

2002 Round-Up

January

Dr. Martin R. Zammit from the Department of Arabic and Near Eastern Studies launched his book entitled: *A Comparative Lexical Study of Qur'anic Arabic* which provides valuable research material for all those interested in Semitic studies in general or in any of the Semitic languages in particular. The guest speaker was Dr Geoffrey A. Khan, Reader in Semitic Philology, Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Cambridge.

Dr Richard Hodgson from the Department of Psychiatry, School of Postgraduate Medicine, University of Keele, Staffs., UK, gave a public lecture entitled: *Methodologies in Estimating Community Bed Requirements: The North Staffordshire Experience* under the umbrella of The Postgraduate Medical Committee and the Department of Psychiatry.

Denise Cauchi, a graduate in Anthropology and Literature from the University of Melbourne, addressed the first *Work in Progress Seminar* for the year on the theme: *Human Rights Violations in Columbia and the Work of Peace Brigade International*.

Gh.S.L. *Ghaqda Studenti tal- Ligi* hosted Professor Ian Brownlie, internationally renowned scholar of Public International Law and author of a number of acclaimed texts. He gave a public lecture entitled: *The Human Rights Limitation to Diplomatic Immunity: The Pinochet Appeals under focus*.

Middle Sea Group presented Lm3000 to the Cancer Research Fund of the Anatomy Department. The money will be used primarily for the employment of a research assistant who assists the ongoing departmental cancer research. The present focus of the research is the study of the effects of natural products, as crude extracts as well as purified components, on human cancer cell lines.

Diabetes Mellitus in the Maltese Islands was the subject of the Winter Continuing Professional Development Meeting organised by The Malta College of Family Doctors in conjunction with the University's Department of Family Medicine and Department of Medicine and sponsored by *Servier* Malta. The epidemiology, various complications and management of this condition were discussed by Professor Joseph Azzopardi, Mr. Charles Savona Ventura, Dr. Antoine Schranz, Mr. Thomas Fenech, Dr. Mario Cachia and Dr. Stephen Fava.

Following extensive works, including a purpose built herbarium to house the collection of dried plants, in the botanical section of the Argotti Gardens which have been in the possession of the University almost uninterruptedly since 1855, one-hour visits for school children were launched comprising a short talk, tour of the gardens and some hands-on practical exercises for students.

Professor Frode Bjordal addressed the first meeting of the *Philosophy Society* for the year 2002. He gave a lecture on *Standard Theism and Egalitarian Optimism* in which he took up on some of the themes introduced in last year's lecture on *The Problem of Evil* which had generated a great deal of interest.

The book *RETE* was launched by Professors Paolo Balboni and Marco Mezzadri, *Universita' Ca' Foscari Venezia*, under the auspices of the Department of Italian in conjunction with *Guerra Editors*.

The Health Services Management Division of the Institute of Health Care with the support of the Health Division and the Foundation for Medical Services organised a half-day symposium entitled: *Towards Evidence-Based Health Care Reform* at which Masters students presented their research findings while postqualification diploma students mounted a poster exhibition of their work.

Dr. Carmen Depasquale, Head Department of French, Faculty of Arts, gave a public lecture at St. James Cavalier entitled: *The Influence of France on the Literature of Malta in the Eighteenth Century* under the auspices of the French Embassy.

Dr. George Zammit Maempel presented the University Library with a collection of journals in geology, paleontology and zoology covering fifteen of the leading academic titles in the field. The donation includes long runs of prestigious titles such as the *Journal of Palaeontology*, *Paleontology*, *Proceedings of the Geologists' Association*, *Journal of the Geological Society (UK)*, *Bibliographie des Sciences de la Terre* and the *Rivista Italiana di Paleontologia*, most runs spanning scholarly literature since the early 1960s.

The Institute of Health Care in collaboration with the Department of Health organised a workshop on *Problem-Based Learning in Higher Education* led by Maggi Savin-Baden, a consultant in higher education and organisational learning and principal lecturer in the Health and Social Sciences Faculty, University of Coventry. She is also author of a book on the subject.

February

The University of Malta, in collaboration with the Malta Federation of Industry, the Chamber of Commerce and the Employment and Training Corporation organised the *2nd Graduate Potential Seminar*. During this activity, the full results of the Human Resource Needs Survey, held during 2001, were presented and discussed. The aim of these seminars is to introduce potential employers and other persons and institutions, to the wide range of skills acquired by students during their years of study and to examine ways in which the University and the industrial and business sectors can support each other in the

development of Maltese economic and cultural life. After the first Graduate Potential Seminar, held in April 2000, a working group was set up which includes top level representation from the FOI, the Chamber of Commerce and ETC and is chaired by Professor Joseph Micallef who presented the results of the survey. Other speakers from various areas of industry and business also participated.

Architecture students mounted *Designs 2001/2*, an exhibition of their projects at St. James Cavalier Centre for Creativity, Valletta. The exhibition has become an annual event and is organised by the *Society of Architecture and Civil Engineering Students (SACES)*.

Angelo Dalli and Albert Gatt, Research Assistants on the Maltilex Project, addressed the first *Linguistics Circle* Meeting for the year. Their lecture was on *A Tagset for Maltese: formal and grammatical aspects*.

Professor Peter Vassallo, Head Department of English, Faculty of Arts, gave a public lecture on *Lord Byron in Venice* under the auspices of the Italian Cultural Institute and the British Culture Association.

The Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science organised *The First National Chemistry Symposium* which had Professor Duncan Bruce from Exeter University as its guest speaker. The symposium served as a forum which brought students, their lecturers and those working in the field together to discuss current developments both in Malta and abroad.

The Precincts Office in collaboration with *Koperattiva Kulturali Universitarja (KKU)* and *BoV Club* organised a second hand book fair. Books on sale at give away prices included secondary school books, classics, encyclopaedias, books relating to academic syllabi and a variety of other subjects.

Professor Alain Blondy, professor of History at the *Université de Paris-Sorbonne* (Paris IV) was visiting guest lecturer in the Department of French, Faculty of Arts between February and mid-March. He gave a series of lectures under the general title *Histoire de la France*. The aim of these lectures was to provide the means of understanding the evolution of France in order to better situate its literature, philosophy and art in a historical context.

Stephen Rickerby and Lisa Shekede from the Conservation of Wall Paintings Department, Courtauld Institute of Art, London, lectured on *The Paladini frescoes at the Grand Masters' Palace, Valletta: informing art history through conservation*. This was organised by the University's Art Unit and The Valletta Rehabilitation Project.

The University's Gozo Centre launched a varied lecture programme which had *Gozo Past and Present* as its central theme. The lecture series was organised in collaboration with the Ministry for Gozo. Several short courses also got under way: Certificate Course in Agriculture; Geographical Perspectives of the Maltese Islands with a focus on Gozo; Human Rights and the Law and a one-day seminar on Marketing was held.

KSU (*Kunsill Studenti Universitarji*), the University Students' Union, launched a series of activities which included a collection for charity campaign and culminated with a conference on higher education *Quality at University.mt*

The University Library and the Russian Centre for Science and Culture mounted an exhibition of photos, books and periodicals dedicated to the Russian Space Programme and International Space Cooperation.

Mr. Michael C. Bonello, Governor of the Central Bank of Malta, gave a public lecture under the auspices of the Faculty of

Economics, Management and Accountancy. His talk was entitled: *Some Lessons from Life*.

The International Institute for Baroque Studies in collaboration with the Ministry for the Environment, organised a series of seminars on *Baroque Architecture and its Conservation*. Guest Speaker was Dr Vivi Tornari from the Foundation for Research and Technology, Hellas, Institute of Electronic Structure and Laser.

March

Pharmacy students presented topics of current interest in pharmacy practice during the annual Pharmacy Symposium. This had as its invited guest speakers the Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Montpellier, Professor Alain Terol together with Professors Jean Castel and Sylvie Hansel whose participation at the symposium was made possible through sponsorship by *Les Laboratoires Servier*.

Professor Philippe Ménard, professor of French Medieval Literature at the *Université de Paris-Sorbonne* (Paris IV) gave a series of lectures in French on French Medieval Literature.

The Ministry of Education and the University of Malta's Matriculation & Secondary Education Examination Board (MATSEC) hosted the *Second Conference of the Association of Commonwealth Examination and Accreditation Bodies* (ACEAB). The themes of the conference focussed on Quality, Equity and Fairness in Assessment and Empowering Teachers and Learners in Classroom Assessment. Several speakers from Malta and across the Commonwealth gave presentations on various aspects of assessment, providing case studies as well as discussing their experience and indicating future directions.

This year's Junior College Student's *Soirée, Where is Love?* which was held in mid-March, was inspired by current concerns and hopes about war and peace, violence and love. Students used song and dance, drama and music, laughter and irony, to express their take on the way we 'tick' as human beings. The programme ranged in time and space to discover in a light-hearted but committed way the sources and effects of love and hate, starting from the fatal apple of discord in the Garden of Eden. It rumbled down the corridors of history to show mankind's efforts, marked by thrilling successes and dismal failures, to follow the dreams of love and peace. The event was sponsored by: Ministry of Education, Parliamentary Secretariat, GoMobile, Sedqa, Farsons, D'Amato, R.J.C. Caterers, Video Online and Agenda Bookshop.

Professor David J. K. Balfour from the Department of Psychiatry, Ninewells Hospital Medical School, University of Dundee, gave a public lecture on *The Tobacco Smoking Problem* under the auspices of the Department of Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics.

The *University Vocal Ensemble* and The *Collegium Musicum* gave a *Choral Concert of Sacred Music for Lent and Eastertide* in St. John's Co-Cathedral, Valletta by courtesy of the Metropolitan Cathedral Chapter. The programme was presented by Charles Coleiro and included excerpts from Schubert, Croce, Buhagiar, Liddle, Klughardt, Victoria, Duruflé, Lotti, Handel, Aichinger and Bruckner. There was also a selection of readings by Karmen Azzopardi and Charles Abela Mizzi. Tenor Frans Mangion, Bass Albert Buttigieg and Organist Gino Mulè Stagno participated while the choirs were under the direction of Dr. Mro. Dion Buhagiar.

Dr Keith Sciberras from the Art Unit gave a public lecture: *Con li moti dell'Animo: An Algardi/Duquesnoy Flagellation of Christ*

discovered in Malta which was organised in collaboration with The Italian Cultural Institute.

On the occasion of the *Canada Days* Festival held in Malta, Khaled Khali, *Université du Québec à Montréal*, gave a public lecture on *Partnership and Interdependence in the Global World: The Canadian experience* organised in collaboration with the Canadian High Commission to Malta.

Dr Robert Whitaker from Cambridge University, gave a public lecture on *Challenging Problems in Paediatric Urology* under the auspices of the Department of Anatomy.

Mr Joseph Borg addressed the March Meeting of the *Mathematical Society* on *Tele-Traffic, the study of data transmission along communication lines* and the problem of congestion due to the increased use of the Internet.

Professor Mario Buhagiar, Head of the Art Unit, delivered a public lecture on *French Artistic Influence in Malta 1530-1798* under the auspices of the French Embassy and the *Alliance Française*. He later also lectured on *The Treasure of Relics and Reliquaries of the Knight Hospitallers in Malta 1530-1798* under the auspices of The *Istituto Italiano di Cultura*, Malta.

The Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers Malta Student Branch and the University Engineering Students' Association (UESA) organised the *Student Professional Awareness Conference 2002*. The half-day conference brought engineering and IT students together giving them exposure to job and academic-related opportunities after graduation.

The Cleaner Technology Centre (CTC) in conjunction with the Institute for Energy Technology organised three half-day

seminars which dealt with *Energy and Water Management*. Leading experts from the Water Services Corporation, Enemalta Corporation, and industry discussed subjects such as energy conservation in buildings, energy scenario in Malta, strategies to improve energy efficiency and conservation of water. Case studies were also presented.

Planned to coincide with the Easter recess, VIA an exhibition sponsored by the *Koperattiva Kulturali Universitarja* brought together works by artists Savio Deguara (b.1971) and Anton Grech (b.1965) which were mounted in the circular interior of the University Chapel.

March 21st, *World Home Economics Day*, saw the launch of a new association *Home Economists in Action* (HEiA). The association aims to bring together Home Economics academics, teachers and students with the goal of promoting Home Economics education which has been taught in Malta for over 25 years, enhancing the effectiveness of the discipline, and facilitating professional development for its members. A newsletter *News to Use* will be distributed on a regular basis and there are also plans to set up a library of Home Economics resources. The various presentations focused on the rationale for the new association and benefits for its members, the history of the Home Economics profession locally and the current role of Home Economics education in Malta. An exhibition of a selection of Home Economics resources, including pupils' handouts and worksheets, as well as educational games, visual aids and resource files was also opened.

April

The Precincts Office launched its Spring cultural programme *Anima-Animus my other self*, a gender-difference based programme. This commenced with a lecture by London-

based painter Jenny Poretzky-Lee on *Abstract Art and Self-Development* which was also to be the theme of a workshop she was in Malta to conduct. The artist discussed her experience as an abstract painter and explored how painting has affected her personal development. Also on the programme were a lecture by Architect Lino Bianco on *Gender and the Design of Residential Space*; a clay exhibition by male and female Maltese and foreign artists; a poetry recital on the central theme of peace; several films in various languages; a public lecture by Dr Gillian Pascall *Creative Policies for Gender Equality: A European Perspective*; a round table meeting with a cross-section of Maltese writers and an interview with Dacia Maraini conducted by Professor Joe Eynaud. The programme was organised in collaboration with the *Koperattiva Kulturali Universitarja* (KKU), the Ministry of Education with the Bank of Valletta (*BoV Club*) as official partner.

Mr John Johnston, former Keeper of Archaeology and Local History with Portsmouth City Museum Service, England lectured on *Man the Toolmaker and Burial in the Ancient World*. The lectures were organised by the Gozo Centre in collaboration with the Ministry for Gozo.

Professor Jonathan Riley-Smith, Dixie Professor of Ecclesiastical History, University of Cambridge, lectured on *The Templars and the Denial of Christ* when he visited the Department of History. He also gave a lecture with the intriguing title *How different would 'The Knights of St. John in Jerusalem and Cyprus' be if I were writing it today?*

Anthropology and Ethics in Thomas Aquinas was the theme chosen for this year's annual conference held in honour of St. Thomas Aquinas organised by the Theology Students Association and the Faculty of Theology. Professor Dr Eberhard Schockenhoff, professor of Moral Theology at the Albert-

Ludwigs University of Freiburg, Germany, was the guest speaker on this occasion.

On the occasion of his State visit to Malta, the University conferred the Degree of Doctor of Laws *Honoris causa* on HE Vaclav Havel, President of the Czech Republic in a ceremony held at the Church of the University, Valletta.

The Faculty of Education organised a conference entitled *Linking Science, Mathematics and Technology Education and Their Social Relevance* in collaboration with CASTME (Commonwealth Association of Science, Technology and Mathematics Educators) Europe and the Education Division. The conference revolved around four main themes: Curricular Aspects, Teacher's Professional Development, Methodologies in Science, Mathematics and Technology Education and Concept Development in Science, Mathematics and Technology. This International Conference was attended by some 130 participants in all and generated much interest among local teachers of science subjects from state, Church and private schools many of whose participation was sponsored by the Education Division. Some 40 participants from 13 different countries apart from Malta also attended, bringing with them their experiences as educators in the field of science teaching, to discuss the interconnections between science, mathematics and technology and their relevance to everyday life. Participants came from countries as diverse as: Cyprus, Germany, Czech Republic, U.K., Israel, Spain, India, U.S.A., Italy, Australia, Cameroon, Nigeria as well as from the European Commission.

The European Documentation and Research Centre in collaboration with the *Malta European Studies Association* and the *Jean Monnet Chair* organised the annual EDRC Conference on *Democracy and*

Bureaucracy: The future of Europe and European Governance in an Enlarged European Union. This international conference provided a forum for informed debate on the major issues of the day relating to developments in the EU, the wider European scenario, the Mediterranean and Malta's place and role within this evolving context.

A delegation from *George Washington University Medical Centre* comprising Professor Stanley Knoll, Clinical Professor of Surgery, Ms. Huda Ajas, executive director of the Medical Centre and Dr. Michael Seneff, clinical coordinator, visited Malta in mid-April for talks with the University and the Ministry of Health.

In the series of seminars on *Baroque Architecture and its Conservation*, the International Institute for Baroque Studies in collaboration with the Works Division of the Ministry for Resources and Infrastructure, organised seminars on baroque military architecture which also included an introduction to the art of fortification, building methods and techniques - logistic, military and structural considerations.

The *Mediterranean Maritime History Network* held its inaugural conference in Malta and at the same time, was established on a formal-footing as a network of international scholars sharing similar research interests. The aim of the MMHN is to facilitate the exchange of information concerning research currently under way relating to Mediterranean maritime topics.

A Seminar in Comparative Literatures, American, English and Italian, was organised by the Department of Italian in conjunction with the *Dipartimento di Scienze Linguistiche e Letterarie, Università Gabriele d'Annunzio, Pescara*.

The Institute of Forensic Studies welcomed two visiting guest lecturers. Dr Andrew Willis, a criminologist from the Scarman Centre, Leicester University who lectured on *Domestic Violence: Criminological Perspectives*. His visit falls within the framework of the memorandum of understanding signed between the two institutions last year. Dr Josanne Holloway, a Forensic Psychiatrist from Manchester, spoke on the Psychiatric Perspectives of the same subject.

The Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy welcomed leading businessman and entrepreneur, Mr. Joe Gasan as guest speaker. He is Chairman of the *Gasan Group of Companies*, and he spoke on *Managing Change*.

ELSA (*European Law Students' Association*) Malta and GhSL (*Għaqda Studenti tal- Igi*) once again organised the *Malta Moot Court Competition*. The finals were held in early April. The event was made possible thanks to a number of companies and people mainly Malta International Airport, Corinthia Group of Companies, Calmarine Services Ltd., Cisk Export, Microcopy as well as the Ministry of Justice.

INSITE, a university students' organisation, together with several other youth organizations and student representatives, organised the Second National Congress of Students with the theme *Students, a vital tool for strengthening our future society*. Students were also given the opportunity to display their talents, potential and creativity by exhibiting various academic and artistic works and participating in various cultural and sports activities.

Dr Frans Ciappara from the Junior College, gave a public lecture on *French Gallicanism in Eighteenth-Century Malta*, under the auspices of the Embassy of the French Republic and the *Alliance Française*.

Professor Vitezslav Vesely from the Department of Applied Mathematics, Masaryk University, Czech Republic, visited the Department of Statistics & Operations Research in April. He gave a talk on *Overcomplete Spectral Techniques at One Step Beyond Wavelets*.

Family Medicine Revisited was the subject of the Spring Continuing Professional Development Meeting organised by The Malta College of Family Doctors in conjunction with the University's Department of Family Medicine and sponsored by *Charles de Giorgio Ltd*. In the course of the meeting, primary care, further professional development and possibilities for future research in the field were discussed by Dr Mario R Sammut, Dr Wilfred Galea, Dr Fred Demanuele, Dr Philip Sciortino and Dr Denis Soler who are all well known family practitioners. There were also two guest speakers from the Department of Family Practice, University of Amsterdam, Dr Inge M Okkes and Professor Henk Lamberts who discussed the use of specific computer software packages for the keeping of patient records.

Students of the Theatre Studies Programme, Mediterranean Institute put on three performances of Eugene Ionesco's *The Lesson*.

The Gozo Centre once again organised its annual *Gozo Lace Day* which included a display of completed work, demonstrations and an exhibition by the Lacemakers Guild of work and items related to their craft.

The Precincts Office with the collaboration of the *Koperattiva Kulturali Universitarja* (KKU), The Ministry of Education and *PoezijaPlus* with Bank of Valletta (Official Partner) organised a Musico-Literary Evening *Kelmet il-Mara - Sejha għall-Paci* with the participation of women poets. The evening included musical excerpts by flautist Nathalie

Fenech and songs by composers Walter Micallef and Rita Pace.

The Junior College team representing Denmark placed second in the XIII edition of the National Student Travel Foundation (NSTF) *Mini-European Assembly*. International Relations, the team from the University representing Italy placed third. The final session was held in Parliament with the awards ceremony being presided over by the President, HE Professor Guido de Marco.

The Islands and Small States Institute of the Foundation for International Studies together with the University's Department of Economics in collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, organised a training workshop on *Competitiveness Strategies for Small States* as part of the Malta-Commonwealth Third Country Training Programme. The workshop was inaugurated by Economic Services Minister, Josef Bonnici and attended by participants from a good number of Commonwealth countries.

The Institute of Forensic Studies acted as host to a group of Criminal Justice experts from Portugal, Austria, Switzerland and Germany who were on a fact-finding trip to Malta. After a tour around campus, Ms Jacqueline Azzopardi and Ms Sandra Scicluna from the Institute, delivered a presentation on the Criminal Justice system in Malta.

May

Professor William David George, Regius Professor of Surgery and Head of Department of Surgery, University of Glasgow and Honorary Consultant Surgeon at the Western and Gartnavel Hospitals in Glasgow, gave the 2002 *Ralph Arrigo Lecture on The Management of Early Breast Cancer*.

The Twelfth Euro-Mediterranean Information and Training Seminar was organised by the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies. The four day seminar focussed on recent developments in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership Process in the light of the April 2002 Valencia Meeting. Diplomats from the majority of EU member states as well as Mediterranean Partner countries, signatories to the November 1995 Barcelona Declaration attended.

Visiting Professor John Adams, Professor of Geography from University College London, co-founder of *Friends of the Earth* and consultant to the British Cabinet on Risk gave a public lecture on risk in the practice of medicine entitled *Do we have enough 'injdents'?* under the auspices of the *University of Malta Geographical Society*. In conjunction with Maria Attard from the Geographic Information Systems Laboratory, he conducted a discussion workshop, *Which Way to Go?* on the Future of Transport Policy in Malta.

The Mediterranean Institute in collaboration with *UNESCO's Programme de la Méditerranée* and institutions from Villefranche-sur-Mer in France, Pisa, Algiers, Paris, Tunis and Barcelona as well as the Maritime Museums of Paris and Barcelona, has been awarded a MEDA Project *La Navigation de Savoir – The Navigation of Knowledge*. The project will be focussing on the historical docks of the Mediterranean and how they can be turned into profitable entities through the channel of cultural tourism. The *Navigation de Savoir* project also envisages, amongst other things, the creation of multimedia posts and databases in each of the participating countries for the preservation of historical data concerning maritime aspects that will also be accessible through Internet.

The Gozo Centre held two one-day seminars on *Financial and Corporate Sector Regulation - an Update* and *The Child with Dyslexia and*

the Teacher in the Classroom. A Short Course on *Psychology and Ritual* was also run.

The Department of Statistics & Operations Research, Faculty of Science organised a series of lectures. Dr Lino Sant, Head of Department, gave an interdisciplinary lecture on *Stochastic Calculus and Differential Equations: Most 'Probable' Tools in Physics, Engineering and Finance* while Dr Pavel Popela from the University of Technology in Brno who was Visiting Lecturer in the department gave a talk entitled: *Common Sense or Optimization? Applications in Engineering and Economics using Composed Operations Research Models*. On the 40th anniversary of Petri Networks, Dr. Jaroslav Sklenar gave an *Introduction to Basic Concepts, Modeling of Queuing Networks by Time Nets*.

Professor Roger Barlow, a CERN scientist and professor of Particle Physics at the University of Manchester, lectured on *Antimatter* under the auspices of the Department of Physics.

Malta University Services (MUS), in collaboration with Eurachem-Malta and Cleaner Technology Centre (CTC), organised a seminar entitled *Getting Started on Accreditation* which addressed the issue of the requirements necessary to implement a programme of quality assurance principles.

The Health Services Management Division of the Institute of Health Care welcomed two visiting lecturers who covered two credits in the MSc course. During their visit, Dr Frank Dunstan from the University of Cardiff gave a public lecture on *Statistics for Health Care Managers* while Dr Jill Robinson from the University of East Anglia spoke on *Qualitative Research Methods*.

Madame Lila de Chaves from the Benaki Museum, Athens lectured on the *History of Jewellery in the Hellenic Area* under the

auspices of the Art Unit.

The University's *Student Advisory Services* participated in the 13th edition of the *Careers Convention* organised by the Guidance and Counselling section of the Education Division. This year, the convention was held at Bay Street.

Implementation of a campus-wide project involving the phasing in of a computerised Student Records Management Information System. *Strategic Information Technology Services* (SITS) software package was chosen being a tried and tested UK market leader in academic management solutions widely used in higher educational institutions in the UK. It permits the use of communications media such as the internet and mobile phone, allowing students to register and perform other functions online.

Sociology of Gender Students from the Faculty of Arts organised a workshop on the subject entitled: *Gender Equality ... Fact or Fiction* in the course of which they discussed gender in relation to Ageism, Work and the Mass Media as well as gender bias in education. Ms Dorane Fredland was invited guest speaker who spoke on *Gender Equality: Confronting Challenges*.

Professor Richard Davies, Head of postgraduate programmes at the Canterbury School of Fine Art in the Kent Institute of Art and Design, was in Malta to tutor final year architecture stream students for their thesis projects. In the course of his visit, he also gave a lecture to Faculty of Architecture students entitled: *The Fall of The Monumental* which was supported by graphic designs illustrating major historical events of the twentieth century.

An International Teachers' Course designed to train University lecturers at undergraduate level, as well as form a nucleus of teachers in family medicine was held. *Promoting Excellence in Teaching General Practice* was

organised in Malta by the Royal College of General Practitioners, UK in collaboration with the Malta College of Family Doctors (MCFD) and the University of Malta's Department of Family Medicine. Twelve family doctors participated. It is intended that these teachers will participate in the organisation and delivery of an MCFD Membership by Assessment that is being planned by the College to international standards. The GP tutors were Dr John V Howard, Chairman of the International Committee of the Royal College of General Practitioners, and Dr Marek Jezierski, a Vocational Training Scheme Course Organiser. The course coordinator was Dr Philip Sciortino, Secretary for Education of the Malta College of Family Doctors.

The Rector, Professor Roger Ellul-Micallef, and the Acting Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Professor Anthony J. Frendo, presented awards to students on the Dean's List. Five students, two from the Gozo Centre and three from the main campus, who successfully completed the first two years of their BA/BA(Hons) programme received recognition for their academic excellence. The students were: Caroline Calleja (Music Studies (Hons)/Mathematics); Elisabeth Conrad (Geography(Hons)/Communications); Mario Frendo (Music Studies/Theatre Studies) and from the Gozo Centre: Carmen Saliba (Economics/Sociology) and Gillian Martin (Philosophy/Sociology). The awards were sponsored by the *Bank of Valletta*, which was represented by the branch manager of BoV on Campus, Mrs Emily Grech.

June

The University of Malta in collaboration with the Education Division hosted the *9th Joint Meeting of the ENIC/NARIC Networks* which brought together credential equivalence evaluators from Europe, Canada, the U.S., Israel and Iceland. The meeting was

organised in conjunction with the European Commission and the Council of Europe.

Nineteen students following this year's James Madison University Summer School presented the results of their work. Since 1997 JMU has organized a one-month study-abroad programme in Malta which offers them a rich diversity of energy-and environmental-related problems and issues. Each year during May and June, Dr Jonathan Miles, together with two to three colleagues, brings some 16 to 24 students to Malta who work on various projects in conjunction with the University's Department of Physics, the Biotechnology Programme, the Institute of Agriculture and the Institute for Energy Technology; the Euro-Mediterranean Institute for Insular Coastal Dynamics of the Foundation for International Studies; Enemalta and the Gaia Foundation. This year's projects involved: identification and mapping of coastal footpaths in Gozo; development of materials to enhance communications and awareness pertaining to environmental issues and problems in Malta; land-use management planning, reforestation and sustainable organic farming in Malta; installation and testing of Malta's first residential grid-connected photovoltaic electric system and a feasibility study for off-shore wind power generation.

Professor Philip Burnard, Vice-Dean School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies, University of Wales, Cardiff lectured on *Communication skills and cultural issues for health care professionals* when he visited the Institute of Health Care in June.

Professor Robert J. Pascall from the University of Wales delivered an illustrated lecture on *The preparation of the 'Neue Brahms Augsgabe'* under the auspices of the Mediterranean Institute's Music Studies Programme.

Dr Gillian Pascall gave a public talk on gender equality entitled: *Creative Policies for Gender*

Equality: A European Perspective organised by the Precincts Office, Bank of Valletta official partner in collaboration with the Workers' Participation Development Centre. Dr Pascall has published extensively on the subject.

On the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the *Declaration of the Rights of the Maltese*, a commemorative evening was held in the gardens of San Anton Palace, Attard under the distinguished patronage of the President of the Republic, HE Professor Guido de Marco. The event which was organised by the National Festivities Committee in collaboration with the University of Malta, included a keynote speech by historian Professor Henry Frendo and musical interludes drawn from an exclusively Maltese repertoire.

The University's International Institute for Baroque Studies organised a half-day seminar in which the *Regeneration of Walled Baroque Cities in Malta* was discussed. This was held in collaboration with the Italian Cultural Institute and the Works Division, Ministry for Resources and Infrastructure, and focussed on the development of walled cities in Baroque Malta with an insight into the challenges encountered in their adaptation for contemporary use. The seminar was introduced by Professor Denis De Lucca, Director of the International Institute for Baroque Studies, and Arch. V. Cassar, Director-General Works Division and was also addressed by Dr. Ray Bondin, Executive coordinator of the Rehabilitation projects, Mr. Stephen Spiteri, superintendent of fortifications, and Conservation Architect Mr. Hermann Bonnici. Guest speakers from the University of Bologna, Professor Giampiero Cuppini and Professor Carlo Monti, outlined the Italian experience in the rehabilitation of historic city centres. The Minister for Resources and Infrastructure, The Hon. Dr. Francis Zammit Dimech, concluded the seminar. US Ambassador, HE

Anthony Gioia, donated a collection of books known as the *Library of America* collection to the University Library. The collection spans some two centuries of American writing in a variety of fields including literature, politics, history, journalism and poetry. The University of Malta is one of only a few universities worldwide that has been presented with this prestigious collection which was designed to preserve the best of American writing, making it accessible to readers around the world and passing on the literary heritage of the USA to future generations.

An exhibition of manuscripts, photographs and memorabilia covering the history and development of the University of Malta over the past two centuries was also launched.

The Department of Mathematics, Science and Technical Education, Faculty of Education organised The *DMSTE Dissertations Showcase 2002*, a presentation of students' work at the University Residence, Lija.

Edward de Bono conducted the *Edward de Bono Seminar 2002* designed to enhance participants' repertoire of thinking skills and strategies thereby rendering them more creative.

The Department of Anatomy awarded its annual Anatomy Project prizes. David Camilleri and Kieram Chircop were placed first, while Victoria Purchase came second and Christopher Deguara, third. The cash prizes were presented by the Departments' External Examiner, Professor Susan Standing from Guy's Hospital in London.

Recognition of Preceptors In-Service Training: Educating pharmacists to be professionals within an integrated healthcare system was the title of a public lecture given by Professor Steve Hudson, from the University of Strathclyde, U.K. under the auspices of the Department of Pharmacy.

July

A *Mediation Skills Training Seminar* was organised by the Ministry of Education in conjunction with the Faculty of Education and University College, Dublin. The keynote speaker on this occasion was Professor Delma Sweeney, Director of Mediation Studies at Dublin. The seminar highlighted the importance of Conflict Resolution Education and Peer Mediation programmes as a necessary tool towards understanding principles of conflict dynamics and effective conflict management when dealing with disputes among parents, students and/or members of teaching staff.

The E.U. and Integrated Coastal Management observation and lessons from the U.K. was the title of a public lecture delivered by Dr. Rhoda Ballinger from the University of Cardiff at the Chamber of Commerce, Exchange Bldgs, Valletta under the auspices of the *University of Malta Geographical Society*.

The Institute of Health Care mounted a pavilion at the Malta International Trade Fair to highlight the growth and professionalisation of the paramedical professions in Malta.

The Faculty of Engineering and the Board of Studies for Information Technology organised their annual students' projects exhibitions. Although the two degree programmes each have their own distinctive areas of specialisation, the sharing of expertise in software methodology and engineering applications offers scope for collaboration in various fields. The B.Eng.(Hons) degree covers mechanical, materials, manufacturing processes, electrical, electronic, computer and communication subjects. The B.Sc.I.T.(Hons) covers areas related to computer, communication, computer science, information and software. The various

student projects reflect these areas and subjects.

The *10th Evenings on Campus Festival* was launched. *Connecting Cultures* was the theme chosen this year and this was reflected in the varied programme which included a cartoon exhibition portraying the cartoonist's impression of current events, live bands, film festival, literary evenings, theatre, concerts and for the first time, a children's mini festival - a display of children's talent by children for children and many more ingredients besides.

During the long summer holidays, the *University Summer School* again provided an interesting and varied programme for children aged three to ten between mid-July and early September. Activities included sports and games; art and craft; dance and movement; swimming; I.T.; Edward de Bono's Thinking Skills and excursions to places of interest. Based on the 'Learning Through Play' concept, *Kids on Campus* this year introduced the concept of subject teaching so as to ensure the professional delivery of each particular programme by a teacher qualified in the field.

Following an agreement between the University and the Government, the University Multi-Purpose Sports Hall has been completed and was officially inaugurated by the Prime Minister this month.

Mixables, a team from Junior College, won the HSBC 14th *Young Enterprise Company of the Year Award*. It is the second consecutive year that a Junior College team has won the competition nationally. They also lifted the *Best Quality System Award*. The team then went on to win the *European Young Enterprise Final Competition 2002* held in Paris in August in which some 20 teams from across Europe participated.

August

The University of Malta Gozo Centre celebrated the 10th anniversary of its establishment with a series of activities which included an evening of drama and an evening of vocal popular classical music. The Centre caters for the needs of the increasing number of students from Gozo who study on the main campus whilst also organising part-time degree, diploma and short term courses in Gozo.

Smile for Albania, a student society of the University of Malta, held a jumble sale in order to raise funds for the purchasing of dental materials and other requirements so as to provide humanitarian dental care to school children in Korce, Albania. Between the end of August and mid-September, a dental team made up of members of staff and students from the Faculty of Dental Surgery together with general dental practitioners made the society's eighth visit to Korce since 1994.

Dr. Henri Manasse, CEO of the *American Society of Health-System Pharmacists* (ASHP), together with Dr. Debra Devereux, President, discussed creating productive relationships between health-system pharmacy and government affairs and new roles pharmacists are being called upon to play, when they addressed seminars organised for pharmacy students and practising pharmacists.

September

Dr Paul Collier from Queen's University, Belfast, Visiting External Examiner in the Department of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, gave a lecture on *Population Pharmacokinetics in the Evaluation of Paediatric Medicines*.

This year, the Foundation for International Studies organised specially-commissioned programmes for Luther College, James

Madison University and the South Texas College of Law. In addition, Summer Schools in Archaeology and Near Eastern Studies were held for international participants. Three courses in "legal" English Language for Italian lawyers were organised on behalf of the *Consiglio Nazionale Forense*, Italy. Two English Language programmes were also held for groups of students from the University of Catania.

The Vice-Chancellor of Victoria University of Technology, Australia, Professor Jarlath Ronayne, visited the University to renew the agreement between the two universities. The agreement covers student and staff exchange, joint professional and research activities and joint publications.

H.E. the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr. Georg Merten presented the University Library with a number of books on folklore studies on behalf of the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft Foundation* of Bonn and the *Marchen – Stiftung Walter Kahn* of Munich. Both foundations are strongly committed to research in folklore and their support has been secured through the kind offices of Professor Ulrich Marzolph from the University of Gottingen on the initiative of Dr. Gorg Mifsud Chircop. This important donation will help support the University Library's core collection of folklore studies with scholarly publications reflecting current scientific trends in the area.

Internationalisation of the Campus was the theme chosen for this year's ceremony marking the official opening of the academic year 2002/2003. The University registered nearly 4000 first preference choices from applicants. A further 1700 students joined first year Junior College.

October

Ms Hazel Harvey, Head of Professional Affairs at the UK-based Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH)

addressed past and present students of the Diploma in Occupational Health and Safety which has been run since 1997 by the Workers' Participation Development Centre, with the support of the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OHSA). The WPDC has secured accreditation of this diploma from IOSH. With enough field experience, successful diploma students can now qualify for IOSH corporate membership and its associated benefits.

Manifestations of Atopy: An accelerating epidemic of interrelated conditions was the subject of the Autumn Continuing Professional Development Meeting organised by The Malta College of Family Doctors in conjunction with the University's Department of Family Medicine sponsored by *Schering Plough*. The meeting focussed on the interrelations between Asthma, Allergic Rhinitis and Atopic Eczema.

Professor Bishnodat Persaud former Director and Head of the Economic Affairs Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat lectured on *Small Economies and the New WTO Round* and led a public discussion on the subject under the auspices of the Islands and Small States Institute.

The first *Linguistics Circle* meeting for the academic year 2002/2003 was addressed by Professor Utr Maas from Osnabruck University in Germany who gave a lecture entitled: "Finite " and "non-finite" from a typological perspective while Dr Sandra Dingli addressed the first meeting of the Philosophy Society. She spoke about *Wittgenstein, Mc Dowell and Quietism*.

The Faculty of Education and the History Teachers' Association (*Malta*) launched the Michael A. Sant Memorial Lecture. Michael A. Sant occupied the post of Senior Lecturer in charge of the pedagogy of History from the inception of the Faculty of Education in 1978 till his death in 1999. Dr. George

Cassar and Dr. Yosanne Vella presented a joint paper entitled *The evolution of History pedagogy in Malta*.

AEGEE-Valletta together with the Socrates Office and MiC (the Malta-EU Information Centre), held a number of activities to mark *Erasmus Action Week - Celebrating 1,000,000 Erasmus Students* which was inaugurated by the Minister of Education, the Hon. Dr. Loius Galea at the Junior Common Room, University House. Activities included the setting up of the Erasmus Village at the Canteen, Info-sessions on the Socrates Related Programmes and Seminar-Discussions on student mobility. This was a good opportunity for all those interested, to get to know more about the Erasmus Programme and to celebrate this event together with past and present Erasmus students.

The Cleaner Technology Centre in collaboration with the Clean Air Board organised a seminar on the theme: *Committed to Healthier Air* at the Corinthia Palace Hotel, Attard. Officials from the Malta Environment and Planning Authority, the University, the Department of Health, Nature Trust and Enemalta made presentations. The Hon. George Pullicino, Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment made the concluding address.

Dr. Marton E. Balazs from Richmond University, London was in Malta as Visiting Lecturer during the last week of October to lecture on Applications of Artificial Intelligence. He also gave a public lecture entitled: *Artificial Intelligence in Engineering - Dreams and Reality*.

The *Celebrant Singers* from the USA visited Malta and gave a performance in the University Chapel. Founded by Jon Stemkoski in 1977, the group is interdenominational in nature, representing approximately fifteen Christian denominations. It has travelled extensively

throughout the World spreading the Gospel through its contemporary Christian Music Ministry.

The Medical School's Continuing Medical Education Committee organised a seminar on *Clinical Audit* as part of its Continuing Professional Development Programme. This was held at the Corinthia San Gorg Hotel, St. George's Bay. Various aspects of the issue were addressed by experts in the field.

Under the auspices of the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies, Professor C. Gasteyger Professor Emeritus of the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva and Director of the Association for the Promotion and Study of International Security gave a public lecture entitled: *The Strategic Implications of EU Enlargement (East and South)* when he visited the Academy at the end of October.

November

A new agreement with the Berlin Free University was signed during the visit of the Rector, Herr Peter Gaethgens, to Malta.

The Masters in Human Rights and Democratisation Programme which is supported by the European Commission, organised an international conference on *Human Rights and Corporate Social Responsibility*. Both speakers and audience came from various countries and hailed from different backgrounds such as law, banking, international relations and business. The conference focused on the relationship between public and corporate interests, and how the globalisation of the world economy and increased role of the multinational corporation affects human rights.

The Society of Architecture & Civil Engineering Students (SACES) organised a three-day workshop on *Strategic Innovation*

at Fort St. Angelo, Birgu which was officially inaugurated by The Hon. Dr. Francis Zammit Dimech, Minister for Resources & Infrastructure while Architect Paul Camilleri, President, Chamber of Architects made the concluding remarks.

On the occasion of Graduation 2002 a Mass of Thanksgiving was held at St. John's Co-Cathedral celebrated by H.G. The Metropolitan Archbishop of Malta. Over 2000 students graduated in various disciplines in the course of a number of ceremonies. The first students from the University of Malta's *Link Campus* in Rome also graduated this year.

The British Council made a third donation of video titles to the University's Audio Visual Library at the Centre for Communication Technology which stocks feature films and documentaries on the humanities. The videos are novel adaptations of English works and are of interest to students and researchers of English Literature, history and politics.

A Chinese delegation led by the President of the *Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries*, Mr Chen Haosu, paid a courtesy call on the Rector. The delegation was invited to Malta by the *Malta China Friendship Society* on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Malta. After the meeting, Mr. Haosu also met a large number of Chinese students who are currently reading for a degree or following the Foundation Course.

Dr Patrick Wheeler from the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Nottingham University spoke on *Matrix Converters - The next Generation of AC/AC Power Converters?* in the series of Research and Industrial seminars being organised by the Faculty of Engineering during the academic year 2002/2003.

The Department of Public Policy, Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy organised a Public Lecture entitled: *In Defence of Public Policy*. The lecture was given by Professor David Milne, Professor Emeritus, Department of Political Science, University of Prince Edward Island, Canada and Visiting Professor in the Department of Public Policy. He is a leading authority on Canadian Politics and has in recent years also contributed extensively to the study of small states. On this occasion, Chantal Sciberras and Christian Magro were presented with the *Agenda on Campus Prize* for the best dissertations in the field of Public Policy. Two former students, Angelo Gafà and Edward Mangion, who last year graduated with First Class Honours were awarded a special prize by Professor Godfrey Pirota who was appointed Head of Department last March.

The Economics Department, Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy organized an international workshop on the *European Monetary Union and Countries Applying for Accession to the EU* at the University Gozo Centre, Xewkija, Gozo. The workshop, supported by the European Commission aimed to finalize material for a course to be introduced in the Universities of the twelve countries participating in this EU project and was attended in particular by participants from Eastern and Central Europe and from the Mediterranean region. The themes of the workshop covered historical/political perspectives, institutional issues, economic considerations such as the EMU, *Acquis*, exchange rate arrangements, monetary and fiscal policies and future scenarios following the adoption of the Euro. *The Equal Partners Foundation, Id-Dar tal-Providenza* in collaboration with the Programme for Inclusive Education organised a two-day Training Workshop *Ragazzi in Gamba! Stepping out into the Adult World* conducted by Anna Contardi.

AEGEE-Valletta organised *UniDebate - Universities to Debate Europe* which discussed issues such as *Where are the borders of Europe?* which dealt with the enlargement of the European Union.

MKSU organised *Politicians for Peace* where politicians ran together for fun and peace. In this event, leading politicians from the three local political parties accepted to harness themselves together in a light-hearted three-legged race with the aim of delivering a relevant message: that when we work together, we achieve more than when we work against each other. The event was held in the Atriju Vassalli under the distinguished patronage of H.E. the President of the Republic, Professor Guido de Marco.

Four students from among the first batch of twenty-three mid-career executives in the Public Service who graduated Diploma in Public Administration, at the end of a two-year, day-release course organised by the Institute of Public Administration and Management, received prizes for academic excellence and for contributing to the welfare of their colleagues. Mr Albert J Tabone, a pioneer in the training and education of public officials, was named *Patron* of the graduates, following a practice adopted in leading European schools of public administration. The Institute is a joint venture between the University and the Public Service offering a portfolio of training and education programmes to individuals from across the public sector, as well as fostering research.

The Department of French and The Embassy of France organised a series of lectures by Professor Jean-Michel de la Comptée of the Université Vincennes - Saint-Denis (Paris 8) on Madame de la Fayette, *La Princesse de Clèves* and Montaigne's *Essais*.

The Strickland Foundation in cooperation with the University's Centre for Communication Technology organised a seminar on *Human*

Rights and Journalism: Do Human Rights Protect Journalists? which was chaired by Judge Giovanni Bonello and was addressed by Sir Nicholas Bratza also a judge at The European Court of Human Rights and Ms Anna Austin, a Solicitor at the Registry of the Court.

The Bioethics Consultative Committee in collaboration with the Institute of Health Care organised a seminar on *Ethical Issues in Practice for Nurses & Midwives* which was addressed by experts in the field.

December

A public lecture focusing on *Early Childhood Education: Use of and satisfaction with child-care and small Kindergarten centres in Malta* was held at which research findings from a study conducted by Dr Valerie Sollars, Senior Lecturer in Early Childhood Education at the Faculty of Education were presented.

The University of Malta Geography Society (UMGS) organised a Lecture Series in which Dr. Paul Rooney, Senior Lecturer in Environmental Management, Liverpool Hope University College, Liverpool, UK, gave a lecture entitled: *Blowing in the Wind: Dynamic Coastal Sand Dunes*; Dr. Kevin Crawford, Senior Lecturer in Physical Geography at the same University lectured on *Arctic Adventures: Investigation of a modern polar glacial environment* and Dr. Alan Dykes from the University of Huddersfield, UK spoke on *Conservation vs. Economic Development: What Future for a Tropical Rain forest?*

The Malta University History Society (MUHS) organised the *Eighth Andrew P. Vella Annual Memorial Lecture* at the *Istituto italiano di cultura*, at which Dr. Sergio Portelli from the Junior College presented a paper entitled: *Protagonists of the Italian language press in Malta 1840-1870*. Dr. J. F. Grima was the respondent.

The Department of Biology in collaboration with the Environment Protection Directorate (MEPA) organised the annual *Biology Symposium* at which issues such as how sunken ships can bring back sea-life, how hoverflies do it at Ghadira s-safra, whether the prickly pear relieves stress or if Maghtab is having an impact on sea-life were discussed.

The *Kordin Business Incubation Centre* (KBIC) rewarded the best three projects in manufacturing engineering design submitted by engineering undergraduates. A modular case for cosmetic make-up powder, nicknamed *Venus*, was judged to be the winning entry. The project was submitted by Ann Triccas Tedesco, Nicholas Vella and Ian Refalo. Projects were judged by an independent panel that applied a set of criteria to establish the level of innovation of each project. This scheme forms part of a module in Engineering Design administered jointly by Dr. Ing. Jonathan C. Borg, Head of the Department of Manufacturing Engineering and Professor Robert Ghirlando. Students enrolling for this module are taught a number of systematic engineering design methodologies and technologies which they are requested to apply to seek solutions to a number of problems. The award scheme was spearheaded by Ing. Ray Muscat, KBIC's Manager and Dr. Borg.

The President of Malta, Professor Guido de Marco paid a short visit to the University during which he addressed students and visited the University Library.

Exploring Industry - Academia Synergies was the title given to the convention held to mark the National Launch of the EU Sixth Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration (FP6) organised by the *Malta Council for Science and Technology* in collaboration with the University's *European*

Unit. This was attended by researchers from academia and industry, the private and public sector, consultancy firms, policy makers, SME's and NGO's.

The Chinese students at the University, in collaboration with the International Office and the Malta International Students Association (MISA), organised *Experience China*. The aim of this event was to present the new and dynamic China to local and overseas students. Chinese students gave presentations about the important traditions of China - folk art and crafts; Chinese medicine and traditional costumes as well as modern Chinese fashion; the very successful Chinese film industry and urban and economic development. The activity was supported by the Mediterranean Regional Centre for Traditional Chinese Medicine; the Xi Xi Chinese Restaurant & Malta Tai Qi society.

The Economics Department in collaboration with the Central Bank of Malta awarded the *Central Bank of Malta Prize* for outstanding research work presented in student dissertations to Mr Karl Montfort, Ms Nadia Farrugia and Ms Stephanie Bugeja.

Theology Students organised their *Christmas Charity Campaign* for the second consecutive year in aid of the *Preventive Care Programme* offered by the *Children's Homes Office*. The programme helps families in need, allowing children who would otherwise be sent to institutional homes, to stay in their respective homes.

The *Kunsill Studenti Universitarji* (KSU) in collaboration with the University's European Unit held the final session of the convention entitled: *Generation Europe: debating Europe's future together*. Between October and December, three sessions were held which discussed *Foreign Policy: the E.U. in a globalised world*, *The European Citizen* with the participation of Dr Larry Siedentop,

Keble College, Oxford and this final session, *The Role of National Parliaments* which was chaired by the President of the KSU, Mr James Scicluna, with the participation of Mr Charis Xirouchakis, Head of Public Relations Council of the European Union and The Hon. Dr Alfred Sant, Leader of the Opposition.

MKSU organized an Organ Donation Awareness Campaign, a Blood Drive on Campus and an Unplugged Concert as part of its social commitment supported by *Vodafone (Malta) Ltd.*, *Il-Gens* and *RTK*.

Malta's first grid-connected solar photovoltaic system reached 10,000 kWh of electricity production. The first solar electric system was connected to the grid at the University's Institute for Energy Technology in Marsaxlokk. in 1996. One of the most important results of hands-on research conducted, was its direct application in a local scenario. Over the past six years, the solar system has provided 60% of the Institute's electricity needs, while the electricity grid provided the remaining 40%. More quantitatively, the solar system has saved Lm450 in electricity consumption and 2.65 tonnes of fuel oil that would otherwise have been burnt at the power station. The resulting savings have contributed towards a better environment by reducing flue gas emissions by 10 tonnes of carbon dioxide as well as appreciable amounts of sulphur dioxide, nitrous oxides and filterable particles. An interesting feature of this study reveals that for each 10 m² of flat roof-top area occupied by solar modules inclined at 36° to the horizontal, a mean annual electricity output of 1840 kWh may be produced in Malta, enough to cover over 40% of an average Maltese household's electricity consumption. □

