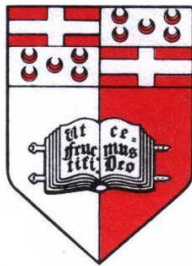


# **The Edward de Bono Institute for the Design and Development of Thinking**



## **University of Malta**

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## **Annual Report**

**01 October 2013 to 30 September 2014**



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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 management, 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*** 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 available and are applied in the areas of policy (ICT, science and technology, environment and energy) and in private organisations (corporate foresight). The design of novel and desirable future scenarios draws on the skills of creativity as it involves the generation of novel ideas and possibilities. The implementation of policies to arrive at a desirable future requires knowledge of innovation management.

## 2. BOARD OF THE INSTITUTE

The Edward de Bono Institute is governed by a Board made up of the following:

**Chairman:** Professor Charles V. Sammut

**Vice Chair and Director:** Dr Leonie Baldacchino

**Members:**

Dr Saviour Zammit (appointed by the Council of the University)

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

Ms Josianne Sciberras acts as secretary to the Board.

## 3. ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

During the academic year 2013-2014, the Edward de Bono Institute was made up of four full-time academic staff, three visiting part-time academic staff, and two administrative staff.

### Full-Time Academic Staff



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



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



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



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

### **Part-time Visiting Academic Staff**



**Ms Tania Farrugia**  
B.Ed.(Hons), M.A.  
Visiting Assistant Lecturer



**Ms Melanie Mizzi**  
B.A., Dip.Mgt., M.Sc.  
Visiting Assistant Lecturer



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

The full profiles of all the academic members of staff are available on the Institute's website at the following link:

<http://www.um.edu.mt/create/staff>

### **Administrative Staff**



**Ms Josianne Sciberras**  
Administrative Assistant



**Mr Matthew Tonna Gilford**  
Clerk

## 4. COURSES

The Edward de Bono Institute offers a Master in Creativity and Innovation, as well as a variety of optional study-units for undergraduate students at University of Malta.

### **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 and manage innovation. 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 2013, the Institute welcomed an intake of 23 students, 7 of whom were from overseas. 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 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 at the following link:

<http://www.um.edu.mt/create/courses/masterdegreeprogramme>

### **Undergraduate Study-Units**

The Edward de Bono Institute offers the following study-units to a wide variety of faculties, institutes and centres at the University of Malta:

#### ***Semester I***

IOT 1004: Design and Innovation (2 ECTS)

IOT 1008: An Introduction to Creativity (4 ECTS)

IOT 1006: Critical Thinking (2 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 2007: Innovation and Entrepreneurship: Theoretical Perspectives (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 3211: Creative and Critical Thinking for Social Intervention (6 ECTS)

These study-units help students develop skills and attitudes that are required in public and private organisations where key competencies, 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.

## **5. GRADUATIONS**

During the graduation ceremony on Monday 18 November 2013, fourteen students were awarded the Master in Creativity and Innovation from the Edward de Bono Institute. On 06 December 2013, seven students received their Post-Graduate Diploma in Creativity and Innovation. These students are listed below:

<b>Master in Creativity and Innovation</b>	<b>PG Diploma in Creativity and Innovation</b>
Ms Vanessa Borg	Mr Beppe Coleiro
Mr Andrew Buttigieg	Mr Sagar Dave
Ms Christine Cutajar	Mr Kyle Magri
Mr Stephen Ebejer	Mr Nitten Nair
Ms Anna Galea	Ms Olwyn Saliba
Ms Aneliya Lachkova	Ms Stephanie Seychell
Ms Josianne Micallef	Mr Mark Strijbosch
Mr Jesmond Mizzi	
Ms Michaela Reiter	
Ms Shruthi Thomas	
Mr Jeroen Pieters	
Ms Lara Tedesco	
Ms Leanne Vella	
Mr Xavier Zammit	

## 6. DISSERTATIONS

The following table provides details about the dissertations of students who graduated with the degree of Master in Creativity and Innovation on 18 November 2013:

Name of Student	Dissertation Title	Supervisor and Examiners
Ms Vanessa Borg	Entrepreneurial intent and entrepreneurial identity of University of Malta students and graduates	Supervisor: Dr Leonie Baldacchino External: Prof Andy Lockett Local: Dr Margaret Mangion Local: Dr Brenda Murphy Chair: Prof Sandra Dingli
Mr Andrew Buttigieg	How is creativity perceived by comic book readers? A Maltese study	Supervisor: Dr Margaret Mangion External: Dr Robert Fisher Local: Dr Vince Briffa Local: Dr Clive Zammit Chair: Prof Sandra Dingli
Ms Christine Cutajar	Creativity and Innovation in Sustainable Craft Production	Supervisor: Dr Leonie Baldacchino External: Prof Deniz Ucbasaran Local: Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen Local: Ms Tania Farrugia Chair: Prof Sandra Dingli
Mr Stephen Ebejer	An investigation of the role of human resources management in organisational innovation: An assessment on innovative work practices	Supervisor: Prof Godfrey Baldacchino External: Dr Malcolm Goodman Local: Dr Vincent Cassar Local: Dr Margaret Mangion Chair: Prof Sandra Dingli
Ms Anna Galea	The creative process in the art of painting	Supervisor: Prof Kenneth Wain External: Prof Anna Craft Local: Dr Leonie Baldacchino Local: Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen Chair: Prof Sandra Dingli
Ms Aneliya Lachkova	The influence of organisational culture and climate on idea management systems in the banking sector in Malta	Supervisor: Prof Sandra Dingli External: Prof Sotirios Paroutis Local: Dr Leonie Baldacchino Local: Ms Claire Briffa Chair: Dr Brenda Murphy



Ms Josianne Micallef	Analysing the relationship between innovation and destination branding. Malta and Singapore: A case study	Supervisor: Dr Brenda Murphy External: Dr Giovanni Lunghi Local: Mr Alfred Quintano Local: Ms Claire Briffa Chair: Prof Sandra Dingli
Mr Jesmond Mizzi	The place counts! Organisational realities and team innovation in software development environments	Supervisor: Dr Vincent Cassar External: Mr Malcolm Goodman Local: Dr Margaret Mangion Local: Prof Gordon Pace Chair: Prof Sandra Dingli
Ms Michaela Reiter	The impact of active trust building on creative performance of work groups: An exploratory study	Supervisor: Dr Leonie Baldacchino External: Prof Deniz Ucbasaran Local: Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen Local: Dr Brenda Murphy Chair: Prof Sandra Dingli
Ms Shruthi Thomas	Creativity training applicability in the Indian context	Supervisor: Dr Margaret Mangion External: Prof Shameem Galea Local: Prof Mark A. Falzon Local: Dr Vincent Cassar Chair: Prof Sandra Dingli
Mr Jeroen Pieters	Entrepreneurial mind-sets among higher education students: The case of the University of Malta	Supervisor: Dr Vincent Cassar External: Prof Andy Lockett Local: Dr Leonie Baldacchino Local: Ms Tania Farrugia Chair: Prof Sandra Dingli
Ms Lara Tedesco	The role of creativity in management: A comparison of two Maltese industries	Supervisor: Dr Margaret Mangion External: Prof Sotirios Paroutis Local: Dr Leonie Baldacchino Local: Dr Brenda Murphy Chair: Prof Sandra Dingli
Ms Leanne Vella	The relationship between competitive sports and entrepreneurship: An exploratory study	Supervisor: Dr Leonie Baldacchino External: Prof Andy Lockett Local: Dr Vincent Cassar Local: Ms Tania Farrugia Chair: Prof Sandra Dingli
Mr Xavier Zammit	Analysing Facebook advertising variables through clicks	Supervisor: Dr Brenda Murphy External: Prof Carole Brooke Local: Dr Vincent Cassar Local: Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen Chair: Prof Sandra Dingli

## 7. PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS OVERSEAS

The Edward de Bono Institute's academic members of staff participated in a wide range of conferences and events outside the Maltese Islands during the academic year 2013-2014. These are summarised below.

### **07 – 09 November 2013: International Conference on Habits of Mind (University Putra, Malaysia)**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli delivered a keynote presentation entitled 'Skills for the Future' and conducted an interactive workshop on the same topic. This conference was organised by University Putra, Malaysia.

### **20 – 27 January 2014: Research Visit (Warwick Business School, UK)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino visited Warwick Business School, where she holds the post of Associate Fellow, to carry out research and discuss ongoing projects and co-authored publications with Professor Deniz Ucbasaran and Professor Andy Lockett, both of whom form part of Warwick Business School's Entrepreneurship and Innovation Group.

### **23 – 26 February 2014: Partners' Meeting (University of Potsdam, Germany)**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli and Dr Leonie Baldacchino participated in a partners' meeting at the University of Potsdam to discuss the Joint MSc in Strategic Innovation and Future Creation that the Edward de Bono Institute was planning to offer in collaboration with the University of Potsdam and the University of Turku. During this meeting, Professor Dingli and Dr Baldacchino also visited the 'Hasso-Plattner Institut' School of Design Thinking that forms part of the University of Potsdam.



### **26 February 2014: Collaboration Meeting (Business School Berlin Potsdam, Germany)**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli and Dr Leonie Baldacchino attended a meeting with Dr Andreas Braun (and others) at Business School Berlin Potsdam to discuss opportunities for collaboration, including student and staff exchange programmes.

### **17 – 20 March 2014: Global Entrepreneurship Congress (Moscow, Russia)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino attended the Global Entrepreneurship Congress (GEC), which is an interdisciplinary gathering of startup champions from 150 countries around the world. Now in its sixth year, the GEC contributes to the expansion of a global entrepreneurial ecosystem by bringing together the National Hosts of Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW), which is celebrated every year in November by millions of enterprising individuals around the world. Since its inception in 2008, The Edward de Bono Institute has been the National Host for GEW in Malta, as will be explained later in this report. At the GEC, Dr Baldacchino discussed the Maltese campaign with the other GEW hosts, celebrated best practice in promoting entrepreneurship, and shared ideas for advancing the GEW campaign in 2014.



### **14-15 May 2014: National Inclusive Entrepreneurship Programmes Seminar (OECD, Brussels)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino and Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen were invited to co-author Malta's country notes for the second and third editions of the OECD's annual report on inclusive entrepreneurship (see publications list below). They were asked to participate in this seminar which brought together local experts from a variety of European countries to exchange experiences regarding national programmes that support inclusive entrepreneurship. This seminar was co-organised by the European Commission and the OECD LEED Programme.



**08 – 11 June 2014: XXV ISPIM Conference, Innovation for Sustainable Economy and Society, (Dublin, Ireland)**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli delivered a presentation on 'Innovation Audits', as an example of excellence in teaching innovation at the University of Malta, in a session entitled Open Innovation Teaching Practice – Market Square.

**09 – 12 June: Research Visit (University of Exeter, UK)**

Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen visited the University of Exeter, where she is currently reading for her PhD. During this visit, Ms Pulis Xerxen attended the Organisation Studies Annual PGR Conference where she delivered a presentation on her PhD research entitled 'Exploring Organisational Life in a Maltese State School: Tracing a Culture'. She also attended presentations and workshop by Professor Mats Alvesson entitled 'The Triumph of Emptiness', 'Research and Roi-search' and 'A Workshop on Qualitative Research'.

**12 June 2014: Open Innovation 2.0 Conference (Dublin, Ireland)**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli attended this conference organised by The European Commission, Open Innovation Strategy and Policy Group (OISPG), Intel Labs Europe, and Dublin City Council.

**12 – 13 June 2014: OI NET Project Meeting (Dublin, Ireland)**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli participated in a project meeting for OI Net (Erasmus Network) coordinated by University of Lappeenranta, Finland.

**15 – 18 June 2014: Interchangeability Conference – Inspiring Innovation, Driving Change (Chesham, Bucks, England)**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli delivered an interactive workshop on 'The Future of School Transport' utilizing Foresight Methods.

**09 – 14 July 2014: ThinkCIQ Conference (Bangalore, India)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino delivered a keynote presentation on 'The A to Z of Thinking', chaired a panel discussion on entrepreneurship, participated in a panel discussion on creativity, and delivered a closing address at this conference, which aimed at enabling educators in India to nurture creative and entrepreneurial thinking among their students.





### **01 – 05 August 2014: Academy of Management Annual Meeting (Philadelphia, USA)**

The Academy of Management Annual Meeting is the premier conference for more than 10,000 students, academics, scholars, and professionals in the scholarly management and organization space. Dr Leonie Baldacchino attended this conference in August 2014, where she chaired a session entitled 'Opportunities and Cognition: Cognitive Factors in Opportunity Creation and Identification'. She also presented two papers, one entitled 'Experience and Opportunity Identification: The Role of Intuition and Cognitive Versatility', and the other entitled 'Capturing Entrepreneurial Intuition: A Multi-Method Approach'.

## **8. PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS IN MALTA**

In addition to the conferences and meetings attended overseas, The Edward de Bono Institute's academic members of staff participated in various events and activities in Malta during the academic year 2013-2014. These are summarised below.

### **10 October 2013: Creative Thinking Workshop (University of Malta)**

Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen delivered a workshop on Creative Thinking to approximately 40 teachers from European schools as part of their Comenius training. This was coordinated locally by Ms Tania Farrugia.



### **31 October 2013: Research and Innovation Seminar (Waterfront Hotel)**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli attended this seminar on Research and Innovation, which was organised by MEUSAC.

### **02 November 2013: Creative Thinking Workshop (Fortina Hotel, Sliema)**

Dr Margaret Mangion delivered a workshop on creative thinking methods to a group of teachers from a school for adult education in Nesodden Introsenteret near Oslo, Norway.

**05 November 2013: Lecture on Creative Thinking (Mater Dei Hospital)**

Dr Margaret Mangion delivered an introduction to creative thinking to all resident physiotherapists at Mater Dei Hospital as part of their continuous development programme.

**05 November 2013: Presentation on Blended Learning (University of Malta)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino delivered a presentation on the 'blended learning' delivery of the MSc in Strategic Innovation and Future Creation. This presentation was attended by a delegation from the Open University (UK) and members of the University of Malta's Distance and E-Learning Committee.

**10 November 2013: Discover University Family Day (University of Malta)**

Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen coordinated the Edward de Bono Institute's participation in the Discover University Family Day. Together with the Institute's Master students, Ms Pulis Xerxen organised several activities which encouraged visitors of all ages to develop their 'everyday creativity' and creative thinking skills. The activities took place throughout the whole day and visitors could participate at any time.



### **16 – 22 November 2013: Global Entrepreneurship Week (University of Malta and elsewhere)**

During the month of November, millions of young people around the world celebrate Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW). This event is designed to connect aspiring and inspiring entrepreneurs, helping them embrace originality, imagination and ingenuity through local and global activities. Since GEW's inception in 2008, The Edward de Bono Institute has proudly been the official National Host for this event in Malta, and has collaborated with various partner organisations to put together exciting programmes of activities to join this global celebration of entrepreneurship. In November 2013, over 1,000 people participated in seven events in Malta. These are summarised below.

### **16 November 2013: Malta NEXT Finals and Tech Open Coffee Meetup (Smart City)**

This event concluded the Startup Weekend NEXT training and coaching programme for budding entrepreneurs that was delivered by SmartCity Malta and the Startup Foundation throughout the previous weeks. During the Final Presentations, a number of aspiring entrepreneurs presented the outcomes of their work, and the invited panel of judges chose the most promising project. Following the presentations, the Tech Open Coffee Meetup kicked off, where a number of invited directors of foreign venture capital funds (operating in Europe and the Middle East) introduced the latest trends in their field. This event provided an excellent opportunity for startup teams and individuals to meet, network and build prospects for future collaboration with well-versed equity funding providers, other local entrepreneurs and startup supporters.

### **18 November 2013: Book Launch – ‘Fostering Entrepreneurship Education: A Handbook for Teachers’ (St. Nicholas College, Attard Primary School)**

This event officially launched a new handbook for school teachers, aimed at enabling them to foster a culture of entrepreneurship through their teaching. This handbook, which was co-authored by Dr Leonie Baldacchino and Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen, consists of almost 200 suggestions, activities and strategies for infusing entrepreneurship across the curriculum at all levels of compulsory education. The launch was attended by Hon. Dr Chris Cardona (Minister for the Economy, Investment and Small Business), Hon. Dr Evarist Bartolo (Minister for Education and Employment), and Hon. Dr Edward Zammit Lewis (then Parliamentary Secretary for Competitiveness and Economic Growth), all of whom spoke about the importance of fostering entrepreneurship through education. The publication of this Handbook was partly funded by the Malta National Enterprise Support Awards (NESA) upon an initiative of St. Nicholas College in collaboration with The Edward de Bono Institute.





**19 November 2013: Crafts Fair (University of Malta)**

During this crafts fair, a number of artisan entrepreneurs displayed and sold their unique hand-made crafts. This crafts fair was an initiative of the University of Malta Cottonera Resource Centre in collaboration with The Edward de Bono Institute.



**20 November 2013: The JCI Best Business Plan Competition (The Palace Hotel, Sliema)**

The JCI BBP Competition aims at fostering an entrepreneurial spirit among JCI members and the community at large. Participants were invited to develop their business ideas (either as an individual or as a group of up to four persons) and to turn them into a concrete business plan, while standing the chance of winning up to €2,500 and potential access to the necessary finance for implementing the business plan. As part of the programme, a number of training sessions were held by leading experts from various industries, and a number of one-to-one guidance sessions were provided to the participants by KPMG. The final judging of the business plans took place during the JCI BBP Awards Final Night. At this event, participants presented their business plans to a panel of judges, one of whom was Dr Leonie Baldacchino from the Edward de Bono Institute. This event was organised by JCI (Malta), in collaboration with The Edward de Bono Institute.





**20 & 21 November 2013: Malta Enterprise – Role and Activities (Malta Enterprise, Msida)**

Malta Enterprise is the national development agency responsible for promoting and facilitating international investment in the Maltese Islands by offering investors excellent business opportunities and tailored services. Malta Enterprise is also responsible for the growth and development of Maltese enterprises both locally and beyond our shores. This organisation works hand in hand with businesses to help them set up, expand, innovate and access global markets, thus sustaining economic growth and retaining and increasing employment. The aim of this event was to inform University of Malta students about the current operations of Malta Enterprise, its role and incentives to assist local businesses.



**22 November 2013: People Create – HR's Contribution to Creativity and Innovation (Intercontinental Hotel Malta)**

This half-day conference, which was organised by LEAD Events in collaboration with The Edward de Bono Institute, explored how HR can support the development of creativity and innovation in organisations.



During this conference, the following presentations and workshops were conducted by the members of staff of The Edward de Bono Institute to explore how creativity and innovation can be fostered at individual, team, organisation and industry level:

- Dr Leonie Baldacchino delivered the opening address, followed by a keynote presentation on 'Managing Human Resources for Creativity and Innovation';
- Professor Sandra M. Dingli delivered a presentation on 'Skills for the Future';
- Dr Margaret Mangion conducted a workshop entitled 'HRM, Creativity and Innovation: Where do they meet?';
- Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen conducted a workshop entitled 'You can Lead a Horse to Water: Instilling a Culture of Creativity'.



#### **06 December 2013: MEA Business Breakfast (Corinthia Hotel, San Gorg, Malta)**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli and Dr Leonie Baldacchino attended a Business Breakfast on 'SME's from Employers point of view'. This event was organised by the Malta Employers Association as part of SME Week.

#### **10 January 2014: Lecture on Entrepreneurship (Mater Dei Hospital)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino delivered a lecture and interactive workshop on entrepreneurship and opportunity identification to students reading for a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Applied Biomedical Science.

#### **30 January 2014: Lecturers' Mini-Symposium (University of Malta)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino delivered a presentation about the Edward de Bono Institute during the first lecturers' mini-symposium organised by Dr David Magri, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science.

#### **09 March 2014: The Million \$ Idea (Microsoft Innovation Centre)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino formed part of the judging panel for this business idea competition, organised by the University of Malta's ICT Student Association.

#### **27 March 2014: Meeting re Malta Enterprise's Business First (University of Malta)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino held a consultation meeting with Mr Clayton Mercieca and Ms Marica Tonna, Consultants with the Management Efficiency Unit of the Office of the Prime Minister, who were appointed by the Chair of Malta Enterprise to carry out a review of Business First and provide recommendations on how it can improve its service.

**27 March 2014: JCI Workshop on Writing and Pitching a Successful Business Plan (MISCO)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino conducted a workshop on how to write and pitch a successful business plan as part of the training programme offered by Malta Junior Chamber International to all those who participate in its Best Business Plan Competition.

**03 April 2014: Workshop on 'Developing Creative Thinking Skills' (University of Malta)**

Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen conducted a workshop for an Indian student delegation, accompanied by their teachers and school principals, as part of a visit organised by the University of Malta and the High Commission of Malta to India.

**04 April 2014: Presentation on 'How to be an Expert Entrepreneur' (Smart City)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino delivered this presentation during the opening night of Malta Startup Weekend. As the name implies, this event takes place over a weekend and brings together aspiring entrepreneurs who work in teams under the supervision of experienced mentors to explore how they can turn their startup ideas into reality.

**09 April 2014: Meeting with Agenzija Zghazagh (University of Malta)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino, Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen and four of the Institute's Master students held a meeting with Ms Miriam Teuma and Mr Jason Zammit from Agenzija Zaghazagh. The aim of this meeting was to discuss the implementation of an eco-innovation project that the students submitted as an assignment for one of their study-units.

**11 April 2014: TAP Knowledge B2B Networking Event (Hotel Intercontinental)**

Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen participated in this networking event, aimed at discussing Malta's strategic opportunity to act as a bridge between the EU and North Africa to address green issues, IT Security, trade development and business exchange, whilst simultaneously supporting SMEs and Startups.

**11 April 2014: Presentation on 'Developing Entrepreneurial Leaders' (Le Meridien, St. Julians)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino delivered this presentation during the Malta AIESEC Youth to Business Forum. This event took place in multiple locations around the world, bringing top young leaders together with business leaders, thought leaders, and experts with the aim of generating new ideas to that will impact the world and its future.





### 15 April 2014: Discover University Preparation Meeting (University of Malta)

Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen attended a meeting with Ms Patricia Camilleri and her team to discuss the Edward de Bono Institute's participation in Discover University 2014.

### 15 – 21 April 2014: World Creativity and Innovation Week (Facebook)

The Edward de Bono Institute led Malta's participation in celebrating World Creativity and Innovation Week (WCIW), which was first launched in 2001 and is now celebrated in over 50 countries. The purpose behind WCIW is to inspire new thinking, to encourage individuals to use their creativity, and to get people to embrace a culture of creativity and innovation. As part of the WCIW celebrations in Malta, The Edward de Bono Institute launched an initiative entitled 'Become More Creative in One Week'. The initiative, which was the brainchild of two of the Institute's Master students, involved a new challenge every day during WCIW, such as exploring new places, meeting new people, setting new goals and coming up with new ideas. Participants were then invited to share their experiences on the new Institute Facebook page, entitled 'Discover The Edward de Bono Institute' ([www.facebook.com/IoTM.uom](http://www.facebook.com/IoTM.uom)), which was launched to coincide with WCIW.



### 24 April, 2014: JCI Workshop on Developing a Marketing Plan (Microsoft Innovation Centre)

Dr Margaret Mangion delivered a workshop on how to prepare a Marketing Plan as part of the training programme offered by Malta Junior Chamber International to all those who participate in its Best Business Plan Competition.

### 03 May 2014: Lunch Meeting with Indian Delegation (Radisson Golden Sands)

Dr Leonie Baldacchino and Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen attended a lunch meeting held in honour of a delegation of students, teachers and school principals from India. The lunch was attended by HE Mr Trigunayat, High Commissioner of India to Malta and HC Mr Cuschieri, Honorary Consul of India in Malta.

### 07 May 2014: Global Entrepreneurship Week 2014 Preparation Meetings (University of Malta)

Dr Leonie Baldacchino held meetings with the following stakeholders to discuss plans for Global Entrepreneurship Week 2014: Dr Roberto Carella – Visiting Lecturer at the Institute for Tourism, Travel and Culture, University of Malta; Dr Joseph Agius – a Speech-Language Pathologist and a Visiting Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Malta; and Dr Ing Brian Azzopardi – Senior Lecturer II at the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology (MCAST).

**13 May 2014: Collaboration Meeting (Deloitte Malta)**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli and Dr Leonie Baldacchino met with Ms Cathy Peric and Ms Caroline Cassar Reynaud to discuss avenues for collaboration between the Edward de Bono Institute and Deloitte Malta regarding the promotion of innovation and entrepreneurship.

**21 May 2014: Lecture and Interactive Workshop on 'Fostering Entrepreneurship Through Education' (University of Malta)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino delivered this lecture and interactive workshop to students reading for a Master in Nutrition, Family and Consumer Studies.

**03 June 2014: Meeting re MUZA (University of Malta)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino met with Mr Sandro Debono, Heritage Malta's Senior Curator at the National Museum of Fine Arts and Project lead for MUZA, the new National Museum of Fine Arts project for Valletta's European Capital of Culture title 2018, to discuss possible areas for collaboration.

**03 June 2014: Seminar on Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development using the Lean Startup Methodology (Takeoff Business Incubator, University of Malta)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino attended this seminar delivered by Ms Mary Raber, Professor of Practice and Associate Director for the Institute for Leadership and Innovation at Michigan Technological University. After the seminar Dr Baldacchino discussed mutual topics of interest and possible areas for collaboration with Ms Raber.

**20 June 2014: Panel Discussion Moderation - The proposed National Employment Policy from the Employer's Point of View (Bank of Valletta Head Office, St Venera)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino moderated this panel discussion during a seminar by the Malta Association of Women in Business entitled 'Embracing Changes and Challenges in New Business Practices'. Members of the panel included Mr Mario Duca from the Malta Association of Family Enterprises, Mr Joseph Farrugia from the Malta Employers Association, Ms Doris Sammut Bonnici from the Malta Association of Women in Business, Ms Mary Gaerty from the National Council of Women, Ms Joan Haber from the General Retailers and Traders Union, and Ms Lorraine Spiteri from the Malta Confederation of Women's Organisations.

**30 June 2014: Meeting on Fostering Entrepreneurship Through Education in Gozo (University of Malta)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino and Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen met with Ms Silvana Sultana from the MGOZ-Eco Gozo, Directorate for EcoGozo Regional Development. They discussed strategies that Ms Sultana could adopt together with her colleagues to foster entrepreneurship through education in Gozo via the ecoGozo strategy.

**01 – 02 July 2014: Workshops on Creativity (University of Malta)**

Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen conducted workshops on creativity to a group of visiting students from AIESEC international who were in Malta for a six-week internship

**June – July 2014: Mentoring Sessions (University of Malta)**

Dr Margaret Mangion conducted a series of meetings and mentoring sessions as part of The MITA Challenge, a competition for sixth form and university students. The sessions involved the practical use of creative thinking methods to assist the students in the planning and execution of a mobile app for the Majjistral Park.

**04 August 2014: Workshops on Creativity (TG Complex, Imrieħel)**

Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen delivered two workshops on creativity for 30 undergraduate students from France who were in Malta on an English Language course.

**04 – 05 September 2014: Dialogue in the Med: exploring identity through networks (University of Malta, Valletta Campus)**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli attended this conference which was held as part of the First Annual Valletta 2018 Conference on Cultural Relations in Europe and the Mediterranean, organised by V.18 Valletta City of Culture.

**9. VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS**

The Edward de Bono Institute welcomed several visitors from overseas during the academic year 2013-2014. These are outlined below.

**07 February 2014: Visitors from Kazan Federal University, Russia**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli and Dr. Leonie Baldacchino met with Professor Tatiana Palei and her colleagues from Kazan Federal University in Russia, to discuss potential areas for collaboration.



**06 March 2014: Visit by former Director of CISCO Research Center, California**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino, Dr Margaret Mangion and Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen met with Dr Stephen Fraser, former Director of CISCO Research Center in California and Visiting Scientist at Carnegie Mellon University's Software Engineering Institute in Pittsburgh. They shared experiences regarding research and innovation programmes and discussed possible avenues for collaboration.

**08 April 2014: Visit by the Author of 'How to Read an Island'**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino met with Mr Christian Pleijel, Senior Advisor at SWECO Transportsystem AB in Sweden, to discuss his forthcoming publication entitled 'How to Read an Island'. In this book, Mr Pleijel applies Edward de Bono's Six Thinking Hats technique to the study of small islands in Europe.

**25 April 2014: Visitor from University Jaume (Castellón, Spain)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino met with Professor of Management and Organizations Ricardo Chiva to discuss potential avenues for collaboration. Professor Chiva was subsequently engaged as a non-visiting external examiner for dissertations submitted by the Institute's Master students.

**7 May 2014: Visitor from George Mason University (Virginia, USA)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino met with Professor John Dale, Graduate Program Director and Associate Professor of Sociology at George Mason University to discuss possible areas for collaboration.

**21 May 2014: Visitors from the European Training Foundation**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli, Dr Leonie Baldacchino and Dr Margaret Mangion met with a delegation from the European Training Foundation to share experiences related to Foresight and Innovation. Dr Baldacchino presented an overview of the Institute's courses and activities, after which the delegation engaged in a discussion with the Institute's staff concerning topics of mutual interest. This visit was coordinated by Dr Jennifer Cassingena Harper.

**23 September 2014: Visitor from the AIS New South Wales (Australia)**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli, Dr Leonie Baldacchino, Dr Margaret Mangion and Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen held a meeting with Ms Kelly Borg, an Education Consultant on Primary Curricula at the Association of Independent Schools in New South Wales, Australia. Dr Baldacchino presented an overview of the Institute's courses and activities, after which all the members of staff shared their experience and best practice with Ms Borg regarding the teaching of thinking and creativity.

**10. 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 2013-2014, the members of staff organised a number of off-campus sessions and invited several guest speakers, as outlined below.

**16 October 2013: Guest Speaker on the Evolution of Innovation (University of Malta)**

Dr Vincent Cassar (who delivered a study-unit on leadership and innovation to the Institute's Master students in 2013-2014) invited Mr Joe Woods, a freelance speaker on innovation, to deliver a presentation on the evolution of innovation from the Renaissance period to contemporary times and the role of leading the innovation process.

**06 November 2013: Guest Speaker on the Role of Leadership in Maltese Organisations (University of Malta)**

Dr Vincent Cassar invited Mr Jesmond Mizzi, HR Manager at MITA, to deliver a presentation to the Institute's Master students on the role of leadership in Maltese organizations in view of their need to innovate within the EU realities.

**14 November 2013: Guest Speaker on Creative Industries (University of Malta)**

Dr Margaret Mangion invited Mr Toni Attard, Creative Economy Advisor at the Ministry of Finance, to give students an overview of the creative industries in Malta and Europe.



**20 November 2013: Guest Speaker on the Impact of Leadership on Innovative Competitiveness (University of Malta)**

Dr Vincent Cassar invited Mr Joe Azzopardi, a Consultant with the Boston Consulting Group (US), to deliver a presentation to the Institute's Master students about his consulting experience with cutting edge industries and the impact of their leadership on their innovative competitiveness.

**27 November 2013: Guest Speaker on Multiculturalism and Leadership (University of Malta)**

Dr Vincent Cassar invited Professor David Dingli from Maastricht School of Management, to deliver a presentation on multiculturalism, leadership and the acceptance of innovation.

**03 December 2013: Visit to Uniblu (Bkara)**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli accompanied the Institute's Master Students on a visit to Uniblu, to observe and assess the level of Innovation in the organisation (Uniblu is an international IT organisation based in Malta).

**16 December 2013: Lecture by Professor Edward de Bono (University of Malta)**

Professor Edward de Bono delivered a lecture to the Institute's Master students and some guests. Following the session, Professor de Bono was pleased to take some interesting questions from the audience. He then met with the students and discussed their research interests.



**16 January 2014: Guest Speaker on Financial Planning (University of Malta)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino invited Mr Robert Delia, freelance consultant and trainer and HR Manager at MITA, to deliver a presentation to the Institute's Master students on financial planning.

**16 January 2014: Guest Speaker on BoV Startup Funds (University of Malta)**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino invited Ms Solange Mifsud, EU Funding Specialist at Bank of Valletta, to deliver a presentation on the startup funding options offered by this bank.

**17 – 21 February 2014: Visiting Lecturer from Coventry University (UK)**

Dr Elizabeth Miles, Senior Lecturer in Industrial Product Management at Coventry University (UK), delivered a study-unit entitled 'Entrepreneurship and Innovation' as part of the Institute's Master in Creativity and Innovation. This was an intensive study-unit delivered over five consecutive days.

**06 March 2014: Guest Speaker on Creativity in the Media (University of Malta)**

Dr Brenda Murphy (who delivers a study-unit on creativity in the media to the Institute's Master students) invited Mr Ed Ward from Ogilvy Advertising to deliver a presentation on creativity in branding and advertising.

**13 March 2014: Visit to JP Advertising (Ta' Xbiex)**

Dr Margaret Mangion accompanied the Institute's Master Students on a visit to JP Advertising where they discussed real life marketing campaigns and learned how to address the client's needs when developing a marketing plan.



**13 March 2014: Guest Speaker on Creativity in Journalism (University of Malta)**

Dr Brenda Murphy invited journalist Raphael Vassallo to deliver a presentation on Creativity in Journalism to the Institute's Master students.



**27 March 2014: Guest Speaker on Creativity in Film (University of Malta)**

Dr Brenda Murphy invited Mr Pierre Ellul, TV and film director and producer, to deliver a presentation on Creativity and Innovation in Film to the Institute's Master students.



**10 April 2014: Guest Speaker on Market Segmentation (University of Malta)**

Dr Margaret Mangion invited the digital marketing manager of GO plc to discuss issues related to market segmentation with the Institute's Master students by highlighting the processes behind major campaigns conducted by GO plc.

**7 May 2014: Guest Speaker on Foresight Methodologies (University of Malta)**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli invited Dr Jennifer Casingena Harper, Policy Consultant at MCST, to share her experience of using Foresight Methodologies with the Institute's Master students.

### **May 2014: Visit to MITA Innovation Hub (Smart City)**

Dr Vincent Cassar (who delivered a study-unit on Creativity, Innovation and New Digital Technologies offered by the Institute to undergraduate students in 2013-2014) organised a site visit to the MITA Innovation Hub at Smart City. The Innovation Hub manager Mr Alex Borg delivered a detailed presentation related to the study-unit's subject matter.

## **11. STAFF PUBLICATIONS AND ACADEMIC REVIEWING**

### **Publications**

Baldacchino, L. & Pulis Xerxen, S. (2013). *Fostering entrepreneurship through education: A handbook for teachers*. St. Nicholas College.

Baldacchino, L. & Pulis-Xerxen, S. (forthcoming). Malta Country Notes: The 'Hands On' Project. In *The Missing Entrepreneurs: Policies for Inclusive Entrepreneurship in Europe (Second OECD-EC Annual Report on Inclusive Entrepreneurship)*. OECD Publishing.

Baldacchino, L. & Pulis-Xerxen, S. (forthcoming). Malta Country Notes: The 'My Wow' Project. In *The Missing Entrepreneurs: Policies for Inclusive Entrepreneurship in Europe (Third OECD-EC Annual Report on Inclusive Entrepreneurship)*. OECD Publishing.

Baldacchino, L., Ucbasaran, D., Lockett, A. & Cabantous, L. (2014). Capturing intuition through concurrent protocol analysis. In Sinclair, M. (Ed). *Handbook of research methods on intuition*. MA: Edward Elgar.

Dingli, S. M. (2013). Wittgenstein and Philosophical Quietism. In J. Buttigieg, J. P. De Lucca & C. Mangion (Eds.) *A Philosopher at large*. Malta: BDL Publishing.

Ucbasaran, D., Baldacchino, L. & Lockett, A. (2014). Do it again! Recent developments in the study of habitual entrepreneurship and a look to the future. In F. Welter & T. Baker (Eds). *Routledge Companion to Entrepreneurship*.

### **Academic Reviewing**

During the academic year 2013-2014, Dr Leonie Baldacchino carried out academic reviews for the International Journal of Management Reviews (UK), the Journal of Management Studies (UK), Aalborg University Press (Denmark) and for the Academy of Management Annual Meeting (USA).

## 12. EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS

The Edward de Bono Institute participated in a number of externally funded projects in collaboration with other institutions, both locally and overseas.

### The 'My Wow' (World of Work) Project

Dr Leonie Baldacchino and Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen designed and delivered two tailor-made training programmes in entrepreneurship skills, one for students and the other for educators at St. Ignatius College Boys' Secondary School (Ħandaq, Malta). The students targeted by this project were mainly 13-year-old boys attending Form 2 / Year 8, many of whom had a history of low academic achievement and may have therefore been at risk of exclusion from employment and entrepreneurship opportunities later on in life. The aim of this project was to develop entrepreneurial skills and mindsets which are of value not only to start up a business, but also to build the confidence and basic skills necessary to enhance employment prospects. The project also involved the setting up of a school-based 'mini-enterprise' where participants designed, crafted and sold a variety of hand-made greeting cards.



The 'My WoW' project was funded by the 'Entrepreneurship through Education Scheme 2013', offered by the Ministry of Finance, the Economy and Investment, together with the Ministry of Education and Employment.

### Fostering Entrepreneurship Through Education

Dr Leonie Baldacchino and Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen delivered a series of training sessions on the use of the co-authored publication entitled 'Fostering Education Through Entrepreneurship: A Handbook for Teachers'. The participants included educators from all school sectors in Malta. The Handbook and training sessions were partly funded by the Malta National Enterprise Support Awards (NESA) upon an initiative of St. Nicholas College in collaboration with The Edward de Bono Institute.

### **OI NET Erasmus Network**

In October 2013, The Edward de Bono Institute joined OI NET, European Network for Open Innovation, a Lifelong Learning Project funded by the European Union, as a partner. The three-year project, with a total value of nearly 900,000 Euros, is being coordinated by Lappeenranta University of Technology (LUT), Finland, a university that has been pioneering open innovation research in Finland for around fourteen years. OI-NET brings together 52 HE and non-HE institutions, including public bodies, enterprises and associations, all active in innovation management, either through teaching and research or through practice, consulting and training. On conclusion of the project, the platform with open source materials will be hosted by LUT together with project partners identified for this task during the project, and updates will be conducted on a regular basis via contacts with network members. Professor Sandra M. Dingli is representing the Edward de Bono Institute in this project, as part of which she has attended a number of events as outlined earlier in this report.

### **'Best practices in teaching entrepreneurship and creating entrepreneurial ecosystems in Europe' Erasmus+ Project**

In June 2014, The Edward de Bono Institute was informed that an Erasmus+ project proposal in which it was involved as a partner was approved for funding. This project, which shall be coordinated by Poland's Global Entrepreneurship Week Foundation, aims to provide examples of best practice about teaching entrepreneurship to school children and youths and about the best ways to foster relations between different actors (schools, universities, NGOs, government, and entrepreneurs) to create a more entrepreneurship-friendly ecosystem. Furthermore, it aims to share this knowledge with teachers, trainers, city and government officials, public institutions and organizations working with children and youths, by preparing an internet publication and by organizing a series of seminars and workshops in the participating countries, and an international conference in Poland. The Institute will be represented in this project by Dr Leonie Baldacchino and Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen.

## **13. OTHER ACTIVITIES**

### **The Edward de Bono Institute Research Ethics Committee**

On 05 February 2014, the Board of the Institute approved the setting up of a Research Ethics Committee at the Edward de Bono Institute in order to expedite the process of screening students' research ethics proposals. It was agreed that research proposals involving vulnerable participants or sensitive data would be forwarded to the University Research Ethics Committee, but all other proposals would be reviewed and approved at Institute level. This Institute Research Ethics Committee was approved by Senate at its meeting of 30 April 2014. Dr Leonie Baldacchino was appointed Chair of this committee, Professor Sandra M. Dingli and Dr Margaret Mangion were appointed Members, while Ms Josianne Sciberras was appointed Secretary.

**Degree Plus: Entrepreneurship**

Dr Leonie Baldacchino coordinates the Entrepreneurship stream on the DegreePlus programme at University of Malta. This interactive programme is designed to raise awareness about entrepreneurship through the sharing of experiences of various guest speakers, without the pressure of examinations or assignments at the end. It aims to inspire students to pursue their entrepreneurial aspirations and to develop the mindset necessary to meet the increasingly challenging demands of organisational life.

**Local Curriculum Development Experts on Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship**

In August 2014, Dr Margaret Mangion and Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen were engaged as Local Curriculum Development Experts on Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship regarding the Learning Outcomes as outlined in the National Curriculum Framework. The work is expected to be carried out between 2014 and 2015.

**Membership on other Boards and Committees**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli is the Director or a Committee Member of Rotary Club La Valette Malta, JA-YE Malta Foundation (Junior Achievement-Young Enterprise Malta Foundation), and Philosophy Sharing Malta.

Dr Leonie Baldacchino is a Board Member of Agenzija Zghazagh, Centre for Entrepreneurship and Business Incubation (University of Malta), and Cottonera Resource Centre (University of Malta).



## Appendix: Press Coverage

The Malta Independent on Tuesday 19 November 2013

# Book on fostering entrepreneurship through education launched

● Initiative will help educators plant seeds of entrepreneurship into our children

Parliamentary Secretary Edward Zammit Lewis yesterday said the government is supporting start-ups leading to the creation of economic growth and quality jobs.

He was speaking during the launch of a handbook for teachers entitled *Fostering entrepreneurship through education*.

The book, developed locally by St Nicholas College in collaboration with The Edward de Bono Institute for the

Design and Development of Thinking, University of Malta focuses on entrepreneurship education across the curriculum. The book which is the first of its kind for Malta is also based in line with the principles of the National Curriculum Framework.

Dr Zammit Lewis explained that such initiatives are very important towards instilling an entrepreneurship mindset in our children and youths.

"We have to support entrepreneurship and innovation through a holistic approach; the problem faced by a large number of youths is that after ending their tertiary education, they end up in a situation where they have poor communication skills, very limited or no work experience whatsoever and have a limited idea of entrepreneurship.

"We have the thinking tools available, this initiative will help educators plant seeds of entrepreneurship into our children, which will foster into innovative initiatives," he said.

This initiative was the result of an award-winning project in the National Enterprise Support Award (NESA), in which St Nicholas College was classified in second place in Malta for its quality of entrepreneurship projects.

Dr Zammit Lewis congratulated the college and the Edward de Bono Institute for their hard work.



Edward Zammit Lewis





National Hosts of Global Entrepreneurship Week from 150 countries

## The University of Malta's Edward de Bono Institute at the Global Entrepreneurship Congress

Between Monday 17 and Thursday 20 March, business leaders from 150 countries gathered in Moscow, Russia, for the Global Entrepreneurship Congress (GEC) 2014. The GEC is an interdisciplinary gathering of start-up champions from around the world, where entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, thought leaders and policymakers work together to help bring ideas to life, drive economic growth and expand human welfare. Now in its sixth year, the GEC contributes to the expansion of a global entrepreneurial ecosystem by bringing together the National Hosts of Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW), which is celebrated every year in November by millions of enterprising individuals around the world.

Malta was represented at the GEC by Dr Leonie Baldacchino, Director of The Edward de Bono Institute for the Design and Development of Thinking at the University of Malta, which has been the National Host for GEW since its inception in 2008. Each year, the Institute collaborates with various partner organisations to hold a programme of events to promote entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation. In November 2013, over 1,000

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**The GEC is an interdisciplinary gathering of start-up champions from around the world, where entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, thought leaders and policymakers work together to help bring ideas to life, drive economic growth and expand human welfare**

”

people participated in seven events in Malta, including the launch of a handbook on entrepreneurship education, co-authored by Dr Baldacchino and her colleague Ms Shirley Pulis Xerxen, and published by St

Nicholas College in collaboration with The Edward de Bono Institute; the Malta Start-up Weekend finals; a crafts fair on Campus; the Junior Chamber International Best Business Plan Competition finals; two visits to Malta Enterprise for University of Malta students; and the LEAD Events Conference entitled 'People Create: HR's Contribution to Creativity and Innovation'. Dr Baldacchino discussed the Maltese campaign with the other GEW hosts, celebrated best practice in promoting entrepreneurship, and shared ideas for advancing the GEW campaign in 2014 and beyond.

Preparations are now underway to plan for this year's Global Entrepreneurship Week, which will be held from 17-23 November 2014. The Edward de Bono Institute at the University of Malta, which holds a wide range of courses and events on creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship and foresight ([www.um.edu.mt/create](http://www.um.edu.mt/create)), would like to invite interested parties to join the Maltese GEW campaign, either as official partner organisations or as individual participants. For more information about how to get involved, please email Dr Baldacchino on [leonie.baldacchino@um.edu.mt](mailto:leonie.baldacchino@um.edu.mt).

## A week to be more creative

As part of World Creativity and Innovation Week (WCIW), which is being held between Tuesday and April 21 in over 50 countries including Malta, the University's Edward de Bono Institute for the Design and Development of Thinking is launching an initiative entitled Become More Creative in One Week.

The initiative involves a new challenge every day during the week, such as exploring new places, meeting new people, setting new goals and coming up with new ideas. Participants are invited to share their experiences on the institute's new Facebook page, Discover the Edward de Bono Institute ([www.facebook.com/IoTM.uom](http://www.facebook.com/IoTM.uom)), which is being launched to coincide with WCIW.

The page seeks to be an online meeting space for people with ideas who want to meet like-minded individuals to share them with. It will also provide regular updates about the institute's courses, events and activities, which cover a range of subjects related to creativity and idea generation, innovation management, entrepreneurship and foresight.

The initiative is the brainchild of two Master's students of the institute, Petya Ivanova and Lorna Saliba.

The purpose behind WCIW, which was launched in 2001, is to inspire new thinking and encourage anyone, anywhere to use their creativity to inspire new action and to get people to embrace a culture of creativity and innovation.

[www.um.edu.mt/create](http://www.um.edu.mt/create)



# Edward de Bono Institute promotes GEC participation

Preparations are now underway to plan for this year's Global Entrepreneurship Week which will be held from November 17-23.

The Edward de Bono Institute at the University of Malta is inviting interested parties to join the Maltese GEW campaign, either as official partner organisations or as individual participants.

Malta was represented at the recent Global Entrepreneurship Congress in Moscow by Leonie Baldacchino, director of The Edward de Bono Institute for the Design and Development of

Thinking at the University of Malta, which has been the National Host for GEW since its inception in 2008.

GEC is an inter-disciplinary gathering of startup champions from around the world, where entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, thought leaders and policymakers work together to help bring ideas to life, drive economic growth and expand human welfare.

Now in its sixth year, the GEC contributes to the expansion of a global entrepreneurial

ecosystem by bringing together the National Hosts of Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW), which is celebrated every year in November by millions of enterprising individuals around the world.

Each year, the Institute collaborates with various partner organisations to hold a programme of events to promote entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation. In November 2013, over 1,000 people participated in seven events in Malta.

For more information about how to get involved, email [leonie.baldacchino@um.edu.mt](mailto:leonie.baldacchino@um.edu.mt).

# University institute joins European open innovation network

The University of Malta's Edward de Bono Institute has joined as a partner of the European Network for Open Innovation (OI Net), an EU-funded Lifelong Learning project.

The three-year project, worth a total of nearly €900,000, brings together 52 higher education and other institutions, including public bodies, enterprises and associations active in innovation management, either through teaching and research or through practice, consulting and training. The project will reach out to the business world to collect user needs and to collaborate in the development of the teaching materials and guidelines.

The teaching of open innovation is still fragmented and inconsistent. OI-Net aims to fill the gap of lack of common understanding on open innovation teaching by reinforcing up-to-date innovation education to foster European competitiveness and development. The partners in the network will draw upon their own extensive experience of teach-

ing innovation management and researching open innovation.

OI-Net partners will collaborate and share their expertise on teaching open innovation to validate their methodologies with colleagues and to collect data from the business sector regarding the demand for graduates with skills and knowledge

**"OI-Net aims to fill the gap of lack of common understanding on open innovation teaching"**

on open innovation. The Common Curricula Framework will be used in this project to allow educators to access the pool of teaching material and guidelines compiled as part of the project.

On conclusion of the project, a platform with open source materials will be hosted by project coordinator Lappeenranta University of Technology, Finland, (LUT) and other partners identified for this task during the project, and updates will be conducted on a regular basis via contacts with network members.

LUT has been pioneering open innovation research for about 14 years. In 2013, it became one of Europe's first universities to offer an Erasmus intensive course called Open Innovation Clinic, in collaboration with universities from Germany, Hungary, and Estonia, who are also part of OI-Net consortium.

The Edward de Bono Institute is involved in comparing and developing curricula and education on open innovation, and in the dissemination and exploiting the project results, which will be applied in its Master's in Creativity and Innovation.

For details e-mail: [instituteof-thinking@um.edu.mt](mailto:instituteof-thinking@um.edu.mt).  
[www.um.edu.mt/create](http://www.um.edu.mt/create)



## News

Last Updated 25 | 07 | 2014 at 09:36



### The Edward de Bono Institute joins ThinkCIQ

Article By: di-ve.com news  
editorial@di-ve.com

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Dr Leonie Baldacchino, Director of the Edward de Bono Institute for the Design and Development of Thinking at the University of Malta, recently addressed a conference in Bangalore, India, entitled "ThinkCIQ: Creativity and Intelligence Quest".

This conference, which took place over three days from Friday 11th to Sunday 13th July at the NIMHANS Convention Centre, marked the inauguration of a new initiative which aims to foster thinking and nurture talents among young people in India. "Young people are a country's greatest resource", explains Dr Baldacchino, "and each country should nurture and prepare them for the challenges and opportunities of the future. In a system that is inevitably preparing children for jobs that do not yet exist or that may be obsolete by the time they finish school, what they really need is to learn how to think, adapt, and recognise opportunities. This requires the development of creative and entrepreneurial mindsets".

Dr Baldacchino delivered a keynote speech and participated in panel discussions on thinking, creativity and entrepreneurship alongside other internationally acclaimed speakers including Dr Sumantra Chatterjee from the Centre for Brain Development and Repair in Bangalore, Professor David Yun Dai from the University at Albany, State University of New York, and Mr Peter Hall Jones from The Curriculum Foundation in the UK. In addition to the ThinkCIQ conference, which is planned to take place on an annual basis, this initiative includes a new quarterly journal and an online interactive portal where educators, parents, children and other stakeholders can share their ideas on how to foster thinking and nurture talents ([www.thinkciq.in](http://www.thinkciq.in)).

Dr Baldacchino's participation in this event was brought about through the close collaboration that the University of Malta has developed with GEAR Foundation led by Dr M Srinivasan, Chairman of GEAR Innovative International School in Bangalore and co-founder of ThinkCIQ. Her visit was coordinated by the University of Malta's International and EU Office and she was accompanied by Ms Megha Srivastav, the University of Malta's Head of Operations in India. Plans are underway for the Edward de Bono Institute to contribute further to the ThinkCIQ initiative by means of a workshop for Indian principals and heads of schools on fostering creativity and entrepreneurship through education.

The Edward de Bono Institute currently offers a Master in Creativity and Innovation at the University of Malta (full-time and part-time options are available) as well as an online International MSc in Strategic Innovation and Future Creation in collaboration with the University of Potsdam (Germany) and the University of Turku (Finland). For further information please visit [www.um.edu.mt/create](http://www.um.edu.mt/create) or email [instituteofthinking@um.edu.mt](mailto:instituteofthinking@um.edu.mt).

# Edward de Bono Institute joins India's ThinkCIQ

Dr Leonie Baldacchino, director of the Edward de Bono Institute for the Design and Development of Thinking at the University of Malta, recently addressed a conference in Bangalore, India, entitled 'ThinkCIQ: Creativity and Intelligences Quest'. The conference, which took place from July 11 to 13 at the Nimhans Convention Centre, marked the inauguration of a new initiative which aims to foster thinking and nurture talents among young people in India.

"Young people are a country's greatest resource," said Dr Baldacchino, "and each country should nurture and prepare them for the challenges and opportunities of the future."

"In a system that is inevitably preparing children for jobs that do not yet exist or that may be obsolete by the time they finish school, what they really need is to learn how to think, adapt, and recognise opportunities. This requires the development of creative and entrepreneurial mindsets."

Dr Baldacchino delivered a keynote speech and participated in panel discussions on thinking, creativity and entrepreneurship alongside other internationally acclaimed speakers including Dr Sumantra Chatterjee from the Centre for Brain Development and Repair in Bangalore, Prof. David Yun Dai from the University at Albany, State University of New York, and Peter Hall Jones from The Curriculum Foundation in the UK.

In addition to the ThinkCIQ conference, which is planned to take place on an annual basis, the initiative includes a new quarterly journal and an online interactive portal [www.thinkciq.in](http://www.thinkciq.in), where

educators, parents, children and other stakeholders can share their ideas on how to foster thinking and nurture talents.

Dr Baldacchino's participation in the event was brought about through the close collaboration that the University has developed with Gear Foundation, led by Dr M. Srinivasan, chairman of Gear Innovative International School in Bangalore and co-founder of ThinkCIQ.

Her visit was coordinated by the University's International and EU Office and she was accompanied by Megha Srivastav, the University's head of operations in India.

**"In a system that is preparing children for jobs that do not yet exist or that may be obsolete by the time they finish school, what they really need is to learn how to think, adapt, and recognise opportunities"**

The institute offers an MA in Creativity and Innovation, which can be undertaken on a full-time or part-time basis, and an International MSc in Strategic Innovation and Future Creation in collaboration with Potsdam University, Germany, and Turku University, Finland.

For further information e-mail [instituteofthinking@um.edu.mt](mailto:instituteofthinking@um.edu.mt).  
[www.um.edu.mt/create](http://www.um.edu.mt/create)