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PROFILES OF THE MAIN CONTRIBUTORS TO THE CONFERENCE

Professor John Rizzo Naudi K.O.M., M.D., B.Sc., F.R.C.P. (Edin)
Chairperson Institute of Health Care.
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Graduated as a Doctor of Medicine from the University of Malta in 1952. He served in Malaysia from 1953 to 1961. Prof. Rizzo Naudi carried out post-graduate studies in the U.K. where he obtained the Membership of The Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh in 1964 and later became a Fellow of the same College in 1971.

He was appointed Lecturer in the Department of Medicine in 1966 and a Consultant Physician in the Department of Health in 1968. In 1988 he was appointed Professor of Medicine in the Faculty of Medicine and, since that year has also been Chairman of the Institute of Health Care, University of Malta.

He was elected Member of Parliament from 1976 onwards. He was appointed Minister for The Care of The Elderly in 1987, and again Minister for Health in 1992. In 1995 he was appointed President of the Permanent Committee for Social Affairs in the House of Representatives and Member of Parliament in the Council of Europe, Strasbourg. During the 8 years from 1987 to 1995 he founded and organized a new “Department for the Care of the Elderly and Special Needs”. Professor Rizzo Naudi revolutionized the perception of the Elderly in the Maltese community and introduced several new services (Institutional and Community) for the Elderly in Malta and Gozo. He co-founded an Institute of

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Gerontology within the University of Malta for the study and research in Geriatrics and Gerontology.

In 1988 he succeeded in the establishment of the first United Nations Institute on Ageing in Valletta, Malta, (the first of its kind in the world and inaugurated by the United Nations Secretary General Dr. Peres de Quejjar on 15th April 1988). In 1992, he founded and set up Geriatric Rehabilitation in Malta, a multi-disciplinary project, based in Zammit-Clapp Geriatric Rehabilitation Hospital.

As Co-Founder of the Institute of Health Care, University of Malta he modernized the training and professional preparation of nurses and other professions allied to medicine, by creating Degree and Masters programs in the University for Nursing Studies, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech (Communication) Therapy, Radiography, Environmental Health, Nutrition and Dietetics, Podiatry and Health Services Management.

In the Health sphere, he was directly involved in several innovations, including the Nursing Development Unit, the Modernization of the Hospital Services and hospital care and practice. He is also a great believer and advocate of voluntary work in Malta and overseas and since 1985 has been founder President of the Voluntary Lay Missionary Movement, which carries out voluntary work in Africa, South and Central America and in other developing continents.

He still coordinates a module on Voluntary Work in the Faculty of Theology for university students. The President of Malta appointed him Chancellor of the University on 8th November 1995. In 2001 he was honoured by the State when he was made Companion of the National Order of Malta.

Dr Sandra Buttigieg M.D., M.Sc.(Public Health), M.B.A., Ph.D.(Aston), NMCFD

The Director Institute of Health Care, University of Malta

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Dr Sandra Buttigieg is the Director of the Institute of Health Care, and Co-ordinator of Health Services Management Programme of Studies at the University of Malta. She lectures on the Masters Programmes in Health Services Management, Public Health, and Family Medicine. Her main research areas are based within Work and Organisational Psychology, Sociology as Applied to Medicine, and Public Health.

Dr Sandra Buttigieg graduated as a Medical Doctor from the University of Malta in 1987, later in 1997, obtaining a Masters in Public Health Medicine. In 2002 she obtained a Masters in Business Administration with Distinction. She obtained her PhD from Aston University, Birmingham, U.K. in 2007. She is also a Fellow of the Salzburg Seminar, sessions 292 and 356, related to Health Care. Between 1987 and 1998, she served as Vice-President and later International Secretary of the Medical Association of Malta. Dr Buttigieg's previous post was that of Medical Superintendent at St Vincent de Paule. Dr Buttigieg is a member on the Board of Directors of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Hospital and a member of the Bioethics Consultative Committee. She is a member on Senate of the University of Malta.

Ms Roberta Sammut B.Sc.(Hons), M.Sc.(Lond)

Coordinator, Nursing & Midwifery Studies, Institute of Health Care, University of Malta

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Roberta Sammut is Coordinator of the Nursing and Midwifery

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Division of the Institute of Health Care, where she has held as post as assistant lecturer since 1996. Over these years she has been responsible for teaching medical nursing on the B.Sc. nursing programme. She graduated B.Sc. in Nursing Studies (Hons) from the University of Malta in 1993 and subsequently M.Sc. in Nursing from King's College London, University of London in 1996. Roberta is currently reading for a Ph.D. in Nursing at King's College London. Her research area of interest centres on the psychosocial development of pre-registration nursing students during their time in university.

Dr Donia Baldacchino Ph.D.(Hull), M.Sc.(Lond), B.Sc.(Hons), Cert.Ed., R.G.N.

Senior Lecturer Institute of Health Care, University of Malta.
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Specialised in renal nursing (1980) and in adult education (1984). Graduated (B.Sc. Hons) at the University of Malta (1992); (M.Sc.) at King's College University of London, U.K. (1993); (Ph.D. Nursing) at University of Hull U.K. (2002) where she researched spiritual coping, anxiety, depression and spiritual well being of Maltese patients with myocardial infarction. Currently, Donia is coordinating the MSc Nursing programme and coordinating research on stress and spiritual coping of nursing students, institutionalized older persons, patients with cancer and clients with HIV / AIDS.

Dr Wilfred McSherry Ph.D., M.Phil, B.Sc, R.G.N.

Senior Lecturer, University of Hull, Yorkshire, U.K.
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Graduated from the University of Hull in 1992 and spent several years in practice within the medical speciality where his interest

in the spiritual dimension developed along side a realization that this aspect of care was neglected by some health care professionals. This interest led him to register for a Master of Philosophy research degree titled 'A descriptive survey of nurses' perceptions of spirituality and spiritual care'. Published books and articles addressing different aspects of the spiritual dimension. Author of 'Making sense of Spirituality in Nursing and Health Care Practice' published by Churchill Livingstone. Completed his doctoral studies at Leeds Metropolitan University in May 2005 researching 'The Meaning of Spirituality and Spiritual Care: An investigation of health care professionals', patients' and public's perceptions'. Currently works as a Senior Lecturer, Department of Nursing, Faculty of Health and Social Care and is Director of the Centre for Spirituality Studies at the University.

Rev Fr Mario Attard OFM Cap

Hospital Chaplain, Mater Dei Hospital, Malta

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Fr Mario Attard OFM Cap is a Franciscan Capuchin friar and one of the present six Roman Catholic chaplains at Mater Dei Hospital. He studied philosophy and theology at the Faculties of Arts and Theology of the University of Malta. Since his appointment as a hospital chaplain at St Lukes Hospital on September 6, 2004 Fr Mario continued his studies in hospital chaplaincy by doing three CPE units at St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney Australia. He also obtained his MA (Chaplaincy) degree from the Sydney College of Divinity.

Ms Jenny Hall M.Sc, R.N., R.M., A.D.M., PGDip(HE)

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Senior Midwifery Lecturer, researcher and practitioner in the UK. She is also an author and editor of The Practicing Midwife Journal. She writes and facilitates learning on issues around spirituality for midwives, using creative methods to aid learning. She is currently researching the holistic art of midwifery for an Ed.D. She has a ministry relating to pregnancy and women's health issues in a church in Bristol. She also has a wonderfully patient husband and five daughters, none of whom want to be midwives!

Dr Linda Ross Ph.D., BA., R.G.N.

Senior Lecturer, University of Glamorgan, Wales.

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Linda has 15 years experience of researching and publishing on spiritual aspects of healthcare. She regularly presents her work at conferences both in the UK and abroad. In 2005 she organised the first conference on spiritual care to be held in Wales, and the University of Glamorgan hosted the second International Student Spiritual Care Conference. That same year she was twice invited by the Romanian Nurses Association to present papers and to lead workshops for nurses on spirituality and research at their annual conferences. More recently she helped lead the first seminar on spiritual care for nurses in Motol Hospital, Prague (organised by Partnerships in International Medical Education). She is currently developing teaching input on spiritual care within the department where she works and she supervises M.Phil and Ph.D. students, 3 of whom are researching spiritual aspects of care. She is currently co-writing a book with Dr Wilf McSherry on spiritual assessment.

Professor Aru Narayanasamy, R.N., Ph.D.

Associate Professor, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, U.K.

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Dr Aru Narayanasamy is an experienced lecturer, researcher and practitioner. Presently, as the Project Leader for the Bearings Project (funded by Trinity Care part of Southern Healthcare Group), Aru is carrying out spiritual and cultural care research at the Faculty of Medicine and Health Science, Queens Medical Centre, University of Nottingham. He has been involved in medical, accident and emergency and mental health care, with experiences ranging from positions in the National Health Service as Charge Nurse/Ward Manager, Senior Tutor and Assistant Director of Nurse Education and Projects Manager. Aru has been a Health Advisor/Consultant to various agencies. He has written widely in the area of spiritual and cultural dimensions of health care and nurse education. His pioneering work culminated in teaching innovations such as the **ASSET** (Actioning Spirituality **and** Spiritual Care Education **and** Training) and **ACCESS (Transcultural)** models. He is supervising post-graduate research in the area of spirituality and culture.

H.G. Mgr Mario Grech

Bishop of the Diocese of Gozo, Malta

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Following his ordination as a priest in 1984, Bishop M. Grech proceeded to the Lateran University for his “Utroque Iure” Degree at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas, where he obtained a doctorate in Canon Law. While in Rome, he helped in the parish of Santa Maria dell-Assunzione on Via Tuscolana and when he returned to Malta he was involved in pastoral work in various fields including Parish Priest of Kercem for a year. Up to his nomination as Bishop of Gozo on the 26th November 2005, he was Judicial Vicar of the Gozo Diocesan Tribunal, Judge in the Metropolitan

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Tribunal of Malta, a member of the College of Consultants, of the Theological Commission, Commission for the Family and Media Communication Commission. On the 22nd January 2006, Mgr Mario Grech was consecrated as the 7th Bishop of Gozo.

Mr Charles Bezzina M.Sc., R.G.N.

Assistant Lecturer, Institute of Health Care, University of Malta
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Mr. Charles Bezzina lectures at the University of Malta – Institute of Health Care. He has a Masters Degree in Nursing from the University of Manchester. He conducted a Tracer Study on nurses qualified at the Institute of Health Care. He is currently a Coordinator of the part-time Nursing Degree. He qualified as a registered nurse in 1981 and worked for 10 years in an Acute Surgical Ward.

Ms Therese Bugeja M.Sc., BS.c, PQDip (Nurs Educ), R.G.N.

Assistant Lecturer, Institute of Health Care, University of Malta
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Therese lectures at the University of Malta – Institute of Health Care. She attained her B.Sc. (Hons) Nursing, PQD in Nurse Education, and M.Sc. (Health Science Education) from the University of Malta. Her first thesis focused on 'Maltese Nurses' Perceptions of Pain' and the second on 'Clinical Reasoning'. For several years she co-ordinated both the Foundation and Degree in Nursing programmes. She obtained her nurse registration in 1980 and worked for some years on the Intensive Therapy Unit. Presently, she is pursuing a post graduate Diploma in Gestalt Psychotherapy.

Ms Christine Grima M.Sc., B.Sc., R.G.N.

Staff Nurse, Nursing Directorate Services

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Ms Christine Grima is a member of the Nursing Directorate Team. Christine has obtained her Masters Degree in Health Science (Nursing) in 2007 and the BSc (Hons) Nursing from the University of Malta. She qualified as a registered nurse in 1993 and worked as a Staff Nurse in the Oncology Unit in Malta.

H.G. Mgr Paul Cremona O.P.

Archbishop of the Diocese of Malta

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After his priestly ordination as a Dominican Father in 1969, Fr Paul studied Moral Theology at the Pontifical University of St Thomas Aquinas in Rome (*Angelicum*) where, in 1973, he graduated Doctor in Theology. Between 1974 and 2003, he was Prior at the convent of our Lady of the Grotto at Rabat. In 1981 - 1985, he was the Provincial of the Maltese Dominican Province. Between 1993 and 1997, he was responsible for the Formation of the Dominican novices and students at Rabat. He became Parish Priest of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima in Gwardamanga and Jesus of Nazareth in Sliema. Additionally, he held other offices in the Archdiocese, among which, being the Archbishop's Delegate for Consecrated Life, Assistant Spiritual Director at the Seminary at Tal-Virtù, Rabat, Member of the Presbyterial Council and President of the Council of Maltese Religious Major Superiors (KSMR). Fr. Paul was ordained Archbishop of Malta on 26th January 2007.

