



Dr James Corby

MY 100 WORD IDEA TO CHANGE MALTA

Elective student stipends

The University of Malta is central to our knowledge economy, and yet it is chronically underfunded. The University performs well despite underfunding, so imagine the heights that could be scaled with more adequate support.

My idea? Scrap the scandalously outmoded stipends system. Instead, make student financial support entirely elective (students decide whether they want support); money is then given to students as an interest-free loan, which they only start to repay once they have graduated and are earning more than a minimum threshold salary. The money saved would be directed into research, postgraduate and postdoctoral initiatives, and infrastructure and technology. **T**



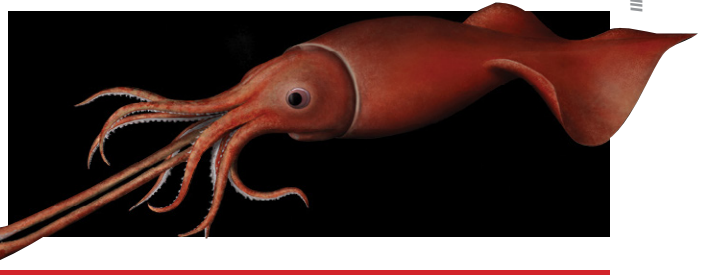
DOES THE KRAKEN EXIST?

Alexander Hili

'Release the Kraken' is a very famous quote from *Clash of the Titans*. In the movie scene, a monstrous being, with characteristics of both squid and octopus, is summoned from the sea to smash a city to the ground.

The Kraken is clearly a mythological creature, but the colossal squid (*Mesonychoteuthis hamiltoni*) is very real. The monstrously large squid grows to an estimated 12–14 m in length and has sharp swivelling or three-pointed hooks on its limbs. The bloated carcasses of this organism could have inspired the ancients. Large adults have never been caught since it is thought to live around 2.2 km beneath the water's surface when it develops. Like the Kraken it is a very elusive creature that is rarely seen. **T**

Illustration by Joery Verweij



Don't THINK

by Gorg Mallia

