

Recent Activities at the University of Malta - Gozo Campus

JOSEPH CALLEJA

Courses at the Gozo Campus

In October 2016 the University of Malta opened two courses at the Gozo Campus, namely the Bachelor of Commerce and the Executive Master of Business Administration in Public Management. Both courses are on a part-time basis and the latter is being offered via video-conferencing.

In February 2017 the Maltese Department of the University of Malta opened, for the fourth consecutive year, the course leading to the Certificate in Proof Reading. During the same month, the Faculty of Education opened a Postgraduate Certificate in the Teaching of Ethics in Schools. This course is being offered through the video-conferencing system.

Other courses running at the Gozo Campus during this academic year are: Diploma in Commerce, Bachelor of Psychology (Hons), Master of Arts in Islands and Small States Studies, Diploma in Facilitating Inclusive Education and Master of Business Administration in Public Management. A course leading to the BA (Hons) in Public Management is partly being offered at the Gozo Campus through video-conferencing.

Graduation of Students

During the graduation ceremonies held at the University of Malta in November and December 2016, a number of students graduated after having successfully completed courses at the University Gozo Campus.

Eight students obtained the Diploma in Commerce, while six students graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce. Six students obtained a Higher Diploma in Public Accounting and Finance, and seven students graduated with an Executive Master in Business Administration.

Certificates were also awarded to a group of eight students who successfully completed a course leading to a Certificate in Proof Reading: Maltese. Another group of sixteen students were awarded a certificate in Baroque Architecture.



The students who followed the Diploma in Commerce.



The students who successfully completed the Higher Diploma in Public Accounting and Finance.



The group of students who were awarded the University's Certificate in Proofreading in Maltese and the proofreading warrant from the National Council for the Maltese Language.



The group of students who were awarded the University's Pretertiary Certificate in Baroque Architecture.

Examinations

Similar to the other Gozitan students following courses at the Msida Campus, Gozitans studying at the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery were, in January 2017, given the option to sit for their written exams in Gozo. These were the remaining group of University Gozitan students who at that time did not have this option.

During the January 2017 session, around 640 University examinations were held, partly at the Gozo Campus in Xewkija and partly at the Examination Centre in Victoria. All Gozitan

students following courses at the University of Malta, now have the option to sit for their written exams in Gozo, in the vicinity of their homes.

Book Presentation

In October 2016, Mr John Magro presented a copy of the book "A Century of Enterprise" to the library of the Gozo Campus. Present for the occasion were the author of the book, Mons Joseph Bezzina, and the book photographer and designer Mr Daniel Cilia. Another copy of the book was also presented to the Main Library of the University of Malta in Msida.



Mr John Magro presenting the book "A Century of Enterprise".

First Meeting of the CCGC

The first meeting of the Consultative Committee for the Gozo Campus was held on Friday 17 March 2017. This first meeting was chaired by the University Rector, Professor Alfred J. Vella.

The committee is made up of Professor Louis F. Cassar, Rector's Delegate for the Gozo Campus, Ms Joyce Farrugia (Ministry for Gozo), Mr Joseph Grech (Gozo Business Chamber), Ms Hilda Grima (Gozo-based students' representative), Professor Mary Anne Lauri (University of Malta), Mr Joe Muscat (Gozo Tourism Authority) and Mr Manuel Xuereb (Grupp Universitarji Għawdxin).

Also present for the meeting were Perit Christopher Spiteri and Perit Susanne Pace (Estates and Works), Mr Joseph Calleja and Mr Marvin Grech (Gozo Campus administrators) and, for part of the meeting, Dr Consiglia Azzopardi.

Presentations were delivered by Mr J. Calleja, who delved on the historical aspect of the campus, outlining milestone events covering the twenty-five years of its existence. Perit C. Spiteri presented an architectural brief on the envisaged maintenance and refurbishing works. He also described the proposed extension of the campus. Dr. C. Azzopardi outlined the programme she directs on Maltese Lace.

Among the various points discussed during the Committee meeting, it was agreed to approach the Institute for Tourism, Travel and Culture with a view to explore the possibility of offering courses in this area, in Gozo. Meanwhile, a follow-up meeting is to be held with the Gozo Business Chamber in order to identify specific lacunae in human resource development needs on the island. This could be done through focus group meetings with key stakeholders, and subsequently prioritise on both degree courses and short intensive training seminars, as well as on out reach, in particular, in rural sciences and agricultural practices.

Joseph Calleja is Administrator of the University of Malta - Gozo Campus.



The first meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Gozo Campus in progress.