

The Edward de Bono Institute for Creative Thinking and Innovation



Annual Report
2022/2023

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1.0 SUMMARY of ENTITY PROFILE

1.1 The Edward de Bono Institute for Creative Thinking and Innovation

The Edward de Bono Institute for Creative Thinking and Innovation (formerly for the Design and Development of Thinking) was established at the University of Malta in 1992 in collaboration with Professor Edward de Bono.

At its inception, the core focus of the Institute was to teach Professor de Bono's thinking tools at the University of Malta. However, as the Institute progressed, it expanded and diversified its lecturing, research and outreach portfolio to cover five interrelated subject areas, namely creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship, futures studies and critical thinking.

Creativity refers to the generation of novel and useful ideas which, in today's increasingly competitive and turbulent environment, are necessary for survival and prosperity. In this respect, creativity and creative capabilities have come to represent indispensable resources and capacities, enabling individuals to identify opportunities and solve problems. Contrary to popular belief, creativity is a skill and, just like any other skill, it may be developed and deployed through consistent practice and use of multiple creativity tools, techniques and frameworks.

Innovation refers to the successful implementation of creative ideas to produce something of value or to reap commercial gains and competitive advantage. Innovation relates not only to science and technology, but to the introduction of new or improved products, services and processes in any context or industry. Innovation is a necessary step in the creative process, as the benefits of creativity may only emerge if there is a system in place to manage the implementation of ideas.

Entrepreneurship is generally associated with starting up and running one's own business, which leads to job creation, innovation and economic growth. Beyond that, however, the European Commission has stressed the importance of cultivating an entrepreneurial culture or mindset and has listed "a sense of initiative and entrepreneurship" as a key competence for life. The entrepreneurship key competence involves the knowledge, skills and attitudes that enable individuals to generate and implement creative ideas, to be self-confident, autonomous and proactive, to plan and execute projects, and to act in socially responsible ways. This entrepreneurship key competence is important not only for those wishing to start up and run their own business, but also for those seeking employment or a professional career.

Futures Studies – or Foresight – involves taking a leap into the distant future to develop scenarios and visions of how the world might turn out to be, with the intention of catalysing present actions to either arrive at a desirable future or to mitigate unfavourable circumstances. A number of foresight methodologies are applied in the areas of policy (ICT, science and technology, environment, health, education and energy) and private organisations (corporate foresight). Complementing foresight is creativity, where creative capabilities are generally utilised in order to develop future scenarios, generate novel ideas and alternative realities or possibilities. In addition, the implementation of policies to arrive at a desirable future generally depends on innovation management and entrepreneurship skills, which are applied to implement desired policies.

Critical Thinking refers to a purposeful, reasoned and goal directed mode of thinking. This type of thinking is necessary when making judgements to make decisions, and resolve problems or interpret situations. It involves the understanding, analysis and evaluation of situations that may avoid

subjectivity. Critical thinking is a skill that can be learned and developed through deliberate practice. This mode of thinking can enhance skills at a personal and professional level.

CONTACT DETAILS

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Malta

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www.um.edu.mt/create
www.facebook.com/loTM.um
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Email Address:

instituteofthinking@um.edu.mt

Telephone Numbers:

+356 2340 2434 / +356 2340 3912

2.1.1 INSTITUTE BOARD

The Edward de Bono Institute is governed by an Institute Board, which was composed as follows during the academic year 2022-2023:

Chairperson

Professor Noellie Brockdorff
Head, Department of Cognitive Science
Dean, Faculty of Media and Knowledge Science, University of Malta

Vice Chairperson

Dr Margaret Mangion
Director, The Edward de Bono Institute, University of Malta

Members

Professor Leonie Baldacchino
Associate Professor, The Edward de Bono Institute, University of Malta

Professor Russell Smith
Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship and Business Incubation, University of Malta

Professor Vincent Cassar
Deputy Dean, Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy, University of Malta

Professor Isabelle Calleja Ragonesi
Associate Professor, Faculty of Arts, University of Malta

Professor Petra Caruana Dingli
Associate Professor, The Edward de Bono Institute, University of Malta

Student Representatives

Mr Ricardo Carvalho
Master in Creativity and Innovation

Ms Priscilla Tabone
Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Secretary to the Board

Ms Josianne Sciberras
Administration Specialist, The Edward de Bono Institute, University of Malta

2.0 STAFF PROFILE

2.1 The Edward de Bono Institute for Creative Thinking and Innovation Staff

During the academic year 2022-2023, the Edward de Bono Institute was composed of five full-time resident academic staff, one part-time visiting academic staff, and two administrative staff. A number of casual part-time lecturers also contributed to the Institute's teaching activities throughout the academic year.

Full-Time Resident Academic Staff



**Dr Margaret
Mangion**
B.Psy.,
P.G.C.E., M.B.A.,
D.Soc.Sci.(Leic.)
Director, Senior
Lecturer



**Professor Petra
Caruana Dingli**
B.A., B.A.(Hons), M.A.,
D.Phil.(Oxon),
M.B.A.(Maas.)
Associate Professor



**Professor Sandra M.
Dingli**
B.A., B.A.(Hons), M.A.,
Ph.D.(Dunelm)
Professor



**Professor Leonie
Baldacchino**
B.Psy.(Hons), M.A.,
Ph.D.(Warw.)
Associate Professor



Dr Lisa Pace
B.Sc., M.Sc.,
Ph.D.(Manc.)
Senior Lecturer

The full profiles of resident academic members of staff are available on the University website and may be found through the 'Search' facility: www.um.edu.mt/search

Part-time Visiting Academic and Research Support Staff



Ms Natalie Swaine Nwoko

B.A.(Hons), M.A., PG Cert. in Therapeutic Play Skills (Cant.)
Visiting Assistant Lecturer

Administrative Staff



Ms Josianne Sciberras
Administration Specialist



Mr Matthew Tonna Gilford
Administrator II

2.2 STAFF PUBLICATIONS AND ACADEMIC REVIEWING (October 2022 – September 2023)

Baldacchino, L. (2023). Foreword. In N. de Clerk, *No fit: My 1,700 mile walk from Apartheid*. Hillsborough, NC: Spiritus Communications.

Baldacchino, L., Ucbasaran, D., & Cabantous, L. (2023). Linking experience to intuition and cognitive versatility in new venture ideation: a dual-process perspective. *Journal of Management Studies*, 60(5), 1105-1146. <https://doi.org/10.1111/joms.12794>

Borg Preca, C., Baldacchino, L., Briguglio, M., and Mangion, M. (2023). "Are STEM Students Creative Thinkers?" *Journal of Intelligence* 11, (6): 106. <https://doi.org/10.3390/jintelligence11060106>

Buhagiar, K., Pace, L.A., Dingli, S.M. (2023). *Defining attributes of boutique hotels: a systematic literature review*. *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Insights*. Emerald.

Buhagiar, K., Pace, L.A., Dingli, S.M. (2023). Innovation Processes and Information Technologies: A Study of Boutique Hotels in Valletta, Malta. In: Coenen, F., et al. *Knowledge Discovery, Knowledge Engineering and Knowledge Management*. IC3K 2022. Communications in Computer and Information Science, vol 1842. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-43471-6_16

Caruana Dingli, P. (2022). Innovation and renovation: changing cultural practices and monastic life in early modern Malta. In N. Buttigieg & G. Cassar (Eds.), *Rupture: A historical perspective*. *Proceedings of History Week 2021* (164–178). Malta Historical Society.

Caruana Dingli, P. (2022). Writing a family narrative: the three houses of Cosmana Navarra. In P. Caruana Dingli & M. Gauci (Eds.), *Non omnis moriar: essays in memory of Dun Gwann Azzopardi*. Wignacourt Museum

Caruana Dingli, P. (2023). William Morris: art, politics and the context of creativity. In A. Debattista & M. T. Vassallo (Eds.), *The many faces of politics: vol I: The different faces of politics in literature and music*. Routledge.

Dingli, S.M. (2023) The Philosophy of Creativity, *Share*, Philosophy Sharing Foundation, Malta, May 2023.

Diacono, S. & Baldacchino, L. (2023). Identifying entrepreneurial opportunities in the circular economy, *Journal of Management & Organisation*, 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.1017/jmo.2023.47>

Fabri, S., Pace, L. A., Cassar, V., & Bezzina, F. (2023). Understanding the determinants of innovation across European member states: a fuzzy-set approach. *International Journal of Innovation Science*.

Mangion, M., Riebel, J.A. (2023). *Young Creators: Perceptions of Creativity by Primary School Students in Malta*. *Journal of Intelligence*, 11(3):53. <https://doi.org/10.3390/jintelligence11030053>

Mangion, M. and Scicluna, K. (2022). Exploring the links between ethical leadership, creativity and the work environment in hospital wards. Proceedings of the 18th European Conference on Management Leadership and Governance, Portugal.

Mangion, M. & Valquaresma, A. (2023). *Calling out for the Possible! Is it our chance to make it right? Creativity. Theories – Research - Applications*, 9(2) 29-42.

Pace, L. A., Saritas, O., & Deidun, A. (2023). *Exploring future research and innovation directions for a sustainable blue economy*. *Marine Policy*, 148, 105433.

Pace, L. A., Borch, K., & Deidun, A. (2023). *Bridging Knowledge Gaps towards 2030: The Use of Foresight for the Strategic Management of a Sustainable Blue Economy*. *Sustainability*, 15(13), 10026.

Scerri, J., Sammut, A., Galea, M., Grech, P., Cilia Vincenti, S., Mangion, M., Camilleri, L. (2022). Targeting burnout and emotional state in nurses within the mental health care setting: A quasi-experimental study. *Humanities and Social Science Research*. Vol. 6, No.1; 2023. ISSN 2576 - 3024. E-ISSN 2576 – 3032, doi.org/10.30560/hssr.v6n1p1

Walaszczyk, L. and Dingli, S.M. *An Online Financial Calculator as a Micro-Learning Tool for Entrepreneurs in Business Modelling*. *International Entrepreneurship Review*, Krakow University of Economics, Poland.

Peer-Reviewed Conference Papers and Presentations (October 2022/September 2023):

Baldacchino, L. (2023). *The effects of entrepreneurs; dark and light traits on their coping strategies and psychological well-being*. Paper presented at EURAM Conference 2023: Transforming Business for Good (Dublin, Ireland).

Baldacchino, L., & Dingli, S. M. (2023). *Navigating business models towards the circular economy*. Paper presented at Business Model Conference 2023 (Forli', Italy).

Baldacchino, L., & Mangion, M. *Spurring inclusive entrepreneurship through creative cross-pollinations*. Paper presented at Marconi Institute for Creativity Conference 2023 (Trieste, Italy).

Bruno, C. and Pace, L.A. (2023) *Building sustainability futures: can designing personas help envision future possibilities?* Possibility Studies Network- 3rd International Conference, Dublin, Ireland

Cassar, D.M., and Dingli, S.M. (2023). *Exploring creativity in co-working spaces.* Paper presented (online) at the Creativity Conference organised by the Southern Oregon University, U.S.A., May 2023.

Falzon, R., and Dingli, S.M. (2023). Tourist Guides' use of creativity: Adapting to emerging trends. Paper presented (online) at the Creativity Conference organised by the Southern Oregon University, U.S.A., May 2023.

Mangion, M. (2022). The 'Possible'. Enriching communities through thinking. European Network of Qualitative Enquiry.

Mangion, M. and Sant, M. (2023). Paper presented (online) at the Creativity Conference organised by the Southern Oregon University, U.S.A., May 2023.

Mangion, M., Valqueraesma, A., Karwowski, M. (2023). Ready or not the Possible is here! 3rd, Possibility Studies Conference, Dublin City University, Ireland.

Mangion, M. (2023). Exploring entrepreneurial behaviour through creativity. Poster presented (online). 18th European Conference on Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Porto, Portugal.

Pace, L.A. and Bruno, C. (2023) *Exploring the role of personas as a design method in Foresight.* 30th IPDMC - Innovation & Product Development Management Conference, 7-10th June, Lecco Italy.

Sant Anna, S., Baldacchino, L., & Fabri, S. (2023). *Intentions and motivations in senior entrepreneurship: A conceptual framework.* Paper presented at EURAM Conference 2023: Transforming Business for Good (Dublin, Ireland).

Forthcoming Publications

Caruana Dingli, P. (forthcoming, 2024). Between Malta and Palermo: Re-creating the life story of Geltruda Cumbo. In Jonathan Farrugia (Ed.), *Monastic life: ancient origins and early modern development in Malta.* Faculty of Theology, University of Malta

Mangion, M. & Valquearesma (2024). Getting ready for the post-Anthropocene. Hopeful possibilities? In: Creative Education: Sociocultural, critical and decolonial perspectives. *Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.*

Mangion, M. (2024). Creativity. A skill for lifelong learning and how to nurture it in the workplace. In: Creative Education: Sociocultural, critical and decolonial perspectives. *Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.*

Mangion, M. (2024). The mystery client. Approaching the teaching of marketing through experiential learning. In: Flipped Classroom with Experiential and Community-Engaged Learning for Business Education. *Edward Elgar Publishers*.

Mangion, M., Baldacchino, L., Dingli, S.M. (2024). Studying creativity in the 21st Century. Our experience at the Edward de Bono Institute. In Puccio, G., McKayle, C., Lohiser, A., Hertel, F. *Palgrave Macmillan, Cham*

Edited Publications and Reports

Baldacchino, L. & Buhagiar, K. (2022). Smart&Start (Italy) Case Study. *Better Entrepreneurship Policy Tool*. European Commission, OECD Publishing.

Baldacchino, L. & Sant'Anna, S. (forthcoming). *OECD Policy Brief Background Paper on Inclusive Entrepreneurship Training*. European Commission, OECD Publishing.

Shymanski, H. & Baldacchino, L. (2023). *Inclusive entrepreneurship policies, country assessment notes*. Malta, 2022-23. European Commission, OECD Publishing. <https://www.oecd.org/cfe/smes/Malta.pdf>

A copy of *Non omnis moriar: essays in memory of Dun Gwann Azzopardi*. Wignacourt Museum edited by Caruana Dingli & Gauci (2022) was presented to President George Vella at San Anton Palace in November 2022.



Professor Caruana Dingli wrote a review of the publication J. Azzopardi & T. Freller, *Rabat Sacrum: A Maltese Town in a European Perspective* (2022). Rabat Local Council. In *Vigilo* 58 (Nov 2022), 60–61.

Editorial Board Membership and Academic Peer Reviewing (2022/2023)

Professor Baldacchino was appointed Associate Editor at the *Journal of Enterprising Communities: People and Places in the Global Economy* (Emerald – Scopus CiteScore 3.9) and an Editorial Board

Member at *Strategic Change* (Wiley – Scopus CiteScore 3.2). She is a reviewer for *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice* (Sage), *European Academy of Management (EURAM) Annual Conference*, *International Entrepreneurship and Management Journal* (Springer), *International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behavior & Research* (Emerald), *Journal of Creative Behavior* (Wiley), *Journal of Management and Organization* (Cambridge University Press), *Marconi Institute for Creativity (MIC) Conference*, and *Thinking Skills and Creativity* (Elsevier).

Professor Sandra M. Dingli is a reviewer for the *Journal of Enterprising Communities: People and Places in the Global Economy*; *Philosophical Writings* (University of Durham, England). She regularly reviews papers for the *Journal of Innovation Management* and the *Open Journal of Philosophy*. She is a member of the Editorial Board for the World Open Innovation Conference, which involves reviewing abstracts and papers (remotely) for the Annual World Open Innovation Conference.

Dr Margaret Mangion was appointed Associate Editor at the *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications* (Springer Nature – Scopus CiteScore 3) and is a member of the advisory team of the *Journal of Enterprising Communities: People and Places in the Global Economy* (Emerald – Scopus CiteScore 3.9). Dr Mangion is also a reviewer for the following journals:

Education Sciences (MDPI), *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications* (Springer), *Journal of Creative Behavior* (Wiley), *Management Decision* (Emerald), *Possibility Studies and Society* (Sage), *Sustainability* (MDPI), and *Thinking Skills and Creativity* (Elsevier). She also reviewed an edited volume in the book series *Creativity Theory and Action in Education* published by Springer Nature BV. Dr Mangion served on the scientific committee for the 17th European Conference on Innovation and Entrepreneurship hosted by the Neapolis University, Pafos, Cyprus.

Dr Lisa Pace carried out academic reviews for the *Journal of Sustainable Tourism* (Taylor & Francis).

Other contributions:

Blog Post

Baldacchino, L., Ucbasaran, D., Cabantous, L. (2022). *Hunting for new business ideas? Use your head, as well as your gut!* *Journal of Management Studies Insights*:

<https://managementstudiesinsights.com/hunting-for-new-business-ideas-use-your-head-as-well-as-your-gut/>

2.3 Membership on Boards and Committees

Professor Leonie Baldacchino is a Board Member of the Edward de Bono Institute for Creative Thinking and Innovation, the Centre for Entrepreneurship and Business Incubation and of the Institute of Earth Systems, and a Member of the University Research Ethics Committee (UREC) and of the SEA-EU (European University of the Seas) Affairs Committee, all at the University of Malta. She forms part of the Board of Administrators of the FPEI (Foundation for the Promotion of Entrepreneurial Initiatives), and she represents the University of Malta on the Quality and Ethics Subcommittee of the SEA-EU Alliance. Professor Baldacchino is also a Fellow of the ISSCI (International Society for the Study of Creativity and Innovation), an active participant in EURAM's (European Academy of Management) Entrepreneurship Division, and a member of the OECD's YEPA (Youth Entrepreneurship Policy Academy).

Professor Petra Caruana Dingli is a member of the Edward de Bono Institute Board, as well as the Doctoral Committee of the Institute. She is Honorary Secretary of the University of Malta Academic Staff Association (UMASA), and was re-elected to this post in June 2023. Over the last year she was also part of UMASA's negotiating team on amendments to the Manual of Conduct and Procedures. Prof Caruana Dingli is the chairperson of the Mdina Cathedral Archives, and a member of the Mdina Cathedral Chapter's Kumitat Tmexxija Generali. She is a Council Member of the non-governmental organisation Din l-Art Ħelwa, and the editor of its magazine *Vigilo*.

Professor Sandra M. Dingli is a member of The Edward de Bono Institute's Doctoral Committee and the Institute's PhD Programme coordinator. She is also a Member of the University of Malta Library Committee. She is also involved as an expert in SEA-EU for a project on Microcredentials and Future Skills.

Dr Margaret Mangion is the vice chairperson of the Edward de Bono Institute Board. She is also a member of The Edward de Bono Institute's Doctoral Committee. Dr Mangion also serves on the Faculty of Social Wellbeing's Research Ethics Committee and forms part of the World Creativity and Innovation Day (WCID) Advisory Board. She is also a Full Member and Board Member of the ISSCI (International Society for the Study of Creativity and Innovation), and a Board member of the Possibility Studies Network. Dr Mangion is also a Member of the Malta Chamber of Commerce, and of the American Psychological Association (APA), and the Society for the Neuroscience of Creativity.

Dr Lisa Pace is a member of The Edward de Bono Institute's Doctoral Committee and of the Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy's Research Ethics Committee. She coordinates the Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

Membership on Judging and Evaluation Panels

Professor Leonie Baldacchino formed part of the following judging panels:

- The 'Become a Changemaker' project, funded by the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs - thirty youngsters from Germany, Georgia and Armenia were participating in this project, and they pitched their ideas during an online event on 16 December 2022;
- The 'Tackling Food Waste' Hackathon, organised by the Institute of Earth System's Hackathon on 22nd April 2023;

- JA (Junior Achievement) Malta Startup Programme - semi-finals were held at BUSINESSLABS on 13th May 2023, and finals at the University of Malta on 20th May 2023.
- Julian's Tech Start-up Challenge 2023, which was organised by Julian's Pathfinder Foundation between the 4th and the 7th of September at the Mount Saint Joseph Retreat House.

Professor Caruana Dingli was appointed by the Order of Malta on the independent Vetting Committee of the 'Order of Malta National Art Exhibition' which was held in April 2023. This committee selected the artworks to be included in the exhibition, and was made up of a group of 'scholars and academics who have contributed to our country's artistic heritage and visual arts locally and abroad'.

2.4 Externally funded projects

InnoGreen Erasmus+ Project (November 2022 – October 2024)

InnoGreen Erasmus+ project:

The InnoGreen Erasmus+ project started on 1 November 2022. Professor Sandra M.Dingli and Professor Petra Caruana Dingli are involved in this project, which is funded by the Erasmus+ KA2 Cooperation Projects programme and entitled 'Innovative Entrepreneurs leading green businesses' (InnoGreen).

The duration of the project is two years. The project coordinator is from the Department of Computer Science and Technology, Faculty of Automatic Control, Computing, Electrical Engineering and Electronics, University "Dunarea de Jos" of Galati, Romania. The coordinator was also a partner in a previous Erasmus+ project, ProBM2, which ended in March 2022. The other partners are from Poland, Italy, Portugal, Austria and Switzerland. The topics which the project is expected to cover include sustainable entrepreneurship and green business models. The first partners meeting was held in Vienna on the 6 and 7 December 2022. Professor Sandra M. Dingli and Professor Petra Caruana Dingli attended the meeting. The second partners meeting, attended by Professor Sandra M. Dingli, was held on the 1 – 2 June 2023 in Lisbon. Ms Marvic Sciberras was employed as part-time Research Support Officer for the InnoGreen project after an open call for applications. Ms Sciberras is a Project Administrator at the UM's ERDF/ESF Unit.

Think Game Erasmus+ project:

Professor Sandra M. Dingli, Dr Margaret Mangion and Dr Vanessa Camilleri (the latter from UM's Department of AI, Faculty of ICT) are involved in a project entitled Think Game, which is funded under the Erasmus+ KA2 Cooperation Projects. The expected duration of the project is three years and the project is expected to commence in October / November 2023. The project coordinator is from the Department of Computer Science and Technology, Faculty of Automatic Control, Computing, Electrical Engineering and Electronics, University Dunarea de Jos of Galati, Romania (the same coordinator as for the InnoGreen project). The topics covered include the creation of online modules for undergraduate IT and STEM students that include creativity and gamification.

2.5 Funding Grants

Dr Margaret Mangion was awarded an Internal Seed Fund to work on a project titled "*Direct teaching of creative thinking methods. An intervention study.*"

The Erasmus Selection and Grant Allocation Committee (ESGAC) awarded Dr Margaret Mangion a grant to visit the University of Trieste on the Erasmus+ Mobility program

3.0 Learning and Teaching Profile

3.1 Programmes Offered

During the academic year 2022-2023, the Edward de Bono Institute offered its three core courses, namely, the Master in Creativity and Innovation (full-time and part-time), the Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship (part-time evening), and the Ph.D. degree, where researchers have the opportunity to explore Creativity, Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Critical Thinking, or Foresight at a Doctoral level. Applicants who enrolled for any of the Institute's courses were eligible for financial subsidies through the 'Get Qualified' Scheme offered by the Ministry for Education and Employment. In addition to the Institute's courses, the Institute offered several undergraduate study units that formed part of a variety of courses at the University of Malta.

Moreover, students and staff at the Edward de Bono Institute were offered intra-EU mobility opportunities through Erasmus+ agreements between The Edward de Bono Institute and the following Universities:

- BSP Business School Berlin (Germany)
- Brandenburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany)
- University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria, Campus Wels (Austria)
- University of Potsdam (Germany)
- University of Turku (Finland)
- Wroclaw University of Economics and Business (Poland)

Master in Creativity and Innovation

The Master in Creativity and Innovation is an interdisciplinary programme designed to enable participants to expand their perception, identify opportunities, employ creative skills, develop ideas individually and in teams, sustain a creative climate, manage innovation, and apply foresight methodologies to create future scenarios. The Master programme promotes imaginative, flexible and practical thought and action, and improves the ability to respond practically and creatively to problems and opportunities. This programme attracts international and national professionals from a broad range of disciplines.

The Master in Creativity and Innovation is available both on a full-time and a part-time basis, with all lectures held during the daytime. The duration for full-time students is three semesters while that for part-time students is six semesters. The programme comprises a total of 90 ECTS, of which 60 ECTS are assigned to the taught component, while 30 ECTS are assigned to the dissertation. Students who successfully complete the 60 ECTS assigned to the taught component with an average mark of at least 50% and do not proceed with the course, or having not successfully completed the dissertation, are awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Creativity and Innovation.

Further information about the Master programme, including entry requirements and the full programme of studies, may be accessed through the University of Malta's online 'Course Finder' (www.um.edu.mt/courses).

Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship

The Part-Time Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship caters for individuals who are interested in furthering their education in a flexible manner. Through this Diploma, participants are provided with a pragmatic knowledge-based approach towards creativity, idea generation, innovation, innovation management and entrepreneurship. The knowledge and skills taught through the Diploma are vital for establishing and maintaining an organisation and its operations, for enhancing employment prospects and advancing careers. Upon successful completion of this Diploma, participants will be able to recognise the need for organisational change, identify opportunities, systematically solve problems, and implement innovation. The Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship is composed of a total of 60 ECTS, and spans a period of four semesters (two academic years) on a part-time basis. Lectures are generally held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 17.00 to 20.00 to enable students to balance their commitments and education.

Further information about the Diploma programme, including entry requirements and the full programme of studies, may be accessed through the University of Malta's online 'Course Finder' (www.um.edu.mt/courses).

Ph.D. in Creativity, Innovation, Entrepreneurship or Foresight

The Edward de Bono Institute offers a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree in the areas of Creativity, Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Critical Thinking or Foresight, which is available to candidates who are appropriately qualified in at least one of the Institute's domains of specialisation listed above. The Ph.D. programme is available to candidates on both a full-time and a part-time basis, with the programme's duration ranging from 3 to 4 years full-time, or 6 to 8 years part-time. While prospective candidates may submit an application to enrol in the Institute's Ph.D. programme at any point throughout the academic year, they are advised to contact the Institute (instituteofthinking@um.edu.mt) to discuss their research proposal and to identify a suitable supervisor prior to submitting their formal application.

Further information concerning the University of Malta's Doctoral Programme may be accessed through the Doctoral School's website (www.um.edu.mt/doctoralschool).

3.2 Study Units offered by the Institute

During the academic year 2022-2023, The Edward de Bono Institute offered the following study-units to a variety of Faculties, Institutes and Centres at the University of Malta:

- IOT 1006: Critical Thinking (2 ECTS)
- IOT 1008: An Introduction to Creativity (4 ECTS)
- IOT 2002: Communication and Innovation (4 ECTS)
- IOT 2003: Foresight – A Tool for Scenarios and Visions (4 ECTS)
- IOT 2005: Leadership and Organisational Innovation (2 ECTS)

Semester II

- IOT 1002: Psychology of Creativity (4 ECTS)
- IOT 1009: A Toolkit for Thinking out of the Box (4 ECTS)
- IOT 2008: Innovation and Entrepreneurship: Practical Approaches (4 ECTS)
- IOT 3100: Creative Thinking and Innovation (4 ECTS)
- IOT 3110: Creative and Critical Thinking for Public Officers (4 ECTS)

3.3 Programmes Serviced

These study-units enable students from different Faculties, Institutes and Centres to benefit from transferable skills and knowledge concerning creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship and foresight. The aim of these study-units is to provide students with key competencies intended to stimulate entrepreneurship, catalyse forward-thinking mind-frames, provoke creativity, and inform students on the methods used to transform creative ideas to innovative outputs, thereby improving their future career prospects.

Further information about the study-units offered by the Edward de Bono Institute may be accessed through the Institute website (). <https://www.um.edu.mt/create/studyingwithus/>

Moreover, the Institute's academic staff delivered all or part of the following study-units offered by different Faculties, Institutes and Centres at the University of Malta:

- CIS 3186: Mobile Device Programming
- DOC 6010: An Introduction to Critical and Creative Thinking
- ENG 2092: Travel Writing
- ENG 2096: The Pre-Raphaelites and their Circle
- ENG 2042: The English Novel in the Later Nineteenth Century: Henry James
- ENG 2176: Victorian Poetry
- ENG 3035: Shakespeare in Context
- ENG 5052: Writing the Mediterranean (one session)
- HSC 2001: Critical Thinking in Ethical Applications for Bioscientists
- HSC 5123: Critical/Creative Thinking in Ethical Applications to Health Care
- HSC 2001: Critical Thinking in Ethical Applications for Bioscientists
- MNH5012: Interdisciplinary Understanding and Approaches in Mental Health Care, Rehabilitation, Community Care and Recovery
- PHI 2002: The Philosophy of Mind

4. Student Information

Twenty applicants were eligible to start the Master in Creativity and Innovation October 2022. Eight applicants were male while twelve were female. This cohort included four international students from EU countries: Austria, Germany, and Portugal. The other sixteen applicants were from Malta.

The evening Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship attracted a total of twelve applicants. Seven students were male and five were female. All students attending for the Undergraduate Diploma Programme were from Malta.

The Institute currently has three Ph.D. candidates. Two candidates are male and one is a female. One of the students is an international student coming from Brazil. The others are from Malta.

There is currently one male student following a Master of Philosophy.

Ph.D. programme candidates are granted access to the Doctoral School, which offers support and guidance through various initiatives, such as Doctoral workshops for personal and professional development, support and advice, and an opportunity to present their work at a yearly symposium. The Doctoral workshops are designed by the Doctoral School in collaboration with various academics with the aim of providing Ph.D. candidates with the professional skills needed to promote wellbeing and professional growth, while also acting as a point of reference for Doctoral procedures and milestones.

4.1 Completed Dissertation/Thesis Titles

Table 1: Master dissertations submitted in 2022 - 2023

Name of Student	Dissertation Title	Supervisor and Examiners
Deborah Schembri	<i>Bonnici Youth Work in Malta as a platform to foster Critical Thinking Skills</i>	Supervisor: Professor Petra Caruana Dingli Chair: Dr Lisa Pace External: Professor Maria-Carmen Pantea Internal: Professor Marilyn Clark Internal: Dr Margaret Mangion
Saskia Brosius	<i>The production of creative ideas: Exploring different means of communication to optimise performance in persons with dyslexia</i>	Supervisor: Dr Margaret Mangion Chair: Professor Leonie Baldacchino External: Professor Robert Fisher Internal: Professor Sandra M. Dingli Internal: Professor Petra Caruana Dingli

Rebekah Bulteel	<i>The natural environment: Its impact and influence on individual creativity. An exploratory study in Malta.</i>	Supervisor: Professor Petra Caruana Dingli Chair: Dr Margaret Mangion External: Dr Eleanor Ratcliff Internal: Professor Sandra M. Dingli Internal: Dr Lisa Pace
Kayleigh Cassar	<i>Shifting creative content online in a pandemic: Impacts on the creative process in virtual teams in the advertising industry</i>	Supervisor: Professor Petra Caruana Dingli Chair: Professor Sandra M. Dingli External: Professor Tim Schweizer Internal: Dr Lisa Pace Internal: Dr Franco Curmi
Sarah Mestmetcher	<i>Redesigning images of sustainable fashion consumption through foresight: A casual layered analysis</i>	Supervisor: Dr Lisa Pace Chair: Professor Leonie Baldacchino External: Professor Burkhard Auffermann Internal: Professor Sandra M. Dingli Internal: Dr Margaret Mangion
Maximilian Musumali	<i>Exploring critical success factors in entrepreneurship: A study of independent game developers.</i>	Supervisor: Dr Lisa Pace Chair: Professor Leonie Baldacchino External: Dr Steven Pattison Internal: Professor Sandra M. Dingli Internal: Professor Petra Caruana Dingli
Kirsten Saliba	<i>Community, Collaboration and Openness: Exploring Creativity at the Valletta Design Cluster</i>	Supervisor: Professor Petra Caruana Dingli Chair: Professor Sandra M. Dingli External: Professor Christian Lehmann Internal: Dr Lisa Pace Internal: Dr Margaret Mangion
Michelle Sant	<i>Creative action and innovative artefacts in foreign language teaching: A sociocultural approach on teaching creativity</i>	Supervisor: Dr Margaret Mangion Chair: Dr Lisa Pace External: Professor Vlad Glaveanu Internal: Professor Sandra M. Dingli Internal: Professor Petra Caruana Dingli

Table 2. Doctor of Philosophy

Name of Student	Dissertation Title	Supervisor and Examiners
Izumi Nonaka	<i>Small business on small Islands: Exploring Entrepreneurial Orientations in SMEs in Malta</i>	Supervisors: Professor Leonie Baldacchino Professor Godfrey Baldacchino Chair: Professor Sandra M. Dingli External: Professor Leo Paul Dana Internal: Dr Joseph Azzopardi

4.2 Degrees and Diplomas Awarded

Students who successfully completed the Institute's Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Postgraduate Diploma in Creativity and Innovation, and Master in Creativity and Innovation in 2022 graduated in ceremonies held in November 2022, and March 2023. The Degrees and Diplomas that were awarded during these graduation ceremonies are listed in Table 1 while some of the recipients are pictured in the photograph below.



Table 3: Degrees and Diplomas Awarded in 2022-23

Master in Creativity and Innovation	PG Diploma in Creativity and Innovation	Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship
Deborah Bonnici Schembri	Christabel Debono	Olga Attard
Saskia Margarete Brosius	Andrew Portelli	Janet Ciancio
Rebekah Bulteel	Joanna Jessica Portelli	Claire Said
Kayleigh Cassar	Thomas	Monica Spiteri
Sarah Mestmecher	Christtreu	Fabian
Maximilian Musumali	Vedege	Demicoli
Kirsten Saliba		Patricia Grima
Michelle Sant		Azzopardi

4.0 ACHIEVEMENTS

4.1 Edward de Bono Institute 30th Anniversary

The Edward de Bono Institute for Creative Thinking and Innovation, established in 1992, has become a cornerstone in the field of creativity and innovation education. Initially set up and led by Professor Sandra M. Dingli, the Institute began by offering study-units for undergraduate courses across various faculties, integrating a multidisciplinary approach to creative thinking. Professor Dingli was succeeded by Professor Leonie Baldacchino who actively contributed to the expansion of various offerings. Today, the Institute boasts a comprehensive educational offering, including a Master in Creativity and Innovation, a PhD Programme, and a part-time evening Diploma in Creativity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship. This expansion reflects the Institute's commitment to fostering innovation and entrepreneurial skills at multiple academic levels. Moreover, the Institute continues to support a broad range of faculties by designing and delivering transversal study-units. This collaborative and integrative approach underscores the Institute's pivotal role in advancing creative and innovative thinking across disciplines.

The Edward de Bono Institute for Creative Thinking and Innovation prioritizes a holistic and multidisciplinary approach to research by focusing on five key areas: **creativity, innovation management, entrepreneurship, future studies, and critical thinking**. These areas serve as the foundational pillars guiding the Institute's research endeavours, reflecting a comprehensive strategy to explore and expand the boundaries of knowledge in fields crucial for addressing contemporary challenges and seizing future opportunities. Together, these pillars form a robust framework for research at the Edward de Bono Institute, ensuring that its contributions are not only academically rigorous but also practically relevant in fostering innovation and creative problem-solving in an ever-changing world.

The 30th Anniversary of The Edward de Bono Institute was commemorated through a series of events and engagements involving students and various communities over the academic year. To celebrate this milestone, special merchandise was created for staff, students, and external partners. Additionally, the anniversary was highlighted by a range of lectures from both international academics and local experts, enhancing the educational experience for students. Promotional materials for the 30th Anniversary, provided by the UM Communications Office, were prominently featured in all activities during the Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) and the World Creativity and Innovation Week (WCIW).



4.2 Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW)



For the fifteenth consecutive year, The Edward de Bono Institute proudly served as the National Host for Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) in Malta. The following events were organized and curated by Professor Leonie Baldacchino, who holds the role of National Host for GEW:

- **Feel the Pulse 2023: Strategy Workshop for QLZH Leaders:** 'Feel the Pulse 2023', was a strategy workshop for QLZH (Quick Lets and Zanzi Homes) franchise owners and managers, and the first event to kick off GEW 2022 in Malta on Tuesday 8th November. This workshop included an interactive session named 'Unleash Your Ideas, Maximise Your Innovation', moderated by GEW National Host, Professor Leonie Baldacchino. During this session, Dr Baldacchino introduced participants to SCAMPER, a simple but effective creative thinking tool that facilitates the identification of changes that may be made to an existing concept (e.g., product, service, company, business model, industry) to generate new ideas. This was followed by a motivational talk by Chris Vassallo, Strategic Director of Vassallo Group, who shared his story and expertise on how to strategies effectively and pursue the organisation's vision. The workshop was wrapped up with brainstorming breakout sessions where participants worked in teams to identify challenges and opportunities for their company.



- **MBA Business Concept Pitching Event:** This event, which has become an annual feature of the GEW Malta programme, offered Executive MBA final year students enrolled in an entrepreneurship elective study unit at the University of Malta an opportunity for peer-learning, discussion and expert insights at an early stage of their business concept, by pitching to a select panel of experts and practitioners involved in the field of entrepreneurship. Project deliverables of the elective programme shall require the students to engage in an extended feasibility study to assess the potential of their business ideas, as a prelude to potentially pursuing the concept and entrepreneurial opportunity further. This event was organised by Dr Nathaniel Massa, Senior Lecturer at

the University of Malta' Department of Management, in collaboration with , and was reserved for Executive MBA students.



- **Start Up at TAKEOFF - A Visit to UM's Business Incubator:** On Tuesday 15th November, University of Malta students enjoyed a visit to the campus-based TAKEOFF incubator for presentations by the manager Ing. Joe Bartolo about the services offered to start-ups, and by entrepreneurs Steve Zerafa of PIXAM, Aaron Buhagiar of Fortify Meals, and Godwin Borg of MycoMalta about their entrepreneurial journeys.



- **Get Inspired: A Visit to Invent 3D Print Farm:** University of Malta students were inspired to consider entrepreneurship as an exciting career option during a visit to the Invent 3D Print Farm, on Wednesday 16th November 2022 between 12.00 and 14.00. This company was founded in 2018 by young entrepreneurs David and Alexandra Sciberras, and has since become a household name in Malta for 3D printing. It is currently expanding its operations through partnerships with European customers and worldwide exports.



- **Ideas and Innovation: Presentation of Certificates:** The Embassy of the Republic of Malta in Türkiye organised an activity on Thursday 17th November to present participation certificates to 14 students from Bilkent University who completed an online course on 'Ideas and Innovation' with The Edward de Bono Institute, University of Malta. This course entailed 20 hours of lectures and workshops on creativity, entrepreneurship and innovation management, delivered by Dr Margaret Mangion, Professor Leonie Baldacchino and Professor Sandra M. Dingli during the 2022 spring semester. It is the result of a joint initiative by the Bilkent University's Faculty of Applied Sciences and the University of Malta's Edward de Bono Institute for Creative Thinking and Innovation, made possible by support from Malta Ambassador Theresa Cutajar.



- **National Ecosystem Showcase: Resources, Incentives and Support:** The aim of this online session was to provide information on the funding opportunities, facilities and support measures that are available for entrepreneurs in Malta. It was held on Thursday 17th November 2022 from 17.00 to 20.00, and featured presentations by various speakers representing key players in the local entrepreneurship ecosystem, including

University of Malta's TAKEOFF startup incubator, Malta Enterprise, Malta Council for Science and Technology, Trade Malta, Malta Chamber of Commerce, Malta Chamber of SMEs, Social Entrepreneurs Association Malta, Malta Co-operatives Foundation, ZAAR Crowdfunding, BusinessLabs, Basement2Boardroom, and Fe/male Switch Startup Game. This session was targeted primarily towards entrepreneurship students at the University of Malta but was also open to the general public, free of charge.



- **Postgraduate Research Seminar:** The Edward de Bono Institute hosted its eighth Postgraduate Research Seminar on Friday 18th November 2022 from 09.30 to 13.00 (GMT+1) as part of GEW 2022. The first part of the seminar included an introduction to the Institute's research pillars and an overview of the Master in Creativity and Innovation dissertation requirements by Dr Margaret Mangion. This was followed by a one-hour guest lecture on 'Creativity - A Space and Time Continuum' by Professor Giovanni Corazza, Director of the Marconi Institute for Creativity at the University of Bologna, as part of a series of lectures by renowned scholars to mark the Edward de Bono Institute's 30th anniversary. The rest of the seminar included presentations by the Institute's academic staff on their research interests, an overview of the funded mobility opportunities available to students through the Erasmus+ programme, and presentations by postgraduate students on their recently completed dissertations or ongoing research. This aim of this seminar was to inform University of Malta students about research opportunities and to provide a space for scholarly debate with peers and academic staff.



- **Go Global: Innovation:** When looking to internationalise their operations, enterprises must think strategically and acquire all the necessary skills and knowledge to take the first step in their overseas target market. TradeMalta had set up the 'Go Global' programme so that novice exporters can attend an internationalisation training course complete with interactive sessions delivered by renowned academics and industry professionals. The session on Wednesday 23rd November from 16.00 to 17.30 was an interactive workshop on Innovation, conducted by GEW Malta National Host Professor Leonie Baldacchino. The course is supported by HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c. and organised jointly with Malta University Holding Company.



In addition to the above, Professor Leonie Baldacchino was an invited panellist in an online discussion related 'Entrepreneurial Policies and Challenges in the Digital Era', hosted by GEN Pakistan and GEW Host Sri Lanka.



4.3 World Creativity and Innovation Week (WCIW)



Since 2014, the Edward de Bono Institute has been actively celebrating World Creativity and Innovation Week. Dr. Margaret Mangion, serving as the Ambassador for WCIW in Malta, collaborated with various entities and organised a diverse and engaging programme of events. These events not only honour the spirit of creativity and innovation but also highlight the Institute's commitment to fostering these values within the community.

- **Critical and Creative Thinking.** This workshop was organised by the Edward de Bono Institute in collaboration with the Doctoral School at the University of Malta. Students enrolled on a doctoral programme were invited to attend and interact in a discussion dealing with the importance and relevance of critical and creative thinking when approaching resources and writing at doctoral level. This workshop was delivered by *Dr Margaret Mangion*.
- **SDG4 Quality Education**
A press conference announced a collaboration between the *Edward de Bono Institute* and two entities related to the creative industries, the *Malta Crafts Foundation* and the *Valletta Design Cluster*. During the press conference a programme of events for an activity titled Innovative Creatives was launched.
- **SDG 3 Health and Wellbeing, SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities**
My Malta, My Future. This event involved a seminar organised in collaboration with the Western Region Council. Students in Year 10 (approx. aged 14-15 years) attending schools falling within the perimeter of the Western Region Council were invited to take part in an interactive event. A plenary session was followed by activities in groups where students from different schools came together to address pressing social issues identified by the participants themselves. The young audience were encouraged to think creatively to seek solutions or methods of prevention for the identified issues.



- **SDG 3 Health and Wellbeing, SDG4 Quality Education and SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities**

A series of lectures and workshops in creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship were planned and delivered by staff at the Edward de Bono Institute for a group of 33 teenage students coming from France. During the workshops the students had the opportunity to embrace and practise a number of 21st Century Skills while engaging with an entrepreneurial and creative mindset.



- **SDG4 Quality Education**

Sustainable Futures. A thinking project. A press conference was held to launch a social project where the Edward de Bono Institute will collaborate with the Southern Region Council. Future oriented, this project entails a series of workshops aimed at encouraging young people to engage with what is possible. Starting with 'What can be but is not yet here' as a basic premise, groups of young people will be engaged to explore different scenarios related to sustainable living in the respective towns and villages of Malta.

- **SDG 3 Health and Wellbeing, SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG15 Life on Land**

The Thrift Life. Undergraduate students had the opportunity to experience hands-on activities related to tips and tricks to be thrifty yet trendy by extending the life of existing garments. Ms. Sarah Grech from Perla u Suzy shared her flair for upcycling. A hands-on workshop was delivered to introduce students to techniques of stitching and mending.



- **SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Production**

Sustainable Development in Action. Students enrolled on the Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship had the opportunity to follow a workshop delivered by *Ms Katarzyna Szczepaniak from SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities*. The workshop introduced and explored the concept of sustainability, *corporate social responsibility (CSR)* and *Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)* in an interactive, creative way with the elements of art therapy and non-verbal communication that helped students to internalise the concepts and suggest their applications.

- **SDG4 Quality Education and SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities**

The scientific study of creative thinking: From the brain to the creative behaviour. Prof. Sergio Agnoli from the University of Trieste and the Marconi Institute for Creativity, will deliver a lecture to students enrolled on the Master in Creativity and Innovation.

The aim of this lecture is to review some of the modern approaches to the study of creative thinking. Starting from an analysis of the role of creativity for human society. Prof. Agnoli will then explore the brain dynamics subsuming the generation of creative ideas empathising their psychological meanings. This analysis will provide a first overview of the main cognitive

functions associated with the creative thinking process and will open the possibility to introduce the role of some basic motivational systems and of emotions in the prediction of the originality of the ideas produced within a creative process. It will be a fast ride starting from the neural substrates and arriving to the actualization of creative ideas.

- **SDG4 Quality Education**

Innovative Creatives. A creativity festival was organised. During these events a number of artists and artisans interacted with the public to showcase how they engaged with the production of traditional products in innovative ways. A number of workshops took place on site. Professor Sandra M. Dingli from the Edward de Bono Institute shared her experience on an EU funded project titled *InnoGreen – Innovative entrepreneurs leading green businesses*.

- **Venue: Valletta Design Cluster**

SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Production

What the Hack! Tackling Food Waste. The Edward de Bono Institute collaborated with the Institute of Earth Systems on a hackathon addressing pressing needs to decrease food waste. This event was aimed at students attending Sixth Form.

- **SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Production**

Let's Think! This workshop was organised in a collaboration between the Edward de Bono Institute and NSTS - Education, Mobility, Lifestyle. A group of amateurs were invited to take the challenge and ideate innovative activities aimed at educating and entertaining foreign students who come to Malta specifically to learn the English language. A varied portfolio of ideas was aimed to be produced by the end of the workshop.

- **SDG4 Quality Education**

SCAMPER IT! This event was aimed at students enrolled on IOT1009 – Thinking Out of the Box Students from MCAST Institute for the Creative Arts attended a creative thinking workshop delivered by Dr Margaret Mangion. Following the workshop, the students were tasked to design period costumes using recyclable materials. Under the supervision of Ms Maria Cutajar lecturer at MCAST, the students used SCAMPER to generate ideas to design their artefacts. This event by students for students was aimed at fostering communication and collaboration between students from the two educational institutions.

- **SDG4 Quality Education, SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Production**

Measuring Creativity. Prof. Roni Reiter-Palmon from the University of Nebraska, Omaha, USA delivered a lecture to students on the Master in Creativity and Innovation. During this lecture the students had the opportunity to explore a range of methods to measure creativity while gaining knowledge about the appropriateness of the different tools.

- **SDG4 Quality Education**

Creativity for sustainable wellbeing. A seminar for nurses was organised in collaboration between the Edward de Bono Institute, the Mental Health Department within the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Malta Union for Midwives and Nurses. During the seminar, attendees had the possibility to explore how creativity and wellbeing may be related through an interactive approach.

- **SDG3 Health and Wellbeing**

Dr Margaret Mangion was invited to deliver a lecture to doctoral students from the University of Trieste. During this lecture Dr Mangion spoke about critical thinking skills in relation to academic writing.

4.4 Participation International and Hybrid Events

Conferences and Workshops

- **November: ECMLG (Online).** Dr Margaret Mangion and former student Ms Katrina Scicluna presented a paper titled “Exploring the links between ethical leadership, creativity and the work environment in hospital wards” at the 18th European Conference on Management Leadership and Governance, Portugal. (online)
- **December: ENQI (Online).** Dr Margaret Mangion delivered a presentation titled “The ‘Possible. Enriching communities through thinking” at the European Network of Qualitative Enquiry (online).
- **April: SEA-EU Training.** Professor Leonie Baldacchino delivered workshops on creativity and the Business Model Canvas as part of the 4th SEA-EU DOC training event on Entrepreneurship, for Doctoral Students from six of the SEA-EU Universities, which was held at the University of Cadiz in Spain. Institute PhD candidate Sandro Sant’Anna was one of the students selected to attend from the University of Malta.



- **May: SOU Conference (Online).** At the 2023 edition of the Creativity Conference organised by the South Oregon University, USA, resident academics and past students of the Edward de Bono Institute presented their work. (online)
Professor Sandra M. Dingli delivered two presentations. A presentation titled “Tourist Guides use of creativity: Adapting to emerging trends” was delivered with Ms Rita Falzon, while another presentation with the title “Exploring creativity in co-working spaces” was presented with Ms Desiree Marie Cassar. (online)

Introduction

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

RQ1	How is the creativity of tourist guides used for creating, promoting and providing novel experiences to clients?
RQ2	How are ideas for novel experiences generated by tourist guides in Malta?
RQ3	What niche tourism or creative tourism experiences, if any, are the tourist guides providing?

SANDRA DINGLI

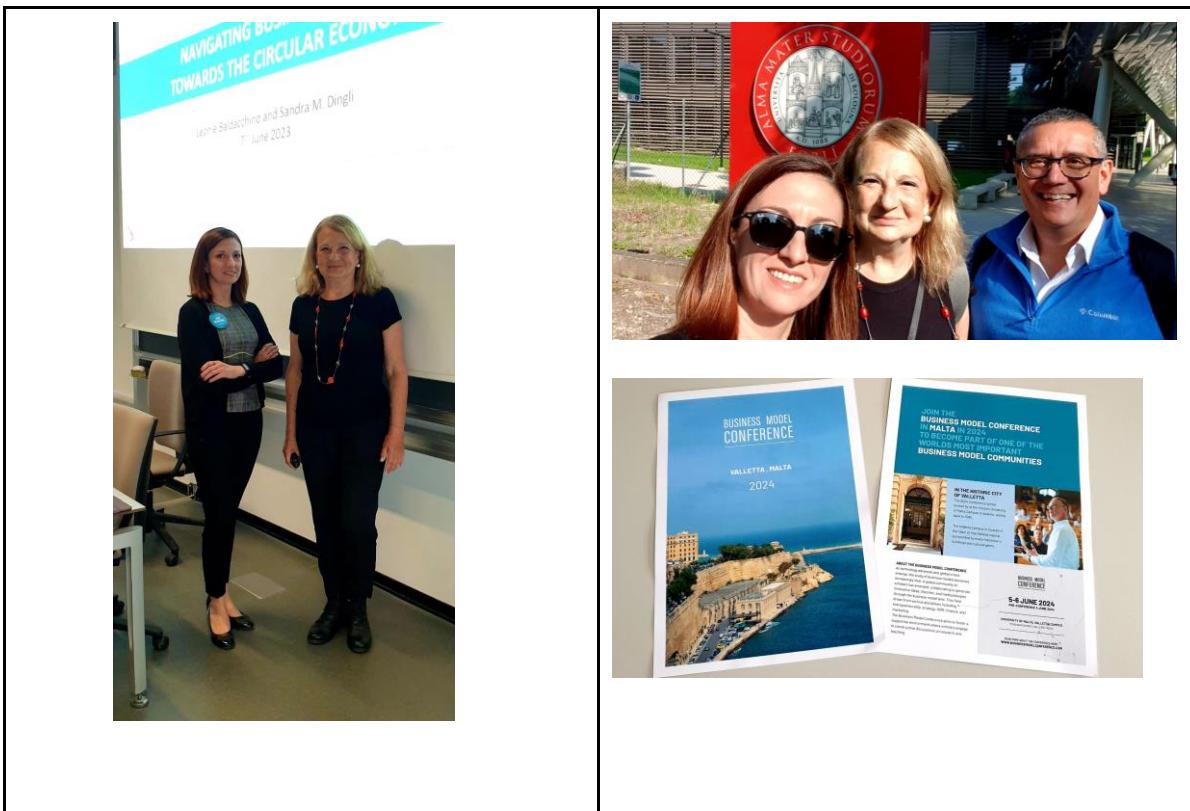
MARGARET MANGION

Rita Falzon

- Dr Margaret Mangion delivered a presentation titled “The role of creative interventions in foreign language teaching. Exploring the role of creative actions and artifacts” with Ms Michelle Sant. (online)
- **June: Business Model Conference at University of Bologna, Forli’ Campus.**

Professor Sandra M. Dingli and Professor Leonie Baldacchino presented a co-authored paper titled ‘Navigating Business Models Towards the Circular Economy’, chaired sessions on Business Model Innovation and Sustainability, and met some of the top scholars in the field. At this conference, a public announcement was made stating that next year’s conference will be held in Malta (Valletta Campus) and hosted by the Edward de Bono Institute - University of Malta. Professor Dingli and Professor Baldacchino also chaired separate sessions during conference.

PhD student Ing. Joseph Bartolo also attended this conference, and presented his work in progress at the Doctoral Colloquium. Ing Bartolo presented his ongoing work on the development of an assessment tool for business models.



- **June EURAM Dublin**

Professor Leonie Baldacchino presented her research on 'The Effects of Entrepreneurs; Dark and Light Traits on their Coping Strategies and Psychological Well-Being' during a session on the 'Cognition, Affect and Imagination in Entrepreneurial Behaviour'; PhD Student Mr Sandro Sant'Anna presented a paper co-authored with Professor Baldacchino and Dr Stephanie Fabri (supervisors) on 'Intentions and Motivations in Senior Entrepreneurship: A Conceptual Framework' during a session on the 'Facets of Ethnic and Minority Entrepreneurship'. Professor Baldacchino and Mr Sant'Anna were both discussants during their respective sessions.



- **June: IPDMC Conference, Politecnico di Milano**

On 8-9 th June, Dr. Lisa Pace attended the 30th IPDMC - Innovation Product Development Management Conference - held at the Politecnico di Milano, Lecco campus. Dr Pace presented her work on the role of the persona approach in foresight together with Dr. Carmen Bruno from the Politecnico di Milano.



- **July: PSN, Dublin.** Resident academics Dr Margaret Mangion and Dr Lisa Pace, and current student Mr Rocco Acocella participated in the 3rd Possibility Studies Network Conference. The conference was held at Dublin City University, Ireland.

Dr Mangion presented a paper on student engagement with future possibilities with Prof Maciej Karwowski from Wroclaw University, Poland and Dr Andreia Valquaresma from Maia University, Portugal. Dr Pace presented a paper on the role of personas in future design with Dr Carmen Bruno from the Politecnico di Milano. Mr Acocella presented his work about attention driven creativity.



- **September: MIC, Italy.** Professor Leonie Baldacchino and Dr Margaret Mangion delivered a co-authored presentation titled 'Spurring Inclusive Entrepreneurship through Creative Cross-Pollinations' at the Marconi Institute for Creativity Conference, held at the University

of Trieste (Italy). They also attended the annual ISSCI General Assembly which was held as part of the conference, during which Dr Mangion was appointed as a Member of the ISSCI Board.



EU Project Meetings

InnoGreen Erasmus+

- **December:** Professor Sandra M. Dingli and Professor Petra Caruana Dingli represented the University of Malta in the Erasmus-funded InnoGreen project. They participated in the initial meeting with partners in Vienna on December 6-7, 2012. Additionally, they have been actively participating in meetings with partners held online.
- **June:** Professor Dingli attended a project meeting for partners in Lisbon, Portugal. This meeting was held in relation to InnoGreen, an Erasmus+ EU funded project.

SEA-EU 2.0

- **23 November:** Dr Margaret Mangion delivered an online workshop to doctoral students registered at universities forming part of the alliance. The titled “Challenging mindset: Turn problems into opportunities” explored how an open-minded and non-linear stance can facilitate creative thinking.

CHALLENGING MINDSET: TURN PROBLEMS INTO OPPORTUNITIES



Skills to turn problems into opportunities and evaluation methods using creative thinking methods

November 23
Margaret Mangion
10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Via SEA-EU Alliance YouTube Channel

- **10 February:** Professor Leonie Baldacchino was re-appointed on the Quality and Ethics Committee of the SEA-EU (European University of the Seas) Alliance and represented UM at the Kick-Off Meeting of Phase 2 (SEA-EU 2.0) at University of Cadiz (Spain), together with Pro-Rector Professor Frank Bezzina.
- **June:** Professor Sandra M. Dingli was nominated UM's SEA-EU representative for the Expert group on Microcredentials, Sustainability Studies and Future Skills: Task 2.3. Enhancing personalised curriculum and credit pathways: Developing micro-credentials under SEA-EU quality label. In her role as expert, she regularly attends online meetings for members of Task 2.3 and she attended a teaching staff week at Christian Albrecht University in Kiel, Germany, held on the 27 to 29 September 2023.
- **27 June:** Professor Baldacchino attended a meeting of the SEA-EU 2.0 Quality and Ethics Committee (of which she is a member) held at the University of Gdansk (Poland) as part of the Alliance's second Governing Week activities.



In relation to the above, Professor Baldacchino was appointed as the deputy to the University of Malta's Lead Academic on Quality (Pro-Rector Professor Frank Bezzina), and nominated as SEA-EU Ambassador for the Future Leadership Forum, which is being led by the University of Parthenope (Naples) and consists of representatives from each SEA-EU partner and external universities. The aims of this Forum according to the project's proposal include "to share views on ... how innovation can be introduced as one of the core elements of the normal functioning of the institution".

- SEA-EU Bachelor's degree in Sustainable Blue Economy

Dr. Lisa Pace was nominated to represent the University of Malta to design a study unit on blue business management on a new course, which is a BSc. in Sustainable Blue Economy as part of the SEA-EU alliance programme. She is leading the co-creation team on 'Sustainable Blue Management'.

- SEA-EU Ambassador on the Sustainable Blue Economy

Dr. Lisa Pace has been appointed ambassador on the SEA-EU Sustainable Blue Economy Observatory.



4.5 Other Activities

- **20 October:** Professor Vlad P. Glaveanu from Dublin City University delivered a guest lecture for students following the Master in Creativity and Innovation. The lecture focused on the socio-cultural nature of creativity.
- **24 October:** Dr Margaret Mangion conducted a workshop on critical and creative thinking for doctoral students, which she organised in collaboration with the Doctoral School at the University of Malta. Students enrolled on various doctoral programmes were in attendance and contributed to an interactive discussion dealing with the importance of being critical and creative when approaching resources and writing at doctoral level.
- **25 October:** Professor Leonie Baldacchino participated in a round-table discussion organised by the Commission for the Rights of Persons with Disability - CRPD on 'Digital Technology for Independent Living', held at UM's Valletta Campus. She spoke about the entrepreneurial potential of persons with disability and how technology may be used to support their endeavours. This was based on her research on inclusive entrepreneurship for the OECD and the Institute.



- **16 November:** Talk on Smart Specialisation
Dr Lisa Pace invited Ms Ramona Saliba Scerri, Deputy Director of Strategy & Policy at the Malta Council for Science & Technology to deliver a talk on Smart Specialisation in Malta. Ms Saliba Scerri spearheaded the development of Malta's strategy on smart specialisation. She explained the process of entrepreneurial discovery that led up to developing and designing action lines for the strategy. This involved extensive stakeholder consultations with quadruple helix actors in the innovation system and explained how the strategy evolved from addressing broad areas of intervention to delineating targeted approaches to achieve innovation potential in key areas of activity.
- **17 November:** Professor Petra Caruana Dingli was awarded the highest Award in the category for Established Historians at the Malta Historical Society History Awards 2022.



- **1 December:** Professor Emeritus Tudor Rickards delivered an online lecture to students enrolled for IOT2005. Leadership and Innovation on 1 December 2022, following an invitation from Professor Sandra M. Dingli.
- **15 December.** Professor Maciej Karwowski from the University of Wroclaw delivered a guest lecture to students on the Master in Creativity and Innovation. The lecture focused on the role of self-beliefs in relation to creativity.
- **15 December:** In a Design Thinking Taster workshop, Masters students delved into creative problem-solving through design thinking. This workshop was a component of the 'Innovation Adoption and Diffusion' study unit, overseen by Dr. Lisa Pace. Mr Jan Scheidsteger led the facilitation of the session.



- **16 December:** Professor Baldacchino was invited to form part of a panel of judges for the '[Become a Changemaker](#)' project, which is funded by the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Thirty youngsters from Germany, Georgia and Armenia are participating in this project.
- **20 December:** In the days approaching Christmas, staff and students from the Edward de Bono Institute contributed food items to both the St Jean Antide Foundation and the University of Malta Chaplaincy.

- **12 January:** Mr Alfred Camilleri, an established local artist delivered a lecture to students registered for the Master in Creativity and Innovation. During this lecture Mr Camilleri outlined his creative journey when engaging with artistic activity.



- **17 January:** At the Career Expo at Junior College, Dr. Margaret Mangion served as the representative for the Institute. She conducted a session for future university students, outlining the Edward de Bono Institute's programs and highlighting how the Institute's five foundational pillars could be applied across various specialisations.
- **18 January:** St Dorothy's careers day. Professor Baldacchino was invited to participate in the Careers Day held at St Dorothy's Secondary School, which was organised for Forms 2 – 5. Professor Baldacchino spoke to the girls about creativity and entrepreneurship and distributed brochures with information about the Institute and our courses.



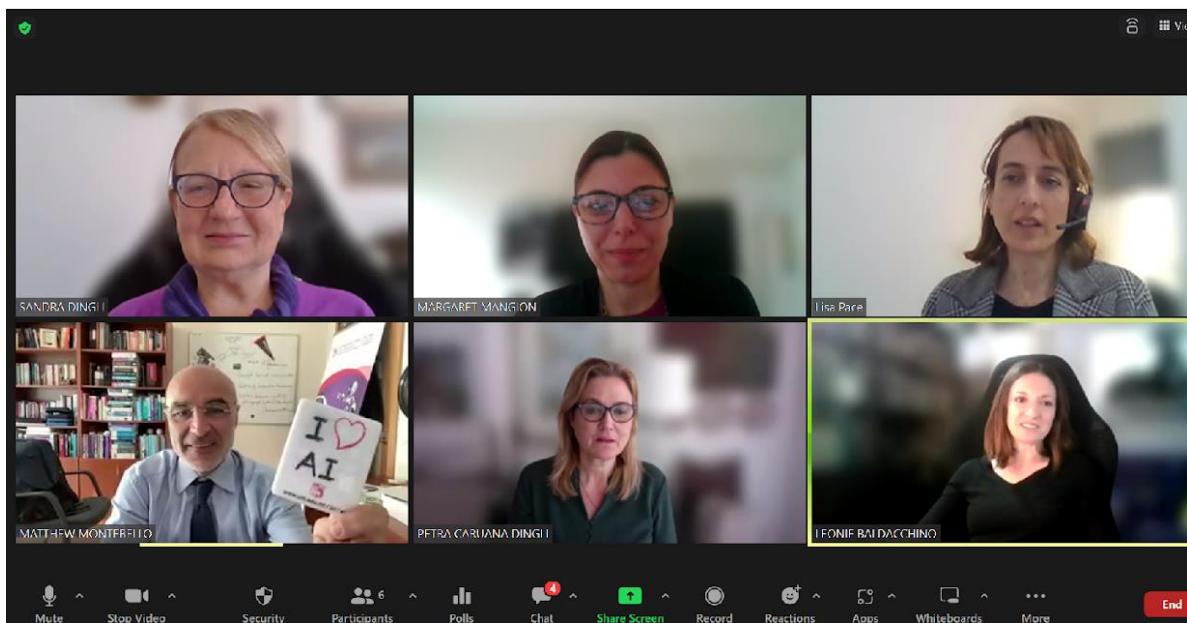
- **18 January:** MCST's draft National Research and Innovation Strategic Plan 2023-2027. Professor Sandra M. Dingli attended the online consultation meeting, coordinated by Professor Simon Fabri, Pro Rector. The aim of the meeting was to discuss MCST's draft National Research and Innovation Strategic Plan for 2023-2027. Following an evaluation of the consultation documents consolidated from academics at The Edward de Bono Institute feedback was submitted MCST.
- **20 January:** Professor Baldacchino and Professor Dingli attended a session about Mindfulness delivered by Mr James Formosa and organised by the HR Department at the University of Malta.
- **24 January:** Dr Margaret Mangion delivered a workshop on the circular economy and creativity at The Malta Crafts Foundation. The workshop titled 'Sustainable Crafting' was held at the Valletta Design Cluster.
- **25 January: Caspar de Bono – Lifelong Master Trainers**
Dr Margaret Mangion and Professor Sandra M. Dingli met Caspar de Bono, the son of the late Dr Edward de Bono, at the Institute during his recent visit to Malta. They discussed matters of mutual interest. Consequently, both Dr Mangion and Professor Dingli were appointed Lifelong Master Trainers, the highest accolade given to de Bono trainers.
- **27 January:** Professor Baldacchino delivered a keynote address on 'The Science of Innovation' at the EAES (European Association for Endoscopic Surgery) 'Innovation in Surgery Symposium'.
-
- **January:** Professor Sandra M. Dingli, Dr Lisa Pace and Dr Margaret Mangion discussed the possibility of signing a cooperation agreement with Dr Mohammed Hadya Diryaq, head of the Centre for Future Studies at the University of Sirte. A draft agreement was discussed and sent to Dr. Diryaq.
- **21 February to 21 March 2023:** Professor Leonie Baldacchino was selected to participate in the 'Spring Institute on Disability', which is an online programme aimed at scholars interested in studying disability-related topics in organisational contexts, including entrepreneurship:
- **27 February:** Professor Baldacchino delivered a presentation titled 'Creativity in the Classroom and Beyond' for educators (approx. 65) employed at Bishop's Conservatory Secondary School in Gozo.
- **28 February:** Dr Margaret Mangion visited MCAST Institute for the Creative Arts where she held a workshop for students following the Advanced Diploma in Fashion and Retail. During this workshop Dr Mangion introduced the group of 24 students to SCAMPER, a creative thinking method the students then used to work on a project that led to an activity hosted by the Edward de Bono Institute during World Creativity and Innovation Week 2023.
- **Sandro Sant' Anna – MPhil to PhD transfer:**
Mr Sandro Sant' Anna, a PhD student at the Institute, successfully completed his MPhil to PhD transfer on 28 February 2023. The Ad Hoc Board was composed of the following:

Chairperson, Professor Sandra M. Dingli, Member, Professor Emanuel Said, Professor Leonie Baldacchino, Principal Supervisor.

- **2 March:** Students following IOT5024, Creativity: Psychological Perspectives, were invited to attend a lecture on neuroanatomy delivered by Dr Claude Bajada. The lecture took place in the Anatomy Dissection Room in the Biomedical Sciences Building.
- **16 March 2023:**
Professor Kevin Warwick from the University of Reading (UK) accepted Professor Sandra M. Dingli's invitation and he delivered an online lecture to the Institute's Masters students who are registered for the study unit IOT5028 Innovation and new digital technology.
- **24 March:** Dr Lisa Pace was invited to speak at the International Ocean Institute's event on 'Sailing the blue economy' which formed part of the IOI's Alumni Continuous Professional Development outreach programme. The title of her presentation was, "A leap into the future: anticipating future research and innovation needs for a sustainable blue economy".



- **29 March:** Following the emergence of ChatGPT, academics from the Institute convened with Prof Matthew Montebello of the Artificial Intelligence Department within the Faculty of ICT. The meeting featured discussions on the longstanding presence of AI in our lives and the necessity for adapting to its ongoing development. Further, the conversation delved into the principles underlying ChatGPT and comparable software, including insights into their operational mechanisms.



- **March-April:** Professor Leonie Baldacchino was engaged by Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (Peru) to participate in an online Review of their Entrepreneurship Programme as one of three external reviewers.
- The Edward de Bono Institute at the University of Malta announced a joint project with the Kunsill Régjonal tan-Nofsinhar. This collaboration featured a series of workshops focused on developing ideas for sustainable future communities, with active participation from youths across various localities on the island. Hon Alison Zerafa Civelli, Parliamentary Secretary for Local Government, expressed her support for this initiative during the launch.



- **3 May: Malta Historical Society public lecture – Malta**

Professor Petra Caruana Dingli delivered a public lecture as part of the monthly public lecture series organised by the Malta Historical Society. The talk was entitled: 'Re-creating a monastic life story'.



- **09 May, 16 May, 23 May:** Professor Leonie Baldacchino and Mr Sandro Sant' Anna attended the 'Teaching Entrepreneurship Summit', which is held annually online. This year's focus was on the use of AI in entrepreneurship education.
- **10 May:** Professor Emanuel Said, Dean FEMA delivered a workshop to staff and students of the Edward de Bono Institute. The workshop introduced the use of Nvivo as a data analysis tool.
- **15–19 May:** Professor Andrea Caputo from University of Trento and Lincoln University delivered IOT5034- Strategic and Entrepreneurial Decision-Making. During this week students on the Master in Creativity and Innovation had the opportunity to engage with a strategic entrepreneurial mindset and entrepreneurship skills while practising negotiation skills.

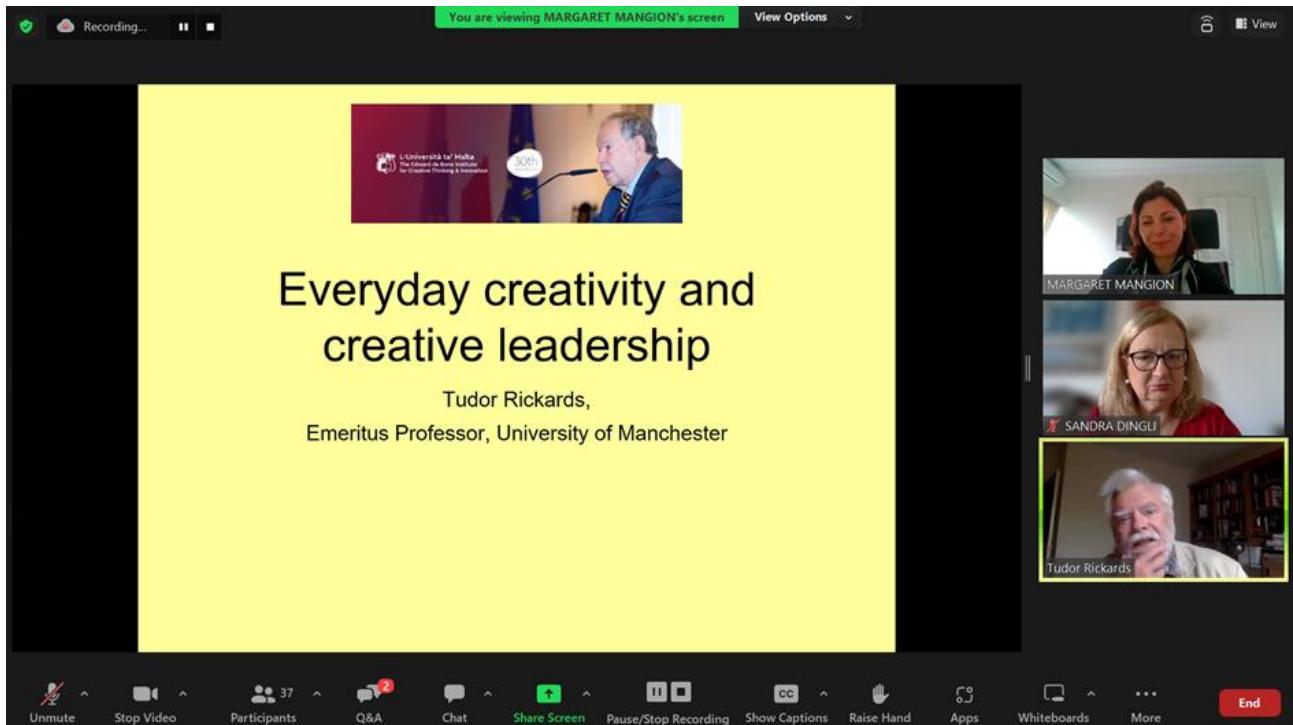


- **23 May:** As part of the engagement with society, as part of IOT5039 – Integrating Creativity and Innovation in Marketing Concepts, students on the Master programme delivered a presentation to the Malta Dementia Society who acted as real-world clients for this cohort. The students first met officials from the Society in March. During this meeting, an overview of the not-for-profit organisation as well as a brief were introduced to the students. The students worked on marketing strategies throughout the semester and finally presented their outcomes on May 23. The officials of the Malta Dementia Society were positively impressed with the work of excellent quality delivered by the students as well as by the creative ideas that they garnered over the weeks they worked on the project.



- **22 May:** Professor Tudor Rickards, Professor Emeritus at University of Manchester and formerly Professor of Creativity and Organisational Change at Alliance Manchester Business School (UK) (who also previously held the first ever Chair in Creativity and Innovation) was invited to deliver the annual memorial lecture in honour of Professor Edward de Bono on 22 May 2023.





- **24 May:** As part of the strategic plan outlined by the rectorate, Dr Margaret Mangion and Professor Leonie Baldacchino attended a virtual meeting organised to discuss Strategic Theme III – Societal Factors and Impact. This theme is one of the strategic themes identified in the Strategic Plan 2020 – 2025.
- **25 May:** A Meeting between Ms Ms Angela Ahgow-Puehringer, International Assistant from the University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria and Dr Margaret Mangion was facilitated by the UM Erasmus Office. During this meeting areas of collaboration and opportunities for students and staff were discussed with a representative.
- **25 May:** Professor Sandra M. Dingli organised a guest lecture for students registered for IOT5028 – Innovation and Digital Technology. The guest speaker, Professor Alexiei Dingli from the Department of Artificial Intelligence at the Faculty of ICT delivered an interactive lecture on the evolution of artificial intelligence focusing on software and on how the global landscape is unfolding due to the uptake of these AI platforms.



- **In June:** Dr Petra Caruana Dingli was promoted to Associate Professor. At its meeting of 1st June 2023, Council ratified the decision of the Promotions Board that she be promoted to Associate Professor with effect from 28 October 2021.
- **2 June:** Dr Margaret Mangion attended the Einstein Forum on Serendipity. The Einstein Forum is a foundation of the German federal state of Brandenburg that serves the public as an open laboratory of the mind. Through a varied program of conferences, workshops, podium discussions, and lectures it brings together original thinkers from all over the world to test new ideas—and interrogate conventional ones.
- **5 June:** Dr Margaret Mangion delivered training to a group of over 40 teachers of ethics from various schools in Malta. The workshop explored how creative thinking methods can be used to delve into issues related to ethics in the classroom and beyond.
- **12 June:** Dr Margaret Mangion and Master in Creativity and Innovation student Ms Rossana Delia attended Creative pedagogies, research and practice in conversations by BERA (online symposium).
- **22 June:** An application for Erasmus Mobility submitted by Dr Margaret Mangion was positively reviewed. Dr Mangion will visit the University of Trieste in April, 2024. The aim of the visit is to explore new avenues for collaboration in the area of creativity and innovation.
- **26 June:** Dr Margaret Mangion and Dr Lisa Pace facilitated a feedback session with lecturers on the Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Lectures held between October 2022 and May 2023 were well received by the students. The lecturers commented favourable comments in relation to the level of engagement and commitment shown by the students.
- **30 June:** Professor Baldacchino participated in an online workshop, organised by the OECD's Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (www.oecd.org/cfe) for local stakeholders, where she delivered a presentation on the draft Country Assessment Note on Inclusive Entrepreneurship Policy in Malta for 2022-2023.

- **04 July:** Professor Leonie Baldacchino's attended a seminar on 'The Fragile Worker: Stigma, Illness and Disability in the Contemporary [Western] Workplace', organised in blended mode by the University College London's Collaborative Social Science Domain.
- **11 July:** Professor Baldacchino attended a half-day Mental Health First Aid refresher course, organised by UM's Office for Human Resources Management & Development, and delivered by the Richmond Foundation.
- **13 July:** Council endorsed the decision of the Promotions Board and promoted Dr Leonie Baldacchino to Associate Professor with effect from 30 October 2021.
- **22 July:** Dr Margaret Mangion represented the Edward de Bono Institute at the IChoose Careers Fair. Targeting students finishing their secondary education, the fair was held at the Excelsior Hotel.
- **31 July:** Erasmus+ Project. Communication was received to announce that the proposal submitted for the project entitled 'Cooperation to implement Creative Thinking and Gamification for innovative online training of STEM students' (ThinkGame) submitted as a KA220 Erasmus+ project was successful. The project will be coordinated by Professor Adina Cocu from University Dunarea de Jos of Galati – Romania. Professor Sandra M. Dingli, Dr Margaret Mangion from the Edward de Bono Institute, and Dr Vanessa Camilleri from the Faculty of ICT Department of Artificial Intelligence will represent the University of Malta. The project is expected to commence in October 2023.
- **2 August:** At the meeting, Ambassador Cutajar expressed her satisfaction in relation to how well received lectures held in May 2023 were.
- **8 August:** A meeting was held with her Excellency Ambassador Theresa Cutajar, currently serving as Ambassador of Malta to the Republic of Türkiye. At this meeting future occurrences of the delivery of online lectures was discussed. Present at the meeting were Dr Margaret Mangion, Professor Sandra M. Dingli and Dr Mario L. Cassar.
- **17 -18 August:** Short courses. Resulting from recommendations emerging from an internal audit coordinated by the University of Malta, members of staff from the Edward de Bono Institute attended the following short courses: Emergency medical response and Basic concepts in firefighting. Mr Mario Delicata delivered the sessions which were coordinated by Ms Amanda Borg Ciantar.
- **24 August:** Professor Leonie Baldacchino and Dr Margaret Mangion attended a symposium organised by the International Society for the Study of Creativity and Innovation. The symposium included presentations about the latest research in the area of materiality in the creative process. Throughout August three promotional videos (reels) were shot with the support of Communications office with the aim of further promoting the Master Programme.
- **24 August:** Professor Baldacchino attended an online ISSCI Symposium on Materiality in the Creative Process.
- **29 August:** Professor Baldacchino attended an exploratory online meeting with a co-founder of Supercharger Ventures (www.superchargerventures.com/about) and Founders Taboo (www.founderstaboo.com), together with two of the latter's team members, about their

forthcoming collaboration with Malta Enterprise for the provision of various initiatives related to entrepreneurs' mental health and well-being. These include a series of workshops and podcasts, in which I will be further discussing my possible involvement on the basis of my recent research in this area (including my EURAM papers of 2022 and 2023).

4.6 International Collaboration

- Mr Eduardo Rossi and Mr Felipe Barth De Castro were invited as guest speakers for IOT5033. They delivered a lecture to the Masters students enrolled for this study unit on their entrepreneurial journey.
- **24 January: HEIDI online Staff Roundtable event on Understanding HEI requirements and challenges for Digital Action:** Professor Sandra M. Dingli and Dr Margaret Mangion attended this online event. The HEIDI Project, a collaboration of academic partners (UM, UCL, University of Paris) and NGOs (Web2Learn and Citizens in Power), aims to improve the ability of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to support community driven knowledge enhancement and action, and promote their role in social change by enhancing staff and student expertise in community problem solving.
- **14 March: Breda University.** Students and academic members of staff from Breda University, The Netherlands visited The Edward de Bono Institute. During this visit Dr Mangion delivered a lecture to students following the Master in Imagineering. On the same day the group of foreign students delivered a workshop in Imagineering to students following the Master in Creativity and Innovation.
-



- **18 -21 April: St Erembert High School, Paris, France.** A group of 33 students from St Erembert High School in Paris visited Malta. The students attended an intensive programme designed and delivered by staff at The Edward de Bono Institute covering aspects related to creativity, entrepreneurship, future studies and critical thinking.
- **2-23 May: Online lectures for students from Turkiye.** Dr. Margaret Mangion, Professor Sandra M. Dingli and Mr Sandro Pinto Sant'Anna from The Edward de Bono Institute for

Creative Thinking and Innovation delivered lectures to students from private universities in Türkiye. These online lectures focused on the creative problem-solving process, innovation and entrepreneurship were the fruit of a growing collaboration between UM and the Embassy of Malta in Türkiye.

4.7 Visitors and Guest Speakers

- On the 10 October the Institute hosted a visit from Dr Yota Wind from Holland Institute of Technology who came round to scope potential and areas of collaboration with the Institute.

Guest Speaker Series

Professor Vlad P. Glaveanu – Dublin City University, Ireland.
Professor Maciej Karwowski - Uniwersytet Wrocławski, Poland
Professor Giovanni Emanuele Corazza – Universita` di Bologna, Italy
Professor Roni Reiter-Palmon – Omaha University, Nebraska, USA
Professor Sergio Agnoli – Universita` di Trieste, Italy
Professor Kevin Warwick – University of Reading
Emeritus Professor Tudor Rickards – University of Manchester
Professor Andrea Caputo - University of Trento and Lincoln
Ms Ramona Saliba Scerri – Malta Council for Science & Technology

5.0 GOVERNANCE

Institute Board Meetings

16 December 2022

10 March 2023

20 June 2023

5 September 2023

Institute Staff Meetings

22 October 2022

8 February 2023

Institute Doctoral Meetings

30 November 2022

14 July 2023

Institute Board of Examiners Meetings

8 February 2023

1 March 2023

19 June 2023

14 July 2023

6.0 PLANNED ACTIVITIES

The Edward de Bono Institute is in the process of strategically evaluating its teaching approaches to make its courses more attractive to potential students. Understanding that students often manage numerous commitments, the Institute is dedicated to modifying its academic programs to be more adaptable and user-friendly. This effort seeks to facilitate more accessible and captivating learning experiences, guaranteeing that individuals with hectic schedules can still take advantage of the Institute's significant educational offerings.

7.0 MEDIA APPEARANCES, AND PRESS COVERAGE

During the academic year 2022-2023, the Institute and its members of staff received the following media coverage:

16 November



Prof Mangion (@UMmalta) will guide during this session to learn about some of the elements of thinking and how they may be employed to turn problems into opportunities.

Registration  [zoom.us/meeting/register...](https://zoom.us/meeting/register)



17 November



@maltainturkey
@maltainturkey1

...

Pleased to present certificates to some of the students, from Bilkent University, who successfully completed the online course 'Ideas and Innovation' by The Edward de Bono Institute for Creative Thinking & Innovation of the University of Malta.

@MFETMalta

#EdwarddeBonoinstitute



3:11 pm · 17 Nov 2022

20 December

Our collaboration with Bilkent University, Türkiye was covered on the Bilkent News.

We wish to thank Her Excellency Ambassador Theresa Cutajar, Ambassador of Malta to the Republic of Türkiye, Professor Ayse Collins and her colleagues at Bilkent University, Dr Mario Cassar and our colleagues at UM for making this initiative a success.

2

FEATURES

Special Invite from Malta Ambassador Theresa Cutajar



On November 17, fourteen Bilkent students visited the Malta Embassy for a celebratory occasion. They were invited as special guests by the Malta Ambassador herself, H. E. Theresa Cutajar, to receive their certificates of achievement for successfully completing a 20-hour virtual study unit on "Creative Thinking and Innovation." This study unit was offered in Spring 2022 to Bilkent students by Edward de Bono Institute at Malta University through the initiation of Bilkent's Faculty of Applied Sciences. The official certificate ceremony was led by Ambassador Cutajar and attended by Dean Prof. Altay Güvenir and Assoc. Dean Assoc. Prof. Ayşe Collins as well as the instructors at the Edward de Bono Institute, Dr. Margaret Mangion, Prof. Leonie Baldacchino and Prof. Sandra Dingli, who joined the ceremony via Zoom. In the ceremony, students had the unique opportunity to share their experiences directly with the Ambassador and instructors on the topics of creativity, innovation management and entrepreneurship as well as prospective application areas in the students' future careers. Encouraged by the success of this initiative, Faculty of Applied Sciences and the Edward de Bono Institute plan to offer the same program again in the coming spring semester. The program helps students become more creative and eases their transition between university studies and employment.

22 December



Fondazzjoni St Jeanne Antide

22 December 2022 ·

...

Thank you [Edward de Bono Institute - University of Malta](#) for your donation towards our Reverse Advent Calendar Initiative. #SJAF



Leonie Baldacchino and 9 others

2 comments

17 January



Malta Crafts Foundation

17 January ·

...

The Malta Crafts Foundation will be kicking off this year's sessions of MCF Learns with an interactive and practical workshop about applying principles of sustainability to your craft.

The session will be delivered by Dr Margaret Mangion, Director and Senior Lecturer at the [Edward de Bono Institute - University of Malta](#), who will allow participants to investigate their own production processes and propose ethical and sustainable solutions.

Supported by the World Crafts Council Europe (WCCE) and the European Union (through the Creative Europe programme), the session will be held on January 24 between 16:30h and 19:30h at the [Valletta Design Cluster](#).

Register by not later than Monday, January 23rd, at noon, through this form:

<https://forms.gle/X49FMzFWtp7dSShm6>

A detailed programme and further instructions will be sent following registration.

[World Crafts Council Europe](#)

#WCCE #WCCEurope #MCFlearns #Training #TrainingSession #Artisans #Crafts #Sustainability
#SustainableCrafting #SustainableArtisans



24 January



Malta Crafts Foundation

24 January ·

...

In the first MCF Learns session of the year, artisans were guided to analyse what they could do within their own craft to become more sustainable, and how they could apply the principles of a circular economy to their own production processes.

The session, which was delivered by Dr Margaret Mangion, Director and Senior Lecturer at the Edward de Bono Institute for Creative Thinking and Innovation at the University of Malta, was held at the [Valletta Design Cluster](#), with the support of the World Crafts Council Europe (WCCE) and the European Union (through the Creative Europe programme).

[Ekonomija](#) | [World Crafts Council Europe](#) | [Edward de Bono Institute - University of Malta](#)
#WCCE #WCCEurope #MCFLearns #Training #TrainingSession #Artisans #Crafts #Sustainability
#SustainableCrafting #SustainableArtisans



100 100 Leonie Baldacchino, Margaret Mangion and 37 others

3 comments 3 shares

February 2023 -

Professor Petra Caruana Dingli participated as interviewee in two episodes of the programme 'Il-Barokk: Arkitetti, Artisti u Patruni ta' Valletta', aired on TVM.

12 April



Malta Crafts Foundation

12 April ·

...

The Malta Crafts Foundation is teaming up with the [Edward de Bono Institute - University of Malta](#) and the [Valletta Design Cluster](#) to organise the first activities for World Creativity and Innovation Week.

This event, locally named the Creativity and Innovation Days, invites members of the public to the Valletta Design Cluster to participate in various talks and workshops that will be held between the coming April 20th and 22nd. Each initiative aims to highlight the innovation that these creatives are implementing in their day to day.

Registration for all activities - which is being managed by the Malta Crafts Foundation - is a must and can be carried out through this form: <https://forms.gle/RzpdawUTiCiD8msq8>

#WCIW #IAmCreative #CreativityandInnovationDays #EdwardDebonoInstitute
#MaltaCraftsFoundation #VallettaDesignCluster



L-Università ta' Malta
The Edward de Bono Institute
for Creative Thinking & Innovation



VALLETTA
DESIGN
CLUSTER

13 April

one

AMBARINET

LIFESTYLE

DIRETT

ERGA SEGWI

ONE | PLAY

RIKLAMAR

Q

IL-KREATTIVITÀ FL-AQWA TAGHHA

www.ontime.com.mt | 12 ta' April 2023

F G V In D

Il-23 ta' April huwa meegux bhalha l-ham Dinj tal-Kreattività u l-Innovazzjoni. Ghad dan il-ghax, in-eeq jipu m'hixxja juzaw il-kreattività tagħhom biex jaegħi l-istidu fr-iġward tal-kwistijon ja' kollha islati mal-kbira tal-Charġiex tu' Zvilupp Stateribbi tan-Nazzjonajiet Uniti.

AKTAR ARTIKLI

Watch on YouTube

Bejn l-20 u l-22 ta' April, il-Valletta Design Cluster, l-İstiġġu Edward de Bono għall-Minib Kreattiv u l-Innovazzjoni, i-kollaborazzjoni mal-Arġenċja Kultura li għalli-Belt Valletta permużza tal-Valletta Design Cluster, u l-Fondazzjoni Smiegħi Mallin, qed jorganizza għad id-istrija b'istriżżejjek, bili-ghaxi li tige kallebata l-Čempu Direżja tal-Kreattività u l-Innovazzjoni bi programm infurjettiv ta' avarriġimenti.

Mutu dawn it-tiegi ġej, minnha ta' art-ġejġiex se jidu x-saqha u l-prodotti tagħhom, kif ukoll kif jidher ruħħhom fl-produzzjoni ta' dawn l-artisti b'mod innovattiv.

Il-pubbliku li se jidheri se jidu jista' ja' jidher id-ding ta' dawn il-persuni kreattivi u art-ġejġi.

Dewi dawn l-istriżżejjek, isħallim minn-Kap il-Valletta Design Cluster, jaanne Attard Mallia, li fis-xarid meggħix x-saqha kse jidu koll minn-piċċi.

Jaanne Attard Mallia appoggi li, "Jekk id-figi hawni sej, il-spazi diffirekk, il-spazi talloq fuq design, fuq kif nis-saqha, fuq contemporary design il-ġurmat. Fl-istess hekk, il-spazi idha tkun tista' indha sejji u tħalli tagħraf xi ja' jaħbi. Minn se jidu qed jaġħid workshop fil-kreġżeen, u għandu workshop u-ix-żejt fuq tista' digħiżżejjek kif tħalli kien kien kien kollha - jaġżej minn għad-dokumenti, minn GABE, u Anna Maria Gatt, ist-ixxien.

Minn-Attard minn-istit-tu minn-Edward De Bono fi idha l-Università ta' Malta, Dr Margaret Mamo, u l-kollaborazzjoni mherha ta' x-saqha fil-bizzu u crochet, partikulari u l-handbregha ta' Gabriella Lukacs, minn GABE, u Anna Maria Gatt, ist-ixxien.

Med-Direktor minn-istit-tu Edward De Bono fi idha l-Università ta' Malta, Dr Margaret Mamo,

ARTIKLI TA' MIEGGEN

Maru fil-purku tal-miex u waqt incident fl-imwida

21 ta' Awissu 2023

ARA, fuu se jikkomist i-proġetti ta' ġnejja li jidheri u tħalli

21 ta' Awissu 2023

Kompli x-saqha minn-istru marie-ruħħaw tal-ġappi li kien kien kollha - San Klement u Zgħajnej

21 ta' Awissu 2023

Fevvur trasparenza u informar tal-proġetti

21 ta' Awissu 2023

Jidheru l-permezz tal-kien għad-dokumenti għidheri

21 ta' Awissu 2023

KASANOVA

Create a stylish table with Kasanova outdoors

18 April



Reġjun Punent

18 April ·

...

Today to celebrate World Creativity and Innovation Week we partnered up with Edward de Bono Institute - University of Malta to create a conference for Form 4 students to talk, discuss and learn more from each other.

A big thank you to all students and teachers in Kulleġġ San Benedittu, Skola Medja, Hal Kirkop and Savio College - Dingli - Malta for participating in this event!

Another big thank you to Kulleġġ San Benedittu, Skola Medja, Hal Kirkop for hosting the event.

We would also like to extend a special thanks to the Edward de Bono Institute - University of Malta's Dr Mangion and their Master students in Creativity and Innovation who facilitated the workshops and without their collaboration this wouldn't have been a reality!

Mdina Local Council | Kunsill Lokali Haż-Żebbuġ | Kunsill Lokali Is-Siġgiewi | Had-Dingli Local Council | Hal Kirkop Local Council | L-Imqabba Local Council | Il-Qrendi Local Council | Kunsill Lokali Rabat Malta | Hal Safi Local Council | Zurrieq Local Council





Register now for the upcoming Innovate Green Businesses Talk!

As part of Creativity and Innovation Days, Professor Sandra Dingli from the Edward de Bono Institute - University of Malta will be discussing her experience on the EU-funded project InnoGreen. Along with Dr Mario Balzan from Ecostack Innovations, they will be discussing the benefits, challenges and how to tackle the challenges of running green business.

: Thursday 20th April at 5PM to 6PM

: Valletta Design Cluster

More info <https://fb.me/e/5Y1TPHtTA>

Registration, which is being managed by the Malta Crafts Foundation, can be done through this form: <https://forms.gle/RzpdaWUTiCiD8msq8>

#WICW #IAmCreative #CreativityandInnovationDays #EdwardDebonoInstitute
#MaltaCraftsFoundation #VallettaDesignCluster



5

1 share

Like

Comment

Share



...





Today to celebrate World Creativity and Innovation Week, a number of Year 10 students took part in a very thought-engaging conference. Through dialogue and discussion with other youngsters from Kullegg San Benedittu, Skola Medja, Hal Kirkop, students have learned so much from each other. Workshops have been facilitated by Dr Margaret Mangion and Masters students from the [Edward de Bono Institute - University of Malta](#). [Reġjun Punent](#) have coordinated the event. Thanks to Ms Elaine Scorey who has accompanied the students.



75

6 comments 5 shares

Like

Comment

Share



28 April

Professor Leonie Baldacchino was a guest on an episode of TradeMalta's 'International Insights – Stories from the Real Economy', where she discussed various issues related to innovation and internationalisation with host Dr Joe Schembri and eCabs founder Mr Matthew Bezzina. Further details may be found in the news article below, while the full episode is available on YouTube at <https://lnkd.in/dUNCpbns> and Spotify at <https://lnkd.in/d6Y6mcXC>.

<https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/innovation-dilemmas-a2.1028012>



i

TIMESOFMALTA.COM

Innovation dilemmas

Innovation is on the agenda in the latest episode from TradeMalta's 'International Insights – St...

2 May



MCast

2 May ·

...

"Scamper It!" 🚶 a collaboration between the Edward De Bono Institute at the University of Malta and the MCAST Institute for the Creative Arts 🎨

✓ During this collaborative project students had the opportunity to enhance their competencies in innovative thinking skills 🎓

✓ The project encouraged sustainability in the creative arts focusing mainly on Fashion 🎨

#MCast #UOM #ScamperIt



Promotion of the Master in Creativity and Innovation

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creativity, innovation, foresight, and ...see more



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