

## From dialogue to action: Strengthening student–staff connections for better learning



The [Faculty of Engineering](#) has established a **Student–Staff Liaison Committee**, a dedicated forum that strengthens communication, collaboration, and wellbeing across our students and academic community.

Chaired by [Prof. Alexandra Bonnici](#), the committee has now been active for over a year and is already making a meaningful impact. Conceived as an intermediary body between students and academic staff, it ensures that students' voices are heard and that their learning experience continues to improve.

First-year students are introduced to the committee members during Fresher's Week in the Dean's introduction to the Faculty. This introduction is then followed by a talk in collaboration with the [Student Advisory Services](#) and the Faculty Office, and in which students are introduced to the Faculty's operations and relevant University regulations. A further talk is delivered to all students to explain the role of student representatives on the Faculty Board and Boards of Studies, with the aim of encouraging students to take a more active role in shaping their learning experience.

A key feature of the committee's work is the collection of student feedback midway through each semester. This feedback is compiled into a report and shared with the Dean and Heads of Departments. Where feasible, the Faculty acts on the suggestions received, demonstrating a strong commitment to continuous enhancement.

In addition, the Committee organises informal events that bring students and staff together in a relaxed and open setting, helping build trust and community. Looking ahead, the Committee plans to expand these activities with the support of the student society ([UESA](#)), reinforcing a culture where students feel comfortable expressing their views and engaging with Faculty life.

This initiative stands as a strong example of how encouraging dialogue and wellbeing can enrich the University experience for all.

*Through this [Quality Mailshot Initiative](#), the [QAC](#) aims to disseminate best practices at UM that align with both national and European standards for quality in higher education. If you have an example of good QA practice which you would like us to share, please get in touch with us at [gac@um.edu.mt](mailto:gac@um.edu.mt)*