

Recent Activities at the University of Malta (Gozo Campus)

JOSEPH CALLEJA

Presentation of Certificates

The Hon. Giovanna Debono distributed certificates to 64 candidates who successfully completed the short courses at the University of Malta (Gozo Campus). The courses held were:

- ‘Introduction to Criminology’, conducted by Mr Saviour Formosa
- ‘Inclusive Education: Transforming Schools into Communities’ conducted by Dr Andrew Azzopardi
- ‘Transforming Schools into Communities’, coordinated by Dr Andrew Azzopardi

Minister Debono, commenting on the activities of the Gozo Campus, said that the partnership between the Ministry for Gozo and the University of Malta (Gozo Campus) is resulting in fostering education at all levels in Gozo and therefore making an important contribution to Gozitan society. Referring to the short courses offered at the Campus, Minister Debono said that she was very pleased that these courses were attracting participants from all walks of life and different age groups.



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

In his speech, Professor Lino Briguglio, who presided over the event, said that he was very pleased that so many students were seeing the need for further training and attending the courses offered by the Campus. This shows that the Campus is

filling a very important void in Gozo. He thanked the Minister for Gozo and the University authorities for their continuous support of the Campus.

The Gozo Lace Day

The annual “Gozo Lace Day” event was organised for the thirteenth consecutive year on the 19th April 2009 at the University of Malta (Gozo Campus) premises. The event consisted of a number of exhibitions and demonstrations of Gozo lace and talks on matters related to lace-making. Present for the event were the Hon. Giovanna Debono, Minister for Gozo, Mr Anton Tabone, former Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Ms Consiglia Azzopardi, coordinator of the Lace Making Programme.

A presentation was delivered by Mr John Vella about the various types of thread that are available on the market for the making of lace. Ms Iris Galea Lowell also delivered an interesting lecture about ‘Lace-making from Prehistoric Times’.



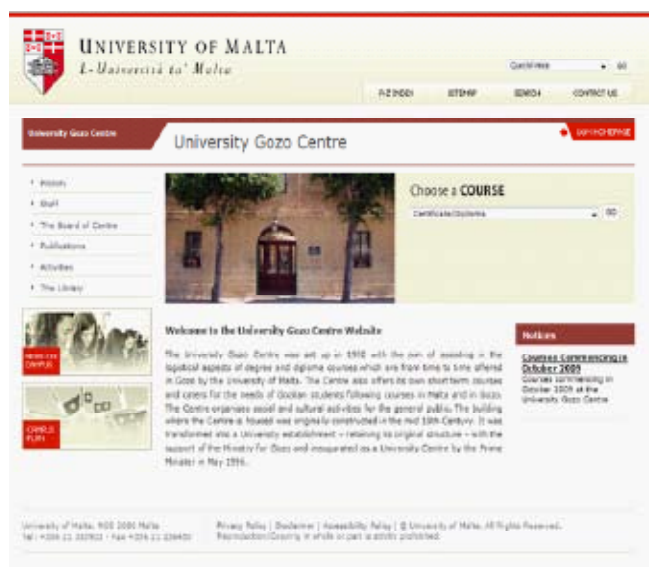
Ms Margaret Crocker (left) showing exhibits to Hon. Giovanna Debono (2nd from right) and Mr Anton Tabone (middle).

Several persons, many of them lace makers, attended the event. The event included exhibitions of old lace pieces and textile crafts. Other exhibits were mounted by the International Organisation

of Needle and Bobbin Lace (OIDFA) and by the Malta Lace Guild. There were also demonstrations of sprang, embroidery, card weaving, tapestry weaving, cord lacing and information about courses in different aspects of Maltese Lace. Koperattiva Ghawdxija tal-Bizzilla u Artigjanat were also present with lace making materials.

New Webpage of the University of Malta (Gozo Campus)

On 2nd May the University of Malta (Gozo Campus) launched its new webpage. It includes information about the Campus and about the services offered. It can be accessed at www.um.edu.mt/ugc



The main webpage of the University of Malta (Gozo Campus)

Visit by the Prime Minister Lawrence Gonzi



Prime Minister Lawrence Gonzi, accompanied by Hon. Giovanna Debono, Hon. Dr Chris Said and Mr Joseph Calleja, talking to one of the participants.

On the 21st May, the Prime Minister Lawrence Gonzi paid a short visit to the University Gozo Campus where he met with a number of participants

who had followed courses co-financed by the European Social Fund held at the University Gozo Campus. Some of the participants explained how these courses had resulted in their decision to further their studies at tertiary level. The Prime Minister was accompanied by Hon. Giovanna Debono, Minister for Gozo and by Hon. Dr Chris Said, Parliamentary Secretary for Public Dialogue.

Public Lecture by Professor Raymond Ellul

On 29th May Professor Raymond Ellul, from the Physics Department of the University of Malta, delivered a public lecture at the Ministry for Gozo entitled “A 12 Year Study of Atmospheric Pollution in the Central Mediterranean, A Maltese - German Project, 1993 - 2009”.



Professor Raymond Ellul delivering his speech in the main hall of the Ministry for Gozo.

During his talk Professor Ellul summarised the work carried out during the last twelve years by the University of Malta. The University of Malta is the responsible Maltese academic entity appointed by World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) to run the University Atmospheric Research (GAW) station located at the Giordan Lighthouse in Gozo. Present for the lecture were the Hon. Giovanna Debono, Minister for Gozo and Professor Juanito Camilleri, Rector of the University of Malta.

Opening of the Alliance Française branch in Gozo

On 12th June the Alliance Française de Malte Méditerranée officially opened its new branch at the University Gozo Campus. The French Ambassador for Malta H.E. Mr Daniel Rondeau and Mr Anthony Borg from the Ministry of Gozo officially declared the branch open. The event

was also marked by a musical interval by soprano Marouska Attard and pianist Stephen Attard as well as by the opening of a photographic exhibition entitled “Paris la Métisse”. The exhibition featured 104 black and white photos by two French photographers Florence Batarière and Morgan Haël Jypian. The photos reflected the cultural diversity in Paris from different aspects. Since last February the branch has offered a French course for adult beginners and showed a French film once a month. This summer the Alliance will be holding junior courses for secondary level students.

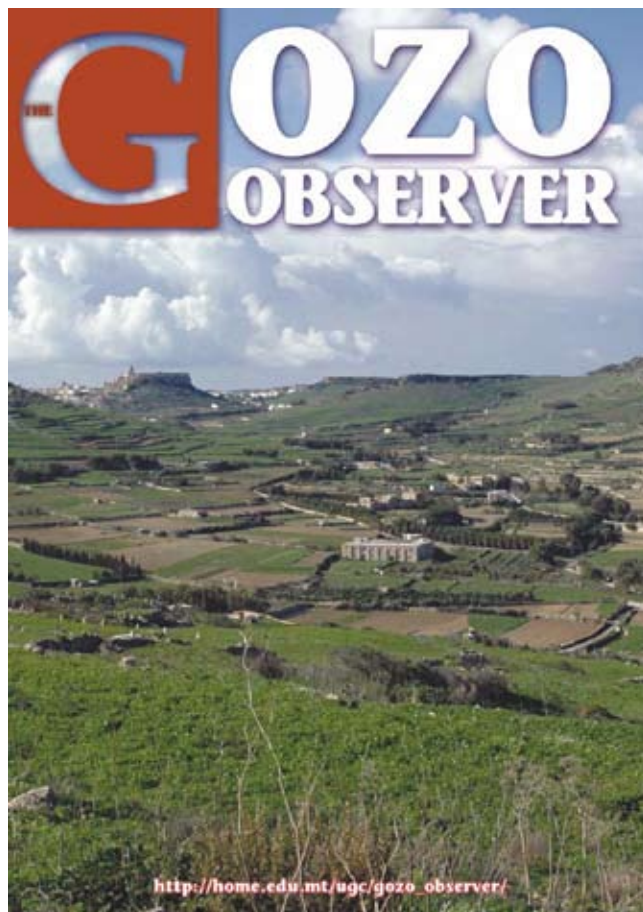


The French Ambassador for Malta H.E. Mr Daniel Rondeau (left), Mr Anthony Borg from the Ministry of Gozo (right) and Mr David Raphael Busuttill, President of the Alliance Française (centre), during the event.

Publications

The 19th edition of the *Gozo Observer* was published in December 2008. As in previous issues a number of articles on Gozitan affairs were included.

In this edition Maria Theresa Farrugia contributes an interesting article about the successful promotion of intangible heritage in the hamlet of Santa Luċija, Kercem, while Professor Charles Savona Ventura discusses Knight Templar remains found on the island of Gozo. Caroline Camilleri Rolls gives a summary about the Ġieħ Ġhawdex awards, and Maryrose Vella writes about the Gozo Discovery Bus. Paul G. Pisani presents an interesting article about his father Ġorġ Pisani on the 100th year from his birth. “A New Future for the Island – Eco Gozo” is the theme of an article by The Hon. Giovanna Debono, Minister for Gozo, while Joe Muscat presents an article entitled, “Hitting or Missing Niche Markets”.



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

Tel: 21 564559; Fax: 21 564550; E-mail: ugc@um.edu.mt; Web: www.um.edu.mt/ugc

The University of Malta (Gozo Campus)

Recently the Senate of the University of Malta has approved that the University Gozo Centre be given the status of campus and be renamed ‘The University of Malta (Gozo Campus)’

Joseph Calleja is Administrative Officer at the University of Malta (Gozo Campus).