This conference will explore the values in Sport and the impact that PE and Sport has on the lives of Maltese people from different perspectives. Sport has the power to improve lives and according to Nelson Mandela it has “the power to change the world”. It has an ability to focus, and to bring out the best in some people. Honour, courage, joy and perseverance are values which are important in the holistic development of a person and this can be achieved through sport. It is an accepted belief that “playing sports build character and improves health and well-being” (Coakley & Pike, 2009, p.112) yet such a belief needs to be critically investigated so as to examine what real impact can sport have on a person’s life even outside of sport.

Two important strategies highlighted in the Maltese National Youth Policy are “participation in sport at all possible levels” and “the provision of PE as an essential component of the school curriculum” (Parliamentary Secretariat for Youth and Sport, 2010, p.33). Our country needs to reflect in depth about the impact of sport on its citizens in the light of social change within the Maltese context.

In order to maximize the use of all the potential of sport, it is essential that culture of sports is built. Laker (2002, p.2) stated that a “culture is a system of shared values, meanings and symbols that enables societies and individuals to operate effectively.” The statement backs up the argument that sport denotes certain standards and
owns a secret language to have the right ingredients to build a culture of sports amongst its citizens. Sport can make a change in society and for this culture of sport to prevail a number of ingredients are needed: accessibility, affordability and appropriate in order to bring about this change.

Investing in sport and PE is never enough and bringing stakeholders together is paramount in order for all citizens to maximize from the benefits derived from physical activity. This conference is a forum which brings together researchers, PE teachers, coaches, practitioners, and policy makers to discuss the future role of PE and Sports in Malta. The conversations weave between research and application and experiences of all those participating.

**Key note speakers**

**Professor Jim Parry:** Philosophy of Sport and Physical Education as research interests. He was the Head of the Department of Philosophy, University of Leeds, England and is now a Visiting Professor at the Faculty of PE and Sport, Charles University in Prague.

**Professor Ingrid Johnson**, an Assistant Professor at the Grand Valley State University, Allendale MI USA. College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Department of Movement Science and who teaches in the area of Physical Education Professional Instruction

**Participants' Profile**

This conference intends to bring together professionals such as teachers, school administrators, coaches, healthcare professionals, sports doctors, sports managers, and policy makers, to analyse the current situation and discuss good practice. The nation’s future health is in our hands. Joining forces makes us better equipped to face the challenges ahead.

**Presentations** will be of particular interest to all those involved in the PE and Sport World and all those interested and believe that PE & Sport can really make a difference. The general public and anyone interested in Physical Education and Sport may also register for this conference.
**Roundtable Discussions**

After the keynote speech, all participants will be able to take part in roundtable discussions in which different topics will be discussed. There will be different topics and areas of interest in which participants can air their views, bring up any challenges and share good practice.

**Workshops**

Two rounds of 40-minute workshops will be available where speakers will present their research or work to the participants and time for questions will follow after. Participants will be able to register for the workshops in due course after registration.

**Networking Break**

The aim to have a networking break is to have the promotion of various entities that will promote the work that is being done in relation to physical education, Physical Activity and Sport.

**Registration for the Conference**

**Online Registration:** www.um.edu.mt/ipes/conference2015  
**Closing Date:** Friday, 17th April 2015

**Participation Fee**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>PE Teachers &amp; Others</td>
<td>35 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Time B.Ed Students</td>
<td>30 €</td>
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</tbody>
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DRAFT PROGRAMME

8.15    Registration & Welcome
8.45    Opening of Conference
9.00    Keynote speaker 1- Professor J Parry  (Focus on Values)
9.45    Round table Presentations & Discussions
10.30   Networking Break
11.00   Keynote speaker 2 – Professor Ingrid Johnson (Focus on PE)
11.30-12.10  Workshops (round 1)
12.15-12.55  Workshops (round 2)
13.00   Award Presentations & Closing
13.45   Business Lunch
14.30   Departures