

Recent Activities at the University Gozo Centre

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Rector's visit to the University Gozo Centre

In July Professor Juanito Camilleri, Rector of the University of Malta, accompanied by the Hon. Giovanna Debono, visited the University Gozo Centre, where they met Professor Lino Briguglio, Director of the Centre. Professor Briguglio explained the importance of the presence of this Centre in Gozo and how this has had a positive effect on higher education in Gozo. He said that about 400 students graduated after having followed courses at the University Gozo Centre.



Prof Lino Briguglio (centre) making a point during the meeting held at the Centre.

Minister Giovanna Debono stressed the importance of maintaining and increasing the services offered by the University in Gozo, which should result in the strengthening of human resources through lifelong learning in Gozo. She remarked that the Ministry for Gozo will continue to support the University Gozo Centre as it has been during the past fifteen years.

Professor Juanito Camilleri, Rector of the University of Malta spoke favourably about the Centre and by the facilities it offers. He acknowledged the importance of the Centre to the Gozitan community and stated that Gozo will need more trained people in order to help it achieve the eco-island status.

The Summer Activity

Once again the central courtyard of the Centre was the venue for its annual summer activity entitled "An Evening with Island Brass". The event, which was attended by an audience of about two hundred persons, took place on Friday 5 September 2008.

The programme included several well-known musical pieces. Soprano Ms Georgina Gauci also joined the quintet.



The event attracted a large audience.

Courses

In October two new courses commenced at the Centre. These are the Diploma in Commerce offered by the Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy, and the MA in Islands and Small States Studies offered by the Institute of Islands and Small States Studies. A number of short courses were also offered. These included "Introduction to Criminology", "Inclusive Education - Transforming Schools into Communities", "Systems of Knowledge" and "Understanding Young People in Today's Society".

The Ministry for Gozo with the collaboration of the University Gozo Centre offered a number of short courses in "Literacy and Numeracy" and in "Agriculture". Due to the success of these courses, another set of courses in agriculture was offered during November and December. All courses were co-financed by the European Social Fund under the Structural Funds Programme for Malta 2004-2006.

Award of Certificates

On 8 August the Hon. Giovanna Debono distributed certificates to 167 candidates who had followed the courses in "Literacy and Numeracy" and in "Agriculture" offered by the Ministry for Gozo at the University Gozo Centre between November 2007 and July 2008.



The Hon. Giovanna Debono awards a certificate to a successful participant.

Graduation of University Gozo Centre Students

Forty two students who completed courses at the University Gozo Centre received their certificates during the recent graduation ceremonies. The courses completed were those leading to Masters in Islands and Small States Studies (3 students), Post-graduate Diploma in Education - Administration and Management (27 students), Bachelor of Commerce (4 students) and Diploma in Commerce (13 students).



The Gozitan and Maltese graduates of the MA in ISSS.

The students who obtained their Masters in Islands and Small States Studies are Joseph Cassar, Jane Refalo and Carl Scerri,

The students who obtained their Post-graduate Diploma in Education - Administration and Management are Marthese Attard, Angelo Bonello, Pierre Camilleri, Daniel Cassar, Mariella Cassar, Victoria Cassar, Joann Cordina, Dominic Cutajar, Justin Debono, Michelina Debrincat, Joy Frendo, Tony Frendo, Florence Garcia Bugeja, Michelle Grima, Silvio Grima, Mary Rose Mercieca, Helen Muscat, Gineve Refalo, Christopher Saliba, Anna Sciberras, Helga Vella, Joseph Vella, Maria Vella, Maria Vella Muscat, Lino Xerri, Marie-Claude Xerri, and Frankline Zammit.

The students who graduated in Bachelor of Commerce are Marvic Borg, Alexia Cassar, Angela Cauchi, Joline Pace, Joanne Vella and Michael Vella.



The students who received the Bachelor of Commerce.

The graduates in Diploma in Commerce are George Debrincat, Mary Mercieca, Sylvana Muscat, Josline Portelli, Nadine Portelli, Rosalie Refalo, and Alison Zerafa.

Publications

The 18th edition of the *Gozo Observer* was published in June 2008. As in previous issues, a selection of articles dealing with Gozitan affairs were included.

In this edition Nadia Farrugia contributed an article dealing with her experiences as a lecturer at the University Gozo Centre. Saviour Formosa and Ann Marie Bartolo dealt with the impact of climate change on the island of Gozo, while Godwin Vella presented an interesting article on Valperga's proposal regarding the fortification systems of Gozo during the 17th century. Caroline Camilleri Rolls gave a short summary relating to a training workshop organised for Chambers of Commerce on Small Islands, held at the University Gozo Centre in June 2008. "Gozo as an Ecological Island - Some Reflections" was the theme of an article by Raymond Xerri, while Maria Theresa Farrugia presented an article on the Dwejra Heritage Park as a distinctive natural setting in the Island of Gozo.

Free copies of the *Gozo Observer* and more information can be obtained from the University Gozo Centre, Mgarr Road, Xewkija, Gozo.
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