



editorial

Matter

Everything within our physical existence is composed of matter – a complex arrangement of particles defined by mass and volume. Yet it is only through research that these building blocks can be understood and perhaps moulded. In the hands of a researcher, matter is decoded. It becomes a medium that can be meaningfully shaped in response to our societal needs.

At its core, research is a systematic process of inquiry. The value of research lies in its ability to replace guesswork with evidence, allowing communities to solve problems, innovate, and make informed decisions based on reliable data rather than intuition or tradition. It is through the rigours of research that a raw material can become part of a solution or cure.

In the sciences, researchers explore the transmutation of materials and the transformation of bodies, and in the humanities and social sciences, they study the ontological concept of becoming and the development of language, laws, and education systems. In Issue 49, **THINK** asks its own questions: What matters? What is changing?

When **THINK** was first published under the title *Research Matters* in 2011, the magazine set out to bridge the knowledge gap between the University of Malta and the general public. Fulfilling the need for accessible research became our cornerstone, and we've been doing so ever since. And so, returning to our questions: What matters? What is changing? – We firmly believe that research matters, and everything is changing.

'This issue is just an initial snapshot – there is more going on at our Alma Mater – much more than meets the eye. We promise to tell you all about it!'

– Prof. Juanito Camilleri
(Rector Emeritus of the University of Malta)

Prof. Ing. Simon G. Fabri

Editor-in-Chief

✉ simon.fabri@um.edu.mt

Rebekah Zammit

Editor

✉ rebekah.zammit@um.edu.mt

find us online



To read all our website-exclusive articles and publication archives
thinkmagazine.mt



To follow our daily musings and a look behind the scenes
facebook.com/ThinkUM



To see our best photos and illustrations
instagram.com/thinkuni



To communicate with us and follow the latest in research news
twitter.com/ThinkUMtweets



To connect with us and share in our successes
linkedin.com/showcase/thinkuni

OAR@UM

Open Access Repository

For our archive from the University of Malta Library
um.edu.mt/library/oar

contribute



Are you a student, staff, or researcher at the University of Malta? Would you like to contribute to **THINK** magazine? If interested, please get in touch to discuss your article on think@um.edu.mt or call +356 2340 4438