's efforts in digital skills, Dr Woods stressed the importance of inculcating from a young age a mindset that defies the status quo and that seeks new opportunities through technological innovation.

Budding Rockstars was organised by the MCA in collaboration with the Edward de Bono Institute and the Directorate for Educational Services. The event was supported by the Secretariat for Catholic Education, Junior Achievement Young Enterprise, the BeSmartOnline campaign, and ZEST Malta.



The MCA has set up a Facebook page for Budding Rockstars to serve as a platform for further engagement. Visit www.facebook.com/BuddingRockstars.

NATIONAL

Entrepreneurship through experience

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Entrepreneurship can be learnt through experience, and cannot be strictly taught to students using traditional methods, sociology professor Godfrey Baldacchino said.

During a conference on entrepreneurship and employability, Prof. Baldacchino told the audience he was not convinced entrepreneurship can be taught without allowing students to experience developing their own projects.

“Statistics show that at least 475 million jobs need to be created worldwide over the next decade”

Echoing Prof. Baldacchino, industry representative Ivan Refalo added students can learn soft skills best by being encouraged to develop their own start-ups and companies.

Our current education system teaches people to duplicate and copy other business models, he said. The only way businesses can stand out in today's world is to be innovative in the way they deliver services, Mr Refalo noted.

A survey taken by attendees showed that many associate the



Professor Godfrey Baldacchino said entrepreneurship can be learnt through experience and not necessarily via traditional teaching methods. PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK

words creativity, innovation and determination with entrepreneurship. Edward de Bono Institute director Leonie Baldacchino said creativity involves coming up with new ideas. Innovation, on the other hand, is the ability to turn ideas into something of value, she noted.

Entrepreneurial skills assumed added significance with the rapid growth of technology, Dr Baldacchino said, adding that people will need to become more innovative

if, in the future, the level of automation increases.

Statistics from UNEVOC, the International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training, show that at least 475 million jobs need to be created worldwide over the next decade for the 73 million youth currently unemployed.

Rising youth unemployment is one significant problem that economies face, UNEVOC director Louis said.

He added that employers still consider many graduates to be ill-prepared for employment.

Audience members also pointed out that employees can be entrepreneurs, by applying creative and innovative skills within their jobs.

Entrepreneurship does not necessarily mean creating your own business or startup, but also finding ways to be flexible in your own work, Prof. Baldacchino said.

Sunday, November 11, 2018, 00:01

University academics at creativity conference in Japan



Prof. Sandra Dingli and Dr Leonie Baldacchino (second row, centre) with delegates at the International Conference on Creativity and Innovation (ICCI) in Osaka, Japan.

Prof. Sandra Dingli and Dr Leonie Baldacchino, resident academics at the Edward de Bono Institute at University of Malta recently presented a paper at the International Conference on Creativity and Innovation (ICCI) in Osaka, Japan.

In this paper, they argued that students need to develop their creative thinking and digital literacy skills in order to adapt to the changing requirements of the future labour market. "A key role of educators is to prepare students for the future, but due to the exponential rate of change which we constantly experience, it is difficult to predict which jobs or professions will still be around when today's young people leave school," they said.

In their paper on future skills, the academics argued that since most young people today are digital natives who spend hours daily on their digital devices, educators could capitalise on this by using technology to foster creativity skills that are transferable to other domains and real-life situations. During the conference also conducted an interactive 'foresight' workshop where participants learned how to use an idea generation technique to envision future scenarios for creativity education.

"The Maltese academics' visit to Japan was an opportunity to share ideas with leading international scholars in the field of creativity and innovation"

The conference participants showed a great deal of interest in the work of the Edward de Bono Institute, including in its part-time evening Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, and its Master in Creativity and Innovation.

During their visit Prof. Dingli and Dr Baldacchino also attended a board meeting of the Japan Creativity Society, attended the launch of the new International Association of Creativity and Innovation, and visited the Idea Marathon Institute in Tokyo.

The academics' visit to Japan was an opportunity to share ideas with leading international scholars in the field of creativity and innovation, including Prof. Gerard Puccio, Prof. Ikujiro Nonaka and Prof. Fangqi Xu.

www.um.edu.mt/create