

Recent Activities at the University of Malta - Gozo Campus

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Visit by the Hon. Chris Said, Minister for Justice, Dialogue and the Family.

On 3rd March 2012 the Hon. Chris Said paid a visit to the University Gozo Campus where he presented copies of the book entitled “The Gozo Civic Council: the Story of a Regional Government” to the library of the same Campus. The Hon. Said was accompanied by Mr Anton Tabone who is the chairman of the committee which organised the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Civic Council.



The Hon. Chris Said (centre) with Mr Anton Tabone presenting the book to Professor Lino Briguglio (left).

Public Lectures

During the month of April the University Gozo Campus organised two public lectures for which a number of gozitans participated. The first one was entitled ‘Musical Exodus: Remembering the Jewish Arab Mediterranean in North Africa and the Levant’ delivered by Dr Ruth Davis (University of Cambridge). The second lecture, entitled ‘Existentialism’ was given by Professor David E. Cooper, who was, until recently, Professor of Philosophy at the University of Durham.

The Gozo Lace Day - 2012

The Lace-Making Programme of the University Gozo Campus, organised for the sixteenth consecutive year the “Gozo Lace Day”. The

event, which was held on Sunday 22nd April 2012, 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, Ms Consiglia Azzopardi, coordinator of the Lace Making Programme and Dr Joseph Azzopardi as the guest speaker.

In her introductory speech Consiglia Azzopardi gave an overview of the works and courses offered by the Lace-Making Programme at the Gozo Campus, while Dr Joseph Azzopardi delivered an interesting talk about the prospects for reviving Maltese Lace. In her speech the Hon. Giovanna Debono emphasised the importance of lace making as one of the unique characteristics of the Gozitan touristic product and how it forms an intrinsic part of the island’s traditions. Thus it still retains an economic as well as a historical value as part of Gozo’s unique cultural heritage. Minister Debono also praised the various initiatives taken at the University Gozo Campus and remarked that the collective effort of all those concerned are resulting in increased educational services on the island. The Minister then presented certificates to a number of students who attended courses offered by the Lace-Making Programme.



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

A large number of lace makers and friends attended the event which also included exhibitions of contemporary lace master-pieces and textile crafts, a competition and a raffle. There were a number of stands, one of which was mounted by the International Organisation of Needle and Bobbin Lace (OIDFA). A talk about the pattern of a Cape Collar was also delivered by Ms Consiglia Azzopardi.



One of the exhibits at the Lace Day - 2012.

Pro-Rector for Gozo

At the University of Malta Council meeting of 26 April 2012, Professor Joe Friggieri was appointed Pro-Rector for Gozo. The appointment is part of an overall plan to develop the Gozo Campus into a fully-fledged and vibrant campus of the University of Malta.



Professor Joe Friggieri

Joe Friggieri is Professor of Philosophy and elected member of Senate representing the academic staff of the Faculty of Arts. He holds doctorates from Milan and Oxford and is a leading poet, playwright and theatre director.

With the appointment of a Pro-Rector for Gozo, the post of Director of the Gozo Campus was abolished and the functions of the Board of the Campus were assumed by the pro-rectorate.

Installation of a Photovoltaic System

The installation of a photovoltaic system at the University Gozo Campus has been completed. One hundred and twenty photovoltaic panels have been installed on the main roof of the campus premises. The system, which costs €175,820 will contribute towards the reduction of 30 tonnes of CO₂ emissions at the Gozo Campus with consequent environmental benefits to society. The project was part financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) under the Cohesion Policy Programme 2007-2013.



Photovoltaic panels on the roof of the Gozo Campus.

Pilot initiative to hold examinations in Gozo

The University of Malta launched a pilot initiative for the June 2012 examination sessions, where a number of examinations, relating to courses held in Malta, were organised at the University Gozo Campus. Through this initiative, a number of Gozitan students following courses at the Msida campus were given the opportunity to sit for the end-of-semester exams in Gozo.

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