

**2021**

**ANNUAL REPORT**



L-Università  
ta' Malta

# Table of Contents

2

List of tables  
and figures

3

Foreword by  
the Rector

4

Vision, Mission,  
Values

5

Governance of  
the University

9

Operational Review

- 22 University Staff
- 23 Number of University Students
- 24 Programme Offerings
- 25 Certificates, Diplomas and Degrees Conferred

26

Student Body

- 26 Students by Locality
- 28 International Students
- 32 Americas Students
- 33 EU Students
- 34 Non-EU Students
- 36 International Exchange Outgoing Students
- 37 Incoming Visiting/ Exchange Students
- 38 Erasmus+ Inbound Students
- 39 Erasmus+ Outbound Students

40

Financial Review

41

Financial Report

- 41 Income and Expenditure Accounts
- 42 Statements of Financial Position

# List of all Tables and figures

- 22** University Staff
- 22** Percentage of Resident Academic Staff with Ph.D.s by Gender
- 23** Number of University Students
- 24** Programme Offerings
- 25** Certificates, Diplomas and Degrees Conferred
- 26** Students by Locality
- 28** International Students
- 32** Americas Students
- 33** EU Students
- 34** Non-EU Students
- 36** International Exchange Outgoing Students
- 37** Incoming Visiting/Exchange Students
- 38** Erasmus+ Inbound Students
- 39** Erasmus+ Outbound Students
- 41** Income and Expenditure Accounts
- 42** Statements of Financial Position



# Foreword by the Rector

**PROFESSOR ALFRED J. VELLA**

Rector

The academic year under review started under the dark shadow cast by COVID-19. As the year wore on, the various educational services offered by the University were slowly normalized until eventually most teaching and assessment resumed in person. This notwithstanding, there are students who unfortunately will not have had the opportunity to experience a proper and normal stint at University and at the Junior College. For this reason, Senate has continued to adopt regulations that allowed for entry to University on a probationary basis from sixth form colleges to mitigate the negative effects experienced as a result of the pandemic. We also relaxed, in moderation, university regulations to allow onboard students to progress from one year to the next which took account of the special difficulties these individuals would have had to overcome as a result COVID-19.

During the year, we managed to retain our research performance as attested by the > 1000 publications indexed by Web of Science and Scopus of which more than half were in Open Access: placing as many research papers as possible in Open Access format is an important aspiration of the University of Malta as our commitment is to make new knowledge as widely and freely available as possible.

Works on the physical infrastructures of the University continued apace during the year and, among others, saw the completion of the Materials Engineering and TRAKE buildings. Planning permission to develop the important “Blue Building” adjacent to Tal-Qroqq campus was obtained and tender documents for this extensive project were prepared and published, as were tenders for civil works at the Gozo Campus.

The reader is invited to go through this Report to find a more thorough description of the efforts and achievements of our premier institution of higher learning which strives to keep the nation equipped with a skilled, culturally-sophisticated and technically-competent workforce without which progress cannot be maintained.





# Vision, Mission, Values

The University of Malta aims to be among the best universities in Europe and the world and it aims to provide world-class research and education. Our community of scholars endeavours to maintain the highest standards in education and strives to ensure that what we deliver is fit for the purpose of serving industry and the country in general, keeping both the economic and the social wellbeing in our focus.

This is expressed in our mission statement which is “to serve the aspirations of the people of these islands through locally and globally significant research and the provision of quality higher education in the arts, sciences and the humanities as required for Malta’s economic, social and cultural development, via the scholarship of discovery, teaching and service to the community. These functions shall be delivered in a sustainable manner that is responsive to this country’s present and emergent needs”.

As is typical of any European University, ours is committed to the values of academic freedom and institutional autonomy, and this commitment is sealed in the Magna Charta Universitatum, which we signed together with another 387 rectors in Bologna in 1988. Other values which we embrace as members of the European Higher Education Area are academic integrity, institutional accountability and participation of our students and staff in the governance of the institution.

# Governance of the University

## COUNCIL

The Council is the supreme governing body of the University. Its functions are defined in the Education Act, Article 77.

The members of Council are listed hereunder:

<b>Pro-Chancellor   President</b> <i>(Ex Officio)</i>	<b>Perit Karmenu Vella</b>
<b>Rector   Vice President</b> <i>(Ex Officio)</i>	<b>Professor Alfred J. Vella</b>
<b>Representatives of Senate</b>	<b>Professor Joseph Cacciottolo</b> <b>Professor Dominic Fenech</b> <b>Professor Emmanuel Sinagra</b> <b>Professor Alex Torpiano</b> <i>(up to 29.09.2021)</i> <b>Professor Noellie Brockdorff</b> <i>(as from 30.09.2021)</i>
<b>Members elected by the academic staff</b>	<b>Professor Frank Camilleri</b> <b>Professor Matthew Montebello</b> <b>Professor David Mifsud</b>
<b>Members elected by the non-academic staff</b>	<b>Ms Stephanie Abood</b> <b>Mr Elton J Baldacchino</b> <b>Mr Noel Caruana</b>
<b>Student representatives</b>	<b>Mr Omar Chircop</b> <i>(up to 22.11.2020)</i> <b>Ms Michaela Giglio</b> <i>(as from 16.12.2020)</i> <b>Ms Cristina Aquilina</b> <b>Mr Daniel Vella</b>
<b>Member appointed by the Minister for Education, Youth and Employment</b>	<b>Dr Francis Fabri</b>
<b>Member appointed by the Chairman of the Foundation for Theological Studies</b>	<b>Rev. Professor George Grima</b>

---

Members appointed by the Prime Minister to represent the general interest of the country

Mr Carmel Cachia  
Mr Reno Calleja  
Mr Joseph Cauchi  
Mr Reginald Fava  
Ms Josanne Ghirxi  
Mr Mario Grech  
Mr Godfrey Grima  
Mr Albert Marshall  
Mr Charles Micallef  
Ms Maria Micallef  
Mr Philip Sammut  
Ms Marika Tonna  
Ms Joanne Zammit

---

Secretary to Council | Secretary of the University

Mr Simon Sammut

**The Council has established a number of Committees with specific responsibilities as follows:**

Student Affairs Committee (including Travel Grants, Bursaries, Scholarships)

---

Staff Scholarship and Bursaries Committee

---

Staff Affairs Committee

---

Academic Resources Funds Committee

---

Administrative, Technical & Industrial Staff Work Resources Committee

---

Audit & Risk Committee

---

Committee to consider extension of appointments of Academic Staff

---

Finance Committee

---

IT Services Committee

---

Safety Committee

---

Gender Equality and Sexual Diversity Committee

---

University House Liaison Committee

---

Board of Discipline (Administrative, Technical and Industrial Staff)

---

Medical Board for University (for University Staff)

---

Committee for Council Rules of Procedure

---

Shortlisting Committee for the appointment of Directors of Institutes/Centres/Schools

---



# SENATE

The University Senate is responsible for the general direction of the academic matters of the University and deals with any matter of an academic nature arising in the administration of the University. Senate regulates studies and research in the University; it establishes by regulations the conditions for admission into the University; makes regulations governing all courses leading to University awards, and approves programmes of study constituting such courses. It also advises the Council on matters of an academic nature.

The members of Senate are listed hereunder:

<b>President</b> ( <i>Ex Officio</i> )	<b>Professor Alfred J. Vella</b>
<b>Pro-Rectors</b>	<b>Professor Godfrey Baldacchino</b> ( <i>up to 30.06.2021</i> ) <b>Professor Frank Bezzina</b> ( <i>as from 01.07.2021</i> ) <b>Professor Joseph Cacciottolo</b> <b>Professor Carmen Sammut</b> <b>Professor Tanya Sammut-Bonnici</b> <b>Professor Ing. Saviour Zammit</b>
<b>Deans</b>	<b>Rev. Dr John Anthony Berry</b> <b>Dr Ivan Mifsud</b> <b>Professor Nikolai Attard</b> <b>Professor Frank Bezzina</b> ( <i>up to 04.08.2021</i> ) <b>Dr Emanuel Said</b> ( <i>as from 05.08.2021</i> ) <b>Professor Noellie Brockdorff</b> <b>Professor Ing. Carl J. Debono</b> <b>Professor Colin Calleja</b> <b>Professor Andrew Azzopardi</b> <b>Professor Dominic Fenech</b> <b>Professor Godfrey Laferla</b> <b>Professor Ing. Andrew Sammut</b> <b>Professor Emmanuel Sinagra</b> <b>Professor Alex Torpiano</b> <b>Dr Roberta Sammut</b>
<b>Representatives from each of the faculties</b>	<b>Dr John Abela</b> <b>Rev. Dr Stefan Attard</b> ( <i>up to 08.09.2021</i> ) <b>Rev. Dr Kevin Schembri</b> ( <i>as from 09.09.2021</i> ) <b>Professor David Buhagiar</b> <b>Professor Joseph A. Cannataci</b> <b>Professor Raymond Galea</b> <b>Dr Maria Luisa Gainza-Cirauqui</b> <b>Professor Adrian-Mario Gellel</b> ( <i>up to 21.05.2021</i> ) <b>Dr Michelle Attard Tonna</b> ( <i>as from 22.05.2021</i> ) <b>Dr Dione Mifsud</b> ( <i>up to 15.02.2021</i> ) <b>Professor Mary Anne Lauri</b> ( <i>as from 28.02.2021</i> ) <b>Dr Ing. Ian Refalo</b> <b>Dr Emanuel Said</b> ( <i>up to 09.10.2020</i> ) <b>Dr George Vital Zammit</b> ( <i>as from 10.10.2020</i> ) <b>Dr Ivan Sammut</b> <b>Professor Keith Sciberras</b> <b>Dr Josef Trapani</b>



---

**Student representatives**

**Mr John Paul Buttigieg**  
**Ms Elsa Cassar**  
**Ms Yasmine Ellul** (*up to 22.11.2020*)  
**Mr Keith Grima** (*as from 16.12.2020*)  
**Mr Beppe Galea** (*up to 22.11.2020*)  
**Mr Matthew Xuereb** (*as from 16.12.2020*)  
**Ms Chiara Vassallo** (*up to 22.11.2020*)  
**Mr Thomas Galea** (*as from 16.12.2020*)

---

**Representatives of the Minister  
for Education and Employment**

**Dr Denise Mifsud**

---

**Representatives of the Institutes**

**Professor Maria Attard**  
**Dr Odette Vassallo**

---

**Librarian** (*Ex Officio*)

**Mr Kevin J. Ellul**

---

**Secretary | Registrar**

**Ms Veronica Grech** (*up to 13.02.2021*)  
**Dr Colin Borg** (*as from 14.02.2021*)

---

**The Senate has established a number of Committees with specific responsibilities as follows:**

---

**Animal Welfare Committee**

---

**Board to consider numerous Absences from Assessments**

---

**Committee for fitness to Train**

---

**Committee for Students' Requests**

---

**Committee for Student Societies**

---

**Committee for the Implementation  
of the Students' Charter**

---

**Committee of Discipline (regarding  
Students' Misconduct)**

---

**Committee when students/applicants  
present a Police Conduct**

---

**Digital Education Committee**

---

**Doctoral Academic Committee**

---

**Editorial Board – Malta University Press**

---

---

**Library Committee**

---

**Ph.D. & Master (by research) Degrees  
Scholarships Selection Board**

---

**Professional Development Committee  
for the Doctora School**

---

**Programme Validation Committee**

---

**Selection Committee for the Lindau  
Nobel Laureate Meetings**

---

**Quality Assurance Committee**

---

**University Admissions Board**

---

**University Assessment Disciplinary Board**

---

**University Research Ethics Committee**

---

**Web Editorial Board**

---

# Operational Review

## INFRASTRUCTURAL WORK

During the Academic year 2020/2021, the University through the Estates, Facilities and Capital Development Directorate continued with its programme of construction and refurbishment works, together with regular maintenance/minor works and Facilities Management to provide the University with those facilities necessary to effectively achieve its objectives of excellence in teaching and research, whilst focussing on sustainability both in the way these are implemented as well as in the manner in which they are operated and maintained.

Work proceeded on maintenance and minor works, in their majority undertaken by the Estates in house maintenance team, following various requests from Faculties and other University entities. These requests exceeded 3,500. This year saw the introduction of an online Help Desk System so that all requests could be submitted in a systematic and organised manner. Estates in house staff also worked on the finishing works for a One Stop Office in Students House, as well as several repair works on the covered walkways and other external areas.

Preventive Maintenance on plant, lifts, A/C's, and generators was to a large extent undertaken under the various maintenance agreement contracts with external contractors. Extensive works continued on the refurbishment of the A/C's in the Gateway Building.

An extensive exercise to sanitise A/C and Ventilation units was carried out as a matter of priority. In view of stricter COVID necessities, additional ventilation units were installed where required. New Access control systems, additional CCTV's, Fire Alarm systems and Intruder alarm systems were also installed following various requests. Tenders for new lifts at the Old Humanities Building and the CEBI building were also prepared.

An efficient level of Facilities management was maintained which included having to deal with parking and logistical issues that arose as a consequence of the current construction activity on campus, the influx of the public attending the vaccination centre and the return of staff and students on campus. Logistical issues related to the COVID 19 measures were tackled effectively and efficiently. Space Management remained an issue and to this extent, the SOP on space management was completed and finalised. Further SOP's were prepared to cover Access Control Card requests, Landscape Maintenance and the Transport Pool.

As regards Capital Development, further progress was achieved on a number of projects. These may be classified under

- i) Construction works in progress,
- ii) Projects designs and PA applications and
- iii) Tenders preparation.

Under i) one may mention the practical completion of the Maths & Physics Building extension. The Finishes and M&E services contract in the Materials Engineering labs project progressed steadily and was completed. Lab furniture is expected to be installed in early 2022. Regarding the TRAKE project, the construction work progressed satisfactorily and was completed. Works are progressing steadily on the M&E/Finishes. The tender contracts for the office and lab furniture are in hand. Construction works were completed at the Gozo Campus Extension and the M&E/Finishes tender was published. Construction works on the SLC proceeded and the logistical issues related to this building site were handled by Estates. The M&E/Finishes tender of this project was prepared and coordinated by Estates Architects who are also updating architectural plans. Extensive progress was achieved on the Gozo Dental Clinic Project. Likewise, steady and significant progress was achieved on the Valletta Campus First Floor Refurbishment Project.

Under ii) one may mention that extensive project designs were continued to be prepared for the Blue Building internal layouts, the new Medica, Health and Dental Faculties in Block A of the Residences Project, and Block X following extensive meetings with the staff concerned. The designs for these buildings included full internal layouts with furniture. The PA permit for the structural works and additional floor on the Blue Building was approved. Further development design on the Sports Project and the underlying car park was carried out and the PA permit application for the car park is expected to be approved early February 2022. The refurbishment designs of the main building of the Gozo Campus were finalised. Design work was taken in hand for the eventual relocation of the Social Wellbeing Faculty to the current BEN Faculty following meetings with the Faculty Dean. The Estates Design team worked on the Students House Refurbishment Project, the Faculty of Laws Refurbishment Project, Library and Entrance, as well as on a new Childcare Facilities Project in lieu of a PA project application which had already been submitted to the PA for an Estates Building. A one stop office was also designed and is being implemented in Students House.

Under iii) a number of tenders were prepared by the Estates professional team, some directly related to the above-mentioned projects and some for new initiatives. These included the furniture tender for Block O which was published, the furniture and generator tender for the Material Engineering labs project, the office and lab furniture for the TRAKE project which have been published, as well as the tenders for the Generator, PV panels and external landscaping of same project. The tender for the M&E/Finishes of both the Gozo Campus Extension as well as for the Gozo campus main building has been published. Tenders related to the Blue Building namely one for all the structural and construction works was also published, whereas the tenders for M&E/ Finishes and furniture are at Procurement. Revised tenders for Lightning Protection for the JC, Valletta Campus and Old Humanities were forwarded to Procurement. A revised tender for a Fire Detection and Gas suppression system for the ISE at M'Xlokk was also prepared. Tenders were prepared

for Security, Cleaning services and Waste Management. A revised tender document was prepared for the JC Biology Labs, as well as tenders for the replacement of two lifts, refurbishment works planned for the Faculty of Laws and one for General Building works.

Although being a Public Private partnership project, work proceeded at a brisk rate on the University Residences and Community Complex Project (Campus Hub). Block O which will serve for University Lecture Rooms and Offices, as well as for the MUHC offices and Language School was completed and is being used. Consultations on Block A which is intended to house the three Medical Faculties, were also pursued.

Despite COVID restrictions, it is clear that several challenges were surmounted and steady progress was achieved on Infrastructural works at the University properties.







## THE COMPANIES

During 2020/21 the Companies registered an almost breakeven situation from their various operations. This result was as largely anticipated as the financial year under review was the worst hit by COVID related operational difficulties including Government imposed restrictions on travelling.

In spite of these overriding problems certain areas of the Group continued to flourish. The Group's consultancy services and the language school's on-line method of delivery merit particular reference in this regard.

With regards to projects, Campus FM followed up on the initial technical upgrade with further refurbishment of studios and offices whilst also strengthening its human resource set-up and marketing reach. The 5-a-side pitches refurbishment was largely finalised with little or no impact on the utilisation of the sporting facilities during the works.

Finally, the year under review was also heavily characterised by

- a) the preparations for the transfer of operations of the Companies to the new Campus Hub Complex at tal-Qroqq;
- b) the Group's sale of Malta University Residence Limited shares by the end of the calendar year; and
- c) The orderly exit by the Group from its lease obligations related to the Lija Residence, again at the end of the year.

## VALLETTA CAMPUS

The continued effects of the COVID-19 pandemic affected the general operations of the Conferences and Events Unit due to restrictive measures related to events issued by the Maltese Authorities. The Valletta Campus kept on being updated to ensure that all mitigation measures could be adhered to, mainly related to temperature checking, sanitizing equipment, constant cleaning of common areas and restrooms, and collection of data for contact tracing purposes. With organizers opting for online or hybrid events, the Conferences and Events Unit strengthened its infrastructure in this direction, making remote participation more efficient.

In total, the Valletta Campus hosted around forty-five conferences, seminars, ceremonies, launches and other official events, as well as twelve meetings organized by the Institute of Justice and the Rule of Law (IJ), whose offices are based on the premises. These included the event entitled The Drug Effect II: The Psychosocial Effects organized by Kunsill Studenti Universitarji (KSU) in February 2021, the conference entitled Crimes Against Humanity: Towards a More Comprehensive Approach, organized by Centre for the Study and Practice of Conflict Resolution in April 2021, and the workshop entitled Managing the paradigm shift to sustainable conservation. An integrated approach in Built Heritage, organized by the Faculty for the Built Environment in July 2021.

Online events organized with the support of the Conferences and Events Unit include the International Bioethics Conference entitled Bioethics and the Five Senses: Between Clinical Practice and Metaphors, organized by the Faculty of Theology in October 2020, and a webinar on Disability and Employment organized by the Commission for the Rights of Persons with Disability in February 2021.

To ensure social distancing, UM Senate and Council meetings throughout the academic year have taken place in the Aula Magna. Given the large size of the hall as well as its flexible set up, other external entities opted to make use of our services for their staff training and information sessions, including the National Statistics Office who organized here part of their training for the staff carrying out the National Census exercise.

The Valletta Campus Theatre continued with a busy schedule, with performances of the School for Performing Arts, as well as by providing space for official government press conferences and filming of events to be streamed and shared remotely. Some of the performances filmed at the VCT include Žigužajg productions which were shown in all Primary schools in Malta, the Malta International Arts Festival, the Malta Junior Philharmonic Orchestra series shown on TVM, as well as the local drama production POŽITTIVI, directed by Toni Attard. Also, of note was the recording of the album Xehda by the Big Band Brothers which was shown during prime time on Easter Sunday on TVM.

Maintenance and refurbishment continued on the first floor of the Valletta Campus, with works expected to be completed by mid-2022.







## REGISTRAR

### New Courses

During Academic Year 2020/21, the University of Malta launched a number of new courses, offered by various academic entities. At undergraduate level the Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy introduced the Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Public Management which has designed to provide students with a multidisciplinary intellectual skills-set on how to manage and lead public entities, thus contributing towards good and effective governance. The Faculty also introduced the Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Politics and Governance that is intended to contribute to the political formation of citizens who are actively engaged in Maltese public life and who reach out to occupational and social groups for whom politics and governance are central concerns, but who have hitherto been under-represented in the programmes on public policy, public management and public policy leadership. The Faculty of Arts introduced the Diploma in Maltese History in Context to enable students to gain a deep understanding of the history of Malta. The International Institute for Baroque Studies introduced the Pre-Tertiary Certificate in the Baroque Culture of the Maltese Islands which takes a multi-disciplinary approach to the study of the Baroque culture of the Maltese Islands and is designed to satisfy the knowledge requirements of individuals concerned with disseminating this knowledge responsibly to third parties.

An Inter-Faculty Certificate in Safeguarding of Children and Young People was also launched by the Faculty of Theology and the Faculty for Social Wellbeing to introduce students to the standards and main areas of concern regarding safeguarding of children and young people. It will provide students with the basic knowledge and skills to promote the welfare of children and young people, recognise and respond effectively the signs and indicators of abuse, and understand the depth of traumas caused by abuse.

At a postgraduate level, The Faculty for Social Wellbeing launched the Master of Arts in Management of Social Care Services aimed at equipping students to become a future practitioner with a professional skills portfolio that will help manage, develop and reengineer their organisations and projects. The Faculty of Medicine and Surgery offered for the first time the Master of Science in Clinical Radiology aimed at doctors specialising in radiology, to help understand and become familiar with radiological techniques, image interpretation and the role of radiology in everyday clinical practice.

### Information Technology based systems and applications

The Office of the Registrar strives to innovate on the current available technology to provide a better service to students and staff. In this line of vision, a number of projects were implemented while other projects were commenced to be implemented in the future.

A pilot project that was held in June 2020 in the implementation of a cloud-based software (WISEflow) to hold examinations online was implemented full scale in Academic Year 2020-21. During the January-February 2021 exam session, 790 exams were held using WISEflow, all remotely. During the June 2021 session, 840 exams were held using WISEflow remotely. In addition, a pilot project for WISEflow on Campus was launched with Dentistry, spanning a total of 6 exams.

To support the organisation of these exams, the Registrar's Office, in collaboration with IT Services and Human Resources organised a number of training sessions.

- Manager role (administrative staff)
- Authors role (academic staff) - conducted by Prof. Victor Buttigieg
- Assessor role (academic staff) - conducted by Prof. Victor Buttigieg
- Q&As (open to both academic and administrative staff)

Training manuals and FAQs were created or revised, while the Assessment page and UM App was further enhanced and kept constantly updated. The WISEflow Support Line as well as email account are manned throughout the year. A number of students were provided with space on Campus due to difficulties finding a quiet space for their exams at home or elsewhere. Apart from the semester exams, WISEflow has also been used for UM applicants who were required to sit for Proficiency Tests.

So as to ensure the efficient and automatic process of adding students to the exam flows, SIMS Office and IT Services set up the necessary data integration mechanism to push this data from SIMS to WISEflow. This resulted in significant time saved by administrators, whilst ensuring that the records in WISEflow were fully in sync with SIMS (as the official repository for such data). This process was covered during the staff training sessions and added to the corresponding manuals.

WISEflow was also put to excellent use with inputting marks into SIMS. For Multiple-choice exams, as well as for other types of exams for which examiners corrected and/or inputted marks using WISEflow, a data integration mechanism was set up so as to pull the marks from WISEflow to the 'Actual' grade form. This resulted in time savings, reduction of manual data entry, and reduction of inputting

errors. IT Services set up the necessary mechanism so that work submitted thru FLOWassign is checked by Turnitin, and the necessary reports generated.

A small number of departments and study-units preferred to conduct their exams using the traditional pen and paper physical format, on site. These exams were organised within the parameters established by the Health and Safety protocols in place, safeguarding the wellbeing of students, staff, academics and invigilators involved with the exam process. Wherever Gozitan students were involved, the University continued with the practice of organising these exams to take place in Gozo, in parallel with Malta.

The Admissions and Records Office conducted updates to the admissions process in order to cater for the MATSEC results published in November 2021. Such changes involved in setting up Provisional Letters of Acceptance, and a new email facility to notify applicants of their status following the publication of the MASTEC results.

In collaboration with the European University of the Seas and Europass, the Office of the Registrar embarked on a new project to provide European Digital Credentials for Learning to all of the University of Malta graduands from 2021 onwards. The European Digital Credentials for Learning include a digital version of the scroll that is signed with a unique electronic seal (that is the digital equivalent of an institution's rubber stamp). This allows potential employers, education and training institutions to easily authenticate, validate and recognise credentials of any size, shape or form.

Following the graduation ceremonies held in November and December 2021, all graduands received their qualifications in digital format in addition to the physical Latin Scroll and Europass Diploma Supplement. This procedure will be adopted by the Office of the Registrar to issue digital credentials to all its future graduands.

By the end of 2020, the Office of the Registrar, in conjunction with IT Services, finalised the procurement of a timetabling software (Scientia) aimed at assisting in the timetabling and scheduling exercises for teaching activities of the UM as a whole. Consultancy meetings commenced in February 2021.

To date the following work has been carried out:

To date the following work has been carried out:

- Establishing the data required in order to prepare the timetables using the procured software, as well whether such data will be imported into the software through data integration between the information systems involved or other means;
- In the case of student data: a data mapping exercise was carried out, to identify where and how the data required

for timetabling purposes is stored within SIMS;

- Once the data mapping exercise for SIMS was complete, staging tables were created. Following further testing, this will lead to a full-on integration mechanism;
- For other required data, such as the venues (and their characteristics) and the activities for the individual study-units, the data will be populated manually, and imported into the timetabling system;
- Preparatory work involving the technical setup required were carried out, allowing for the actual installation and hosting of the software using the UM servers;
- Initial training sessions were carried so that the core team members could start familiarising themselves with operating the software.

The Office of the Registrar is now planning to introduce a pilot project before embarking on a full-scale introduction of the software.

In parallel, during 2020-21, the Registrar's Office finalised the procurement of a curriculum management IT system. This will enable UM to have a working space that caters for the creation and amendments of course codes, study-units and programmes of study and eliminate paper trails which will be replaced with a seamless digital process.

The long-term vision is to have all processes managed online, so that the University is able to deliver the best possible service to students.

## Student outreach

The UM is committed to providing a high-quality student experience within an academically inspiring and motivating environment, in the knowledge that this will lead to the enhancement of learning and performance of our graduate community. Experience has shown us that students who are provided academic and social support and who are engaged in campus life achieve more in their studies and career.

The Office of the Registrar continued improving ways to facilitate the application process for Visiting Study-Units. The University believes that micro-credentials must be given more importance and is a way forward in the education sector. The number of registrations for stand-alone study-units (for fee-paying students) was 561 in 2020-21.

Webinars were conducted in collaboration with the Students Advisory Services to facilitate the application process to hundreds of applicants. Another set of webinars was conducted for Foundation Students applying for Undergraduate degrees.

The Office of the Registrar helped the Student Recruitment Office (under the Marketing, Communications & Alumni







Office) establish itself, by providing expertise in the field of overseas qualifications and other tools, such as access to SIMS and communication portals to help the office operate immediately.

Another important step in the development of student services at the University of Malta is the setting up of the Help Hub. The aim of this service is to have a one stop shop for all students, where students can be helped without them having to visit different offices to be assisted. A Student Co-ordinator has been appointed during the last Council meeting.

Liaising with the Precincts Office and KSU, the Office of the Registrar helped in the creation of more study areas for students. A number of new benches have already been installed in outside areas. The University Entrance corridor was also refurbished to make it more student friendly.

The study-unit entitled Student Representation at University (PSY2650) was updated and, as a result, 17 students followed this study-unit during academic year 2020-21. The success of this study-unit is also due to the fruitful relationship the Office of the Registrar has with KSU who did their best to promote this study-unit with the students and the various Senate recognised organizations.

Following the vaccination roll out, which University medical and health staff and students helped to expedite, the University made a huge effort to bring back students and staff to Campus.

Faculties, Institutes, Centres and Schools were asked to organise lectures for day courses using the Physical or in-person (P) mode for student groups of under 50, or Physical + Remote (P+R) mode for bigger groups, whereby a number of students were physically present in class, with the rest either following remotely in real time, or else having access to the recording of the lecture. Student groups were rotated week by week to provide all students the possibility of experiencing life in person on Campus.

For evening courses, a different P+R model was adopted, whereby students were typically attending one lecture per week physically, with the second lecture for that week being held remotely. The aims were twofold: to enable these students to experience a presence on campus with their classmates once a week, while the remote session made easier the logistical problems of juggling work and family obligations and lectures and therefore facilitated life for these mostly-working adult learners. Ultimately, by retaining this model also in future, we hope to improve both retention and recruitment rates for the evening programme.

## Regulations, policies and procedures

The first day of Academic Year 2020-21 saw the coming into effect of the new General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards. During the summer of 2021, information sessions were delivered to academic staff, managerial and administrative staff to explain in detail the new regulations especially with regards to the types of Master's courses, the entry requirements for Master's courses, progression in all postgraduate courses, and submission of Master's dissertations.

During the entire academic year 2020-21 the Office of the Registrar has prepared and processed over 70 documents for promulgation and publication as legal notices.

Training sessions were also provided to managers/officers in charge with regards to:

- (i) Progression Rules for undergraduate and postgraduate courses where different scenarios were given and discussed;
- (ii) Drafting new or amending existing bye-laws or regulations;
- (iii) Procedures for Boards of Examiners of Bachelor and Master's dissertations.

## THE RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT TRUST (RIDT)

As we entered the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, the RIDT managed to start gaining some momentum thanks to a number of innovative efforts it embarked upon. While major donations from traditional supporters still remained low, the RIDT focused on online campaigns and appealed to crowd donations. At the same time the RIDT secured agreements with a number of local and foreign corporate donors. 2021 was also the year when the University of Malta embarked on its first scientific experiment in the International Space Station, for which the RIDT managed to rope in a number of supporters. By the end of the year the RIDT managed to raise around €400,000

## KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER AND OUTREACH

The Knowledge Transfer Office (KTO) is responsible primarily to support commercialisation of technologies originating from the University, as well as research collaborations and student placements with industry, Governmental bodies, and NGOs. The Office also works closely with Malta University Innovation Portfolio Ltd (MUIP) to support spin-outs from the University.

### Research Commercialisation

Research Commercialisation involves working with researchers at the University to identify and protect valuable intellectual property, and to commercialise it mainly through Licensing and Spin-off activity. During the 2020-21 academic year the KTO continued consolidating its technology transfer activities. Some highlights include:

**High Speed Hybrid Boat** – the project builds on previous research and innovation activity that had already resulted in the successful development and testing of an electric boat and a hybrid boat by the research team involved, headed by the principal investigator Prof Joseph Cilia. This new project involves the design from the ground up of a high-speed boat driven by an electric motor and powered by batteries supplemented with fuel. The project received funding through the Maritime Seed Awards 2021 and is in the implementation stage. The KTO is working with Prof Joseph Cilia on prospects for commercialisation of the boat.

**NEVAC** – this project involves an innovative technology for evaporative cooling of Lithium-Ion Batteries. It was supported through the Malta Council for Science and Technology Fusion Programme and carried out in collaboration with Abertax

Kemtronics Ltd. The KTO is working closely with the primary investigator, Dr Robert Camilleri, to file a patent for protection of the intellectual property developed through the project and to seek ways of translating the technology to industry.

**iFOOT** – which stands for "intelligent Foot Offloading Orthoses Technology", involves the development of a "smart" shoe insole that can alter its shape to reduce pressure on areas of the foot at high risk of ulceration in diabetes. The project is supported through a TAKEOFF Seed Fund Award and the KTO is working with Principal Investigator Prof Alfred Gatt to protect and commercialise the technology.

The KTO continued its support for University researchers with patent and design applications in a variety of fields including Engineering, Biotechnology, Natural Sciences, Medicine, ICT and Built Environment. Since 2014 more than 110 patent and design applications were filed, and of these a total of 25 patents and 11 designs have been granted.

### External Collaborations

For External Collaborations the focus is on the setting up of collaborative research agreements with external entities, including industry, government bodies and non-governmental organisation. The 2020-2021 academic year was a busy one for the unit, which was able to support the signature of 76 research collaboration agreements with third parties.

Some of the major collaborators include:

- ⊗ ST Microelectronics – the University signed a framework agreement and 2 specific agreements to cover research on data analysis pertaining to Transparent User Data (TUD) and Unit Level Data as well as research on External/Internal analysis and Smart Burn-in Maintenance;
- ⊗ Emanuele Cancer Research Foundation Malta – the University signed two research grant agreements covering research pertaining to the treatment of Pituitary Neuroendocrine Tumours as well as research pertaining to Molecular Signature of Metastatic Disease in Colorectal Cancer;
- ⊗ Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries, Food and Animal Rights together with the Lands Authority – we signed a collaboration agreement for the monitoring of the Water Tower and adjacent structures at the Public Abattoir.



## Placements

The KTO is responsible to support external entities in providing part-time non-curriculum-based work placements for University students. The office works closely with the entities to enable them to post placements opportunities on the University's Student Placements portal, through which university students may then apply for the openings. During the 2020/21 academic year a total of 153 placements were posted by companies as well as government entities and non-governmental organisations, and a total of 1365 applications from students for these openings were received.

## Seed and Proof-of-Concept Funds

The KTO successfully coordinated another annual cycle of the TAKEOFF Seed Fund Award (TOSFA) and the Maritime Seed Award (MarSA). The Office is responsible to coordinate the competitive award process and the overall management of these two funds, as well as following up and supporting researchers who receive proof-of-concept funding. For the 2021 TOSFA cycle, a total of €100k were allocated by the Ministry for the Economy and Industry, and these were awarded through a competitive call to three Proof-of-Concept projects and three start-ups. Transport Malta allocated a further €100k for the MarSA 2021 cycle, which were distributed through two competitive calls to three Proof-of-Concept projects and two start-ups.

## Malta University Innovation Portfolio Ltd

MUIP Ltd is the company registered and owned by the University to manage an investment fund and support the setting up and growth of a portfolio of spin-out companies emerging from commercialisation of University Intellectual Property.

During the year, MUIP oversaw the successful setting up of a new spin-out, De Novo Cell Ltd. The start-up will commercialise a novel technology to produce stem cells, developed by the research group of Prof. Pierre Schembri Wismayer. The company, which was incorporated in Malta, received an initial investment from MUIP and supplemented these funds through the Start-up Finance 2020 scheme from Malta Enterprise.

FLASC B.V., the first company spun-out through MUIP, has continued its operations in Delft, in the Netherlands, while maintaining an ongoing collaboration with the University. The company is progressing its technology for long-duration energy storage through a cooperation with Subsea 7, a leading global subsea oil and gas servicing company. It is also making good progress towards the raising of additional funds to enable its growth and the building of a full-scale prototype system.



## RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Research and Innovation are amongst two of the main pillars of the University of Malta's Vision and Mission statements. The growth in R&I, as measured by all KPIs including research funding, number of research projects, number of researchers and publications, continued to show a healthy increase, and contributed to the raise of the UM in University rankings.



### Strategy

The UM continued to advocate for increased national and international research funding. This would help fund more research support officers and funding PhD students, that would help improve the doctoral-researcher-to-staff ratio. We also continued to identify research niches that we can make our own.



### Research Funding

The funding of research at the University of Malta continues to come predominantly from the operational budget, which pays for the salaries of our main researchers – academics at the University of Malta. Indeed, the 822 academics at the UM with TR appointments are expected to dedicate at least one third of their time to research.

The UM provides funding for research projects carried out by its academics through two schemes: The Research Seed Funds (RSF) and the Research Excellence Funds (REF). In line with previous years, €524,000 were granted to 262 academics in RSF grants. Four REF projects were granted €60,000 each, to be disbursed over a two-year period.

The UM continues to rely heavily on external funds to perform its research mission. During the period, 114 research projects were awarded local funds and 46 were awarded international funds. These local and international research funds amounted to €10.7 million and €10.0 million respectively.



### Researchers

The number of academics with TR appointments was 822, 91.4% of whom have doctoral qualifications. This is significant since researchers are expected to spend one third of their time in research activities, including conducting research themselves, applying for research funds, managing research projects, and supervising postgraduate and doctoral students.

The number of Research Support Officers (RSOs) employed by the University continued to increase. RSOs are funded directly by research grants and perform all their duties related to research projects. The number of RSOs including post-docs (RSO III and IV) reached 354, an increase of 46% over the previous period.

Postgraduate students are also crucial to research at the UM. There were 458 Doctoral and Professional Doctorate students and 3,503 Masters students at the UM during the period, all contributing to research through their thesis, dissertations, and publications. These represent an increase of 22% each, over the previous period.





### **Structural Funds**

The UM continued to manage two major research projects funded through ERDF funds; the Transdisciplinary Research and Knowledge Engineering (TRAKE) project and the Sustainable Living Complex (SLC) that together amount to some €86 million in European and national funds. It is expected that both projects will be completed by 2023 to the benefit of research at the UM and in Malta.



### **Publications**

UM researchers published 1030 articles in the period up from 910, 848 and 818 articles in the previous three periods. This reflects the continued research output of the UM. These articles were indexed by Scopus and the Web of Science and do not include other publications not targeted by these indexing engines.



### **Research Support Services**

The UM supports academics to apply for research funds through the Research Support Services Directorate. During the period, the RSSD supported academics on compiling 183 national research grant applications, requesting funds amounting to €17.7 million, and 90 international applications requesting €27.1 million in funding.

The Project Support Office provides both pre-award and post-award support services to researchers. The pre-award section helped the RSSD prepare the budgets of all the 273 research grant applications. The post-award section helps academics with the financial management of awarded research projects. At the beginning of period, the PSO was managing 302 projects, 163 locally funded and 139 internationally funded, whereas by the end of the period the number rose to 341 projects, 198 locally funded and 143 internationally funded. The total amount of research funds under management rose from €37.2 million to €49.7 million during this period.

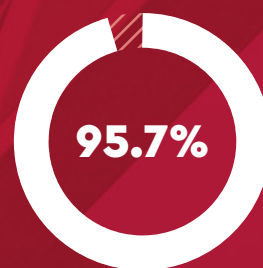
# University Staff

	2019/2020		2020/2021	
	F	M	F	M
Resident Academic Staff	374	592	392	590
Visiting teaching staff	275	496	263	474
Post docs	2	2	2	6
Other research staff	116	123	130	153
Managerial, admin, technical, support staff	562	413	579	427
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF STAFF</b>	<b>1329</b>	<b>1626</b>	<b>1366</b>	<b>1650</b>
% of resident academics with doctorates	72.5	84.6	73.2	85.3
% of resident academics who are associate & full professors	16.3	37.2	16.6	37.6

Percentage of resident academic staff with Ph.D.s by gender



FEMALE



MALE

# Number of University Students

2020/2021

STUDENTS (full-time and part-time)	2020/2021		
	F	M	TOTAL
Pre-Tertiary Certificates	6	9	15
Certificates	137	64	201
Diplomas	283	200	483
Undergraduate Degrees	3977	2733	6710
Postgraduate Certificates	100	27	127
Postgraduate Diplomas	1	-	1
Master Degrees	1939	1227	3166
Professional Doctorates	15	6	21
Doctoral Degrees	191	210	401
Other	277	157	434
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS</b>	<b>6926</b>	<b>4633</b>	<b>11559</b>
Local Students	6130	4160	10290
International Students	796	473	1269

Total number of students

11,559

10,290

LOCAL STUDENTS

1,269

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



# Programme Offerings\*

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>2020/2021</b>
Pre-Tertiary Certificates	1
Certificates	9
Diplomas	24
Undergraduate Degrees	263
Postgraduate Certificates	5
Postgraduate Diplomas	1
Master degrees	308
Master of Philosophy	103
Professional Doctorates	1
Doctoral degrees	86
Other	30
<b>TOTAL PROGRAMMES OFFERED</b>	<b>831</b>

\* Number of courses having current students as at March 2021

# Certificates, Diplomas and Degrees Conferred

CATEGORY	2020/2021		
	F	M	TOTAL
Pre-Tertiary Certificates	6	9	15
Certificates	61	30	91
Diplomas	187	134	321
Undergraduate Degrees	1100	645	1745
Postgraduate Certificates	101	31	132
Postgraduate Diplomas	44	21	65
Master Degrees	.	.	.
Professional Doctorates	.	.	.
Doctoral Degrees	.	.	.
<b>TOTAL AWARDS</b>	<b>1499</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>2402</b>

\* These courses will graduate in March/April 2022 under academic year 2021/2

## STUDENT BODY

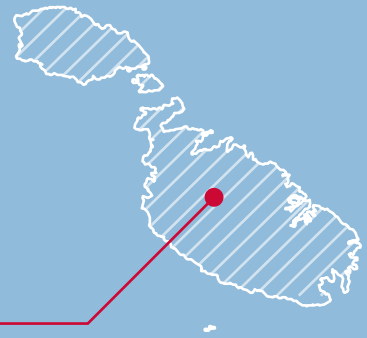
# Students by Locality

LOCALITY MALTA	F	M	TOTAL
Attard	238	186	424
Baħar iċ-Ċagħaq	19	15	34
Il-Baħrija	10	11	21
Hal-Balzan	64	71	135
Birżebbuġa	113	82	195
Il-Bidnija	6	2	8
Birkirkara	293	221	514
Buġibba	10	14	24
Burmarrad	16	7	23
Cospicua	13	16	29
Had-Dingli	54	46	100
Il-Fgura	144	94	238
Fleur-de-Lys	8	8	16
Il-Floriana	12	5	17
Il-Għargħur	65	35	100
Hal-Għaxaq	65	46	111
Gwardamanġa	8	2	10
Il-Gudja	48	29	77
Il-Gżira	50	35	85
Il-Ħamrun	70	45	115
L-Ibraġġ	29	20	49
L-Iklin	71	48	119
Il-Kalkara	34	25	59
Il-Kappara	41	32	73
Hal-Kirkop	37	29	66
Hal-Lija	62	34	96
Hal-Luqa	75	38	113
Il-Madliena	28	15	43
Il-Manikata	10	5	15
Il-Marsa	25	12	37
L-Imdina	2	3	5
Il-Mellieħa	154	82	236
L-Imġarr	71	46	117
Il-Mosta	389	243	632
L-Imqabba	75	45	120
L-Imrieħel	3	1	4
Marsaskala	210	131	341
L-Im sida	60	49	109
L-Imtarfa	72	48	120
Marsaxlokk	71	34	105
In-Naxxar	230	206	436
Paola	60	46	106
Pembroke	80	61	141
Il-Pietà	37	17	54
Il-Qawra	41	30	71
Hal Qormi	161	101	262

LOCALITY MALTA	F	M	TOTAL
Il-Qrendi	46	23	69
Ir-Rabat	120	108	228
Hal Safi	32	30	62
Is-Salina	-	1	1
San Ġwann	150	93	243
San Pawl tat-Tarġa	20	6	26
Senglea	12	6	18
Is-Siġġiewi	187	87	274
Tas-Sliema	128	97	225
St Julian's	84	72	156
St Paul's Bay	90	63	153
Sta Lucia	34	24	58
Sta Venera	79	57	136
Is-Swatar	51	24	75
Is-Swieqi	105	108	213
Ta' Xbiex	15	10	25
Hal-Tarxien	111	94	205
Valletta	25	22	47
Vittoriosa	15	4	19
Ix-Xemxija	15	8	23
Ix-Xgħajra	27	16	43
Haż Żabbar	198	143	341
Iż-Żebbiegħ	4	1	5
Haż Żebbuġ	183	137	320
Iż-Żejtun	144	93	237
Iż-Żurrieq	230	137	367

LOCALITY GOZO	F	M	TOTAL
Fontana	18	16	34
Għajnsielem	36	9	45
L-Għarb	32	12	44
L-Għasri	7	11	18
Kerċem	25	24	49
Marsalforn	6	7	13
Il-Munxar	26	13	39
In-Nadur	73	35	108
Il-Qala	27	22	49
San Lawrenz	9	4	13
Is-Sannat	37	14	51
Sta Lucia (Gozo)	2	4	6
Victoria	130	77	207
Ix-Xagħra	84	40	124
Ix-Xewkija	49	24	73
Iż-Żebbuġ (Gozo)	29	11	40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6130</b>	<b>4160</b>	<b>10290</b>

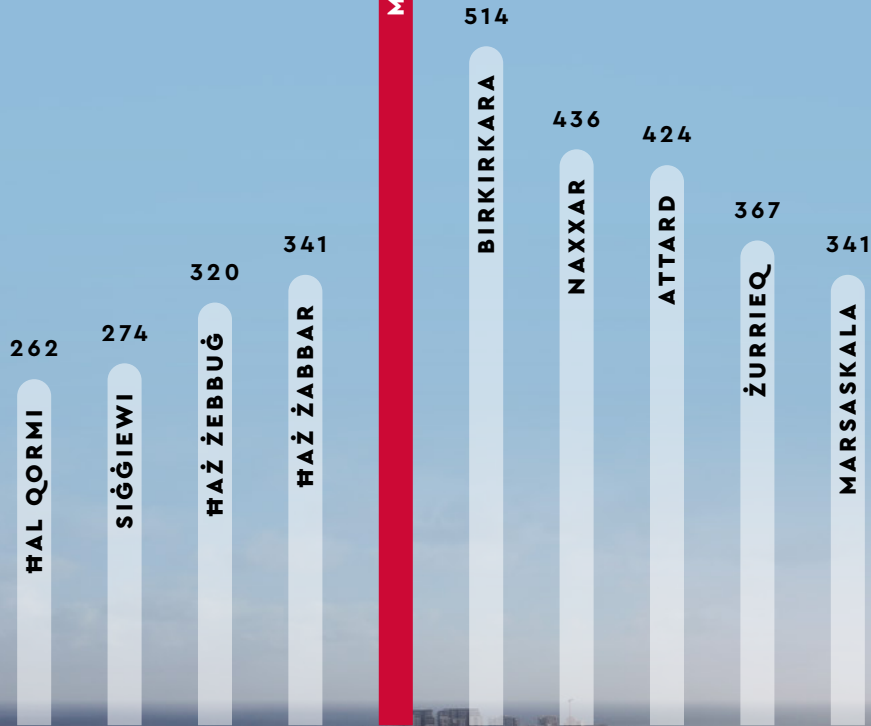




632

MOSTA

Locality with largest number of students enrolled



6,130  
FEMALE



4,160  
MALE

10,290

TOTAL NUMBER OF LOCAL STUDENTS

# International Students

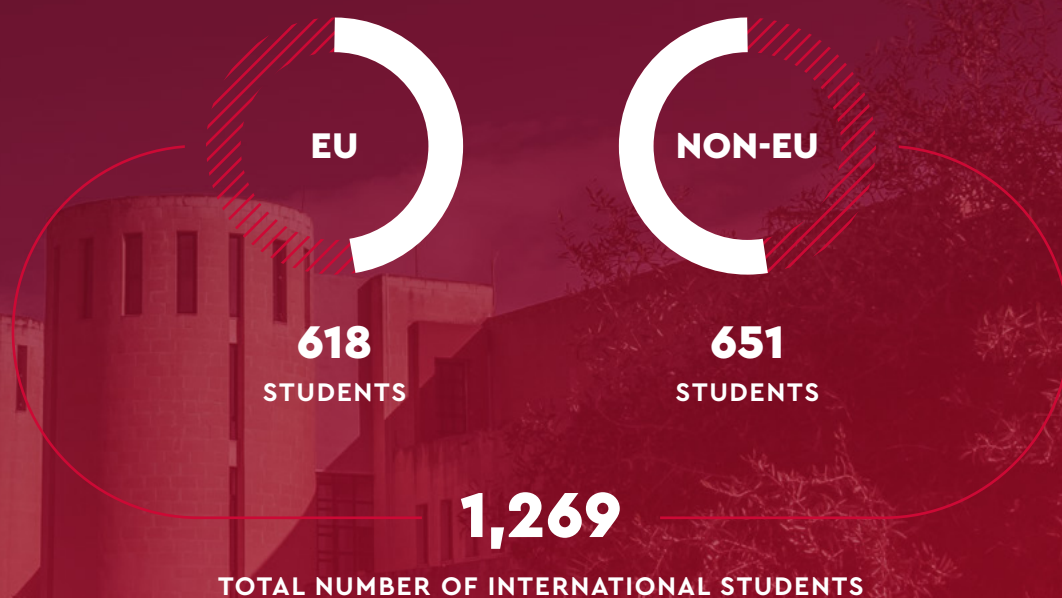
EU/NON-EU	NATIONALITY	F	M	TOTAL
EU	Austrian	8	3	11
	Belgian	2	2	4
	British	54	37	91
	Bulgarian	10	13	23
	Croatian	7	-	7
	Cypriot	1	1	2
	Czech	6	1	7
	Danish	3	1	4
	Dutch	13	2	15
	Estonian	4	-	4
	Finnish	3	4	7
	French	23	8	31
	German	59	27	86
	Greek	11	18	29
	Hungarian	16	7	23
	Icelandic	2	1	3
	Irish	17	9	26
	Italian	74	47	121
	Latvian	4	1	5
	Lithuanian	7	-	7
	Luxembourger	2	-	2
	Norwegian	3	3	6
	Polish	18	4	22
	Portuguese	2	5	7
	Romanian	10	6	16
	Slovakian	4	-	4
	Slovenian	4	2	6
	Spanish	26	10	36
	Swedish	5	3	8
	Swiss	3	2	5
<b>EU TOTAL</b>		<b>401</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>618</b>

<b>EU/NON-EU</b>	<b>NATIONALITY</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>NON-EU</b>	Afghan	-	1	1
	Albanian	-	1	1
	Algerian	2	1	3
	American	29	17	46
	Argentinian	1	-	1
	Australian	2	2	4
	Azeri	1	2	3
	Bangladeshi	2	1	3
	Basotho	-	1	1
	Botswanan	1	-	1
	Brazilian	10	3	13
	Cameroonian	1	1	2
	Canadian	6	2	8
	Chilean	3	1	4
	Chinese (HK)	1	-	1
	Chinese (PR)	13	15	28
	Colombian	6	1	7
	Costa Rican	1	-	1
	Dominican (Commonwealth)	1	-	1
	Dutch (Net. Antilles)	1	-	1
	Egyptian	8	4	12
	Eritrean	-	1	1
	Ethiopian	1	3	4
	Gambian	1	-	1
	Georgian	3	1	4
	Ghanaian	9	2	11
	Grenadian	1	-	1
	Guatemalan	2	1	3
	Guyanese	-	1	1
	Honduran	-	1	1
	Indian	18	18	36
	Indonesian	2	3	5
Iranian	1	2	3	
Iraqi	1	-	1	
Jamaican	1	-	1	
Japanese	6	3	9	
Jordanian	4	-	4	



<b>EU/NON-EU</b>	<b>NATIONALITY</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>NON-EU</b> <i>(continued)</i>	Kazakhstani	2	1	3
	Kenyan	10	3	13
	Korean (South Korea)	4	-	4
	Kosovar	-	1	1
	Kuwaiti	28	27	55
	Lebanese	1	-	1
	Libyan	22	17	39
	Macedonian	2	1	3
	Malawian	-	2	2
	Malaysian	1	1	2
	Mexican	4	2	6
	Montenegrin	1	1	2
	Moroccan	1	-	1
	Namibian	1	1	2
	Nepalese	2	-	2
	New Zealander	1	-	1
	Nigerian	13	13	26
	Omani	31	25	56
	Pakistani	10	10	20
	Palestinian	10	2	12
	Paraguayan	1	-	1
	Peruvian	4	2	6
	Philippine	27	11	38
	Reunion	1	-	1
	Russian	15	6	21
	Saint Lucian	1	-	1
	Saint Vincentian	1	-	1
	Saudi	7	8	15
	Senegalese	1	-	1
	Serbian	10	2	12
	Seychellois	1	3	4
	Singaporean	1	-	1
	Somali	-	2	2
South African	5	2	7	
Sudanese	1	1	2	
Syrian	3	2	5	
Taiwanese	-	1	1	

EU/NON-EU	NATIONALITY	F	M	TOTAL
<b>NON-EU</b> <i>(continued)</i>	Tajik	1	-	1
	Tanzanian	-	1	1
	Thais	3	-	3
	Trinidadian / Tobagonian	2	-	2
	Tunisian	4	1	5
	Turkish	2	2	4
	Tuvaluan	-	1	1
	Ugandan	2	1	3
	Ukrainian	7	2	9
	Uruguayan	1	-	1
	Venezuelan	1	1	2
	Vietnamese	5	3	8
	Yemenis	-	2	2
	Zambian	1	3	4
	Zimbabwean	4	3	7
	<b>NON-EU TOTAL</b>		<b>395</b>	<b>256</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>795</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>1269</b>



# Americas Students

## UNDERGRADUATE

NATIONALITY	F	M	TOTAL
American	3	1	4
Brazilian	-	1	1
Peruvian	1	1	2
Venezuelan	-	1	1
<b>UNDERGRADUATE TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>

## POSTGRADUATE

NATIONALITY	F	M	TOTAL
American	26	16	42
Argentinian	1	-	1
Brazilian	10	2	12
Canadian	6	2	8
Chilean	3	1	4
Colombian	6	1	7
Costa Rican	1	-	1
Dominican (Commonwealth)	1	-	1
Grenadian	1	-	1
Guatemalan	2	1	3
Guyanese	-	1	1
Honduran	-	1	1
Jamaican	1	-	1
Mexican	4	2	6
Paraguayan	1	-	1
Peruvian	3	1	4
Saint Lucian	1	-	1
Saint Vincentian	1	-	1
Trinidadian / Tobagonian	2	-	2
Uruguayan	1	-	1
Venezuelan	1	-	1
<b>POSTGRADUATE TOTAL</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>108</b>



# EU Students

(excluding Maltese nationals)

## UNDERGRADUATE

NATIONALITY	F	M	TOTAL
Austrian	4	1	5
Belgian	1	1	2
British	34	23	57
Bulgarian	6	10	16
Croatian	4	-	4
Czech	5	-	5
Danish	2	-	2
Dutch	3	2	5
Estonian	4	-	4
Finnish	2	1	3
French	7	5	12
German	27	14	41
Greek	4	3	7
Hungarian	13	3	16
Irish	8	2	10
Italian	37	25	62
Latvian	3	-	3
Lithuanian	4	-	4
Luxembourger	1	-	1
Norwegian	1	2	3
Polish	11	4	15
Portuguese	-	2	2
Romanian	5	5	10
Slovakian	2	-	2
Slovenian	1	1	2
Spanish	6	2	8
Swedish	2	2	4
Swiss	1	-	1
<b>UNDERGRADUATE TOTAL</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>306</b>

## POSTGRADUATE

NATIONALITY	F	M	TOTAL
Austrian	4	2	6
Belgian	1	1	2
British	20	14	34
Bulgarian	4	3	7
Croatian	3	-	3
Cypriot	1	1	2
Czech	1	1	2
Danish	1	1	2
Dutch	10	-	10
Finnish	1	3	4
French	16	3	19
German	31	13	44
Greek	7	15	22
Hungarian	3	4	7
Icelander	2	1	3
Irish	9	7	16
Italian	37	22	59
Latvian	1	1	2
Lithuanian	3	-	3
Luxembourger	1	-	1
Norwegian	2	1	3
Polish	7	-	7
Portuguese	2	3	5
Romanian	5	1	6
Slovakian	2	-	2
Slovenian	3	1	4
Spanish	20	8	28
Swedish	3	1	4
Swiss	2	2	4
<b>POSTGRADUATE TOTAL</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>311</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>617</b>

# Non-EU Students

## UNDERGRADUATE

NATIONALITY	F	M	TOTAL
Algerian	-	1	1
American	3	1	4
Bangladeshi	-	1	1
Brazilian	-	1	1
Cameroonian	1	-	1
Chinese (PR)	6	11	17
Egyptian	3	2	5
Eritrean	-	1	1
Ethiopian	1	1	2
Georgian	1	-	1
Ghanaian	3	1	4
Indian	8	9	17
Indonesian	-	2	2
Iranian	-	1	1
Iraqi	1	-	1
Japanese	3	2	5
Jordanian	2	-	2
Kenyan	3	-	3
Korean (South Korea)	1	-	1
Kuwaiti	27	26	53
Libyan	11	11	22
Macedonian	1	-	1
Malaysian	-	1	1
Montenegrin	-	1	1

## UNDERGRADUATE (continued)

NATIONALITY	F	M	TOTAL
Nepalese	1	-	1
Nigerian	9	5	14
Omani	31	25	56
Pakistani	2	5	7
Palestinian	4	-	4
Peruvian	1	1	2
Philippine	12	2	14
Reunion	1	-	1
Russian	10	4	14
Saudi	6	8	14
Serbian	7	1	8
Seychellois	-	1	1
South African	2	2	4
Sudanese	-	1	1
Syrian	2	-	2
Tunisian	1	-	1
Turkish	1	1	2
Ugandan	1	-	1
Ukrainian	2	1	3
Venezuelan	-	1	1
Vietnamese	1	2	3
Zambian	1	-	1
Zimbabwean	3	1	4
<b>UNDERGRADUATE TOTAL</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>307</b>

## POSTGRADUATE

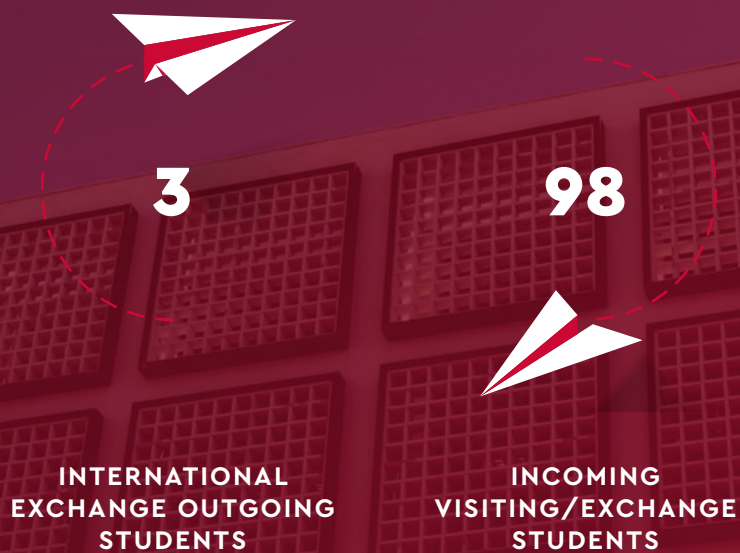
NATIONALITY	F	M	TOTAL
Afghan	-	1	1
Albanian	-	1	1
Algerian	2	-	2
American	26	16	42
Argentinian	1	-	1
Australian	2	2	4
Azeri	1	2	3
Bangladeshi	2	-	2
Basotho	-	1	1
Botswanan	1	-	1
Brazilian	10	2	12
Cameroonian	-	1	1
Canadian	6	2	8
Chilean	3	1	4
Chinese (HK)	1	-	1
Chinese (PR)	7	4	11
Colombian	6	1	7
Costa Rican	1	-	1
Dominican (Commonwealth)	1	-	1
Dutch (Net. Antilles)	1	-	1
Egyptian	5	2	7
Ethiopian	-	2	2
Gambian	1	-	1
Georgian	2	1	3
Ghanaian	6	1	7
Grenadian	1	-	1
Guatemalan	2	1	3
Guyanese	-	1	1
Honduran	-	1	1
Indian	10	9	19
Indonesian	2	1	3
Iranian	1	1	2
Jamaican	1	-	1
Japanese	3	1	4
Jordanian	2	-	2
Kazakhstani	2	1	3
Kenyan	7	3	10
Korean (South Korea)	3	-	3
Kosovar	-	1	1
Kuwaiti	1	1	2
Lebanese	1	-	1
Libyan	11	6	17
Macedonian	1	1	2
Malawian	-	2	2
Malaysian	1	-	1

## POSTGRADUATE (continued)

NATIONALITY	F	M	TOTAL
Mexican	4	2	6
Montenegrin	1	-	1
Moroccan	1	-	1
Namibian	1	1	2
Nepalese	1	-	1
New Zealander	1	-	1
Nigerian	4	8	12
Pakistani	8	5	13
Palestinian	6	2	8
Paraguayan	1	-	1
Peruvian	3	1	4
Philippine	15	9	24
Russian	5	2	7
Saint Lucian	1	-	1
Saint Vincentian	1	-	1
Saudi	1	-	1
Senegalese	1	-	1
Serbian	3	1	4
Seychellois	1	2	3
Singaporean	1	-	1
Somali	-	2	2
South African	3	-	3
Sudanese	1	-	1
Syrian	1	2	3
Taiwanese	-	1	1
Tajik	1	-	1
Tanzanian	-	1	1
Thais	3	-	3
Trinidadian / Tobagonian	2	-	2
Tunisian	3	1	4
Turkish	1	1	2
Tuvaluan	-	1	1
Ugandan	1	1	2
Ukrainian	5	1	6
Uruguayan	1	-	1
Venezuelan	1	-	1
Vietnamese	4	1	5
Yemenis	-	2	2
Zambian	-	3	3
Zimbabwean	1	2	3
<b>POSTGRADUATE TOTAL</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>344</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>651</b>

# International Exchange Outgoing Students

	2019/2020	2020/2021
America	7	1
Australia	0	0
Canada	0	0
Japan	1	0
Morocco	0	0
S. Korea	0	2
UAE	1	0
UK	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>





# Incoming Visiting/ Exchange Students

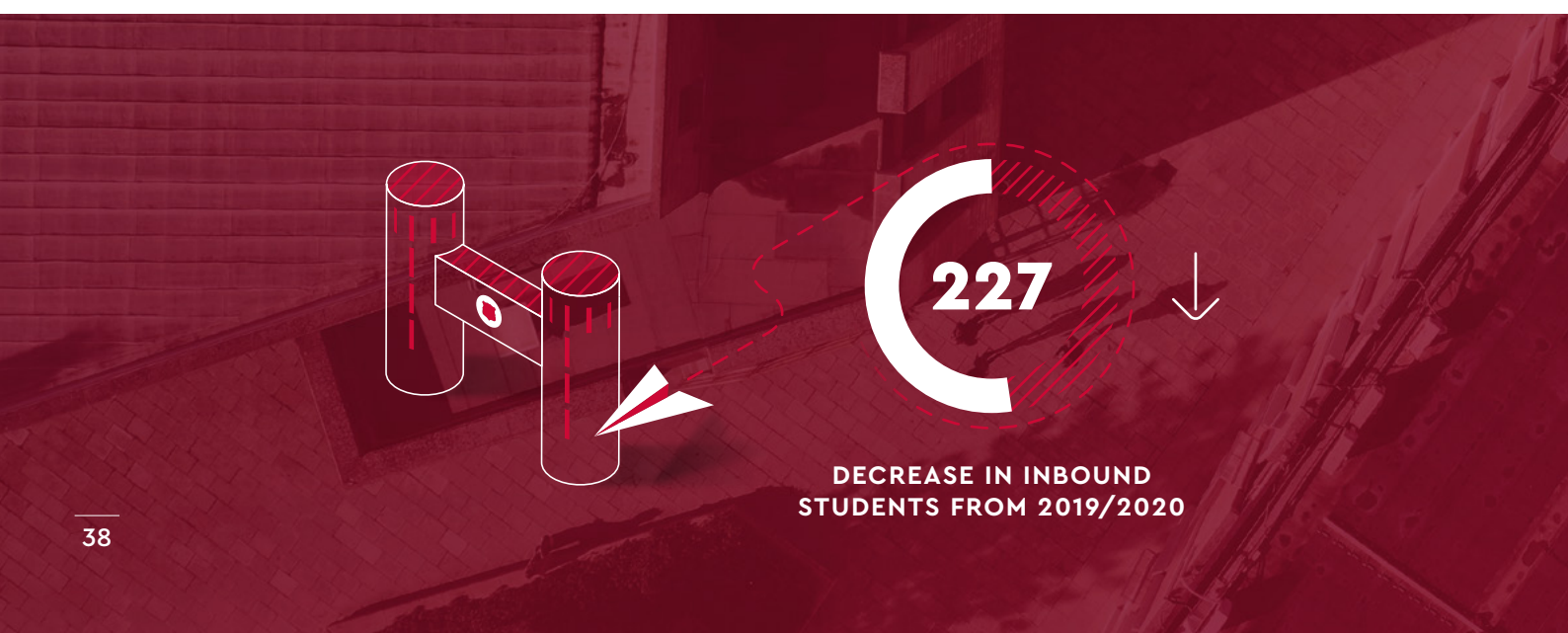
	<b>2019/2020</b>	<b>2020/2021</b>
America	36	2
Australia	4	0
Belgium	1	0
Bulgaria	1	0
Canada	4	0
Chinese	9	0
Colombia	1	0
Czech Republic	0	1
Netherlands	5	0
France	40	76
German	9	13
Greenland	0	1
India	3	0
Italian	2	0
Japan	13	2
S. Korea	0	1
Portugal	0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>98</b>

# Erasmus+ Inbound Students

	<u>2019/2020</u>	<u>2020/2021</u>
Albania	1	0
Austria	5	3
Belgium	28	9
Bulgaria	5	3
Croatia	1	3
Cyprus	0	1
Czech Republic	19	11
Denmark	10	4
Estonia	1	0
Finland	14	5
France	30	47
Germany	53	30
Greece	3	1
Hungary	4	2
Iceland	0	1
Ireland	37	9
Italy	78	32
Latvia	4	1
Lithuania	13	6

	<u>2019/2020</u>	<u>2020/2021</u>
Luxembourg	2	3
Netherlands	17	0
Norway	2	1
Poland	21	36
Portugal	2	0
Romania	0	0
Slovakia	6	4
Slovenia	5	1
Spain	21	20
Sweden	10	7
Switzerland	2	1
Turkey	7	0
United Kingdom	65	10
Ukraine	2	0
Palestine	6	0
China	1	0
Russia	3	0
India	0	0

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>251</b>
--------------	------------	------------



DECREASE IN INBOUND STUDENTS FROM 2019/2020

# Erasmus+ Outbound Students

	<u>2019/2020</u>	<u>2020/2021</u>
Austria	8	1
Belgium	15	5
Bulgaria	0	0
Croatia	2	0
Cyprus	0	0
Czech Republic	4	4
Denmark	14	1
Estonia	0	0
Finland	16	0
France	5	2
Germany	12	10
Greece	2	1
Hungary	4	0
Iceland	0	1
Ireland	29	6

	<u>2019/2020</u>	<u>2020/2021</u>
Italy	44	27
Latvia	0	0
Lithuania	10	0
Netherlands	11	7
Norway	0	0
Poland	25	11
Portugal	4	0
Romania	0	0
Slovakia	2	0
Slovenia	3	2
Spain	21	10
Sweden	11	3
Switzerland	2	0
Turkey	0	0
United Kingdom	86	22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>113</b>



DECREASE IN OUTBOUND STUDENTS FROM 2019/2020





# Financial Review

This year's financial results for both the University as a standalone entity and the group has resulted in a deficit of €619,794 (2020: Surplus of €89,708) for the University and €638,854 (2020: Surplus of €608,710) for the group before tax expense. These results were as expected due to the pandemic situation. In addition, this year was also impacted by the signing of the University Academic Staff collective agreement which as the figures in note 7 show academic staff costs increased from €47 million in 2020 to close to €52 million in 2021. Part of this difference (around €2 million) represents arrears covering the period from 1 January 2019 to 30 September 2020. The rest, apart from additional FTEs, which increased by 30 over the previous year, and promotions, result from collective agreement adjustments.

Notwithstanding the adverse conditions, both the University and the group have maintained a healthy working capital which has remained positive.



# Financial Report

## Income and expenditure accounts

Year ended 30 September, 2021

	GROUP		UNIVERSITY	
	€   2021	€   2020	€   2021	€   2020
Income	128,352,305	120,471,15	126,635,130	118,404,044
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Staff costs	96,648,962	88,633,045	95,096,563	88,078,751
Other operating expenses	30,851,58	29,839,087	30,662,449	28,844,612
	<b>127,500,547</b>	<b>118,472,132</b>	<b>125,179,012</b>	<b>116,923,363</b>
Surplus before allocation to funds	851,771	1,999,683	916,118	1,480,681
Net Allocation to funds	(1,535,921)	(1,390,973)	(1,535,921)	(1,390,973)
Surplus before tax	(684,163)	608,710	(619,803)	89,708
Tax expense	15,241	(105,995)	-	-
Surplus for the year	(668,922)	502,715	(619,803)	89,708
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>				
<i>Item that will not be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss:</i>				
Decrease in fair value of financial assets at FVOCI	13,985	(8,004)	-	-
Disposal of financial asset at FVOCI	-	3,600	-	-
Total other comprehensive income for the year	<b>13,985</b>	<b>(4,404)</b>	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	<b>(654,937)</b>	<b>498,311</b>	<b>(619,803)</b>	<b>89,708</b>

# Statements of Financial Position

As at 30 September, 2021

	GROUP		UNIVERSITY	
	€   2021	€   2020	€   2021	€   2020
<b>ASSETS NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Property, plant and equipment	107,621,977	96,122,547	106,286,219	94,776,918
Right-of-use assets	849,499	1,380,339	805,823	1,161,960
Investment in subsidiaries	-	-	948,313	948,313
Deferred tax	158,917	154,597	-	-
Investments	967	1,095,834	130,100	266,569
Trade and other receivables	8,025,238	8,929,792	8,025,238	8,929,792
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>117,622,731</b>	<b>107,683,109</b>	<b>116,195,693</b>	<b>106,083,552</b>
<b>ASSETS CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Inventories	43,225	49,468	-	-
Capital projects funding	13,102,615	17,809,237	13,102,615	17,809,237
Trade and other receivables	37,618,347	31,655,575	37,744,204	32,012,608
Current tax assets	169,967	36,510	-	-
Cash and cash equivalents	23,520,778	20,061,962	21,447,396	17,939,668
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>74,454,932</b>	<b>69,612,752</b>	<b>72,294,215</b>	<b>67,761,513</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>191,077,663</b>	<b>177,295,861</b>	<b>188,489,908</b>	<b>173,845,065</b>

**FUNDS & LIABILITIES FUNDS & EQUITY**

Specific endowment funds	292,304	328,982	292,304	328,982
<b>OTHER FUNDS</b>				
Capital fund	138,598	138,598	138,598	138,598
Special reserve	4,800,000	4,800,000	4,800,000	4,800,000
Other reserves	1,749,898	1,929,624	1,749,898	1,929,624
Investment revaluation reserve	4,525	(9,460)	-	-
Accumulated net surplus	4,876,177	5,545,039	2,291,197	2,911,000
	11,569,138	12,403,801	8,979,693	9,779,222
Deferred grants	100,816,710	89,013,753	100,816,710	89,013,753
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>112,385,848</b>	<b>101,417,554</b>	<b>109,796,403</b>	<b>98,792,975</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>112,678,152</b>	<b>101,746,536</b>	<b>110,088,707</b>	<b>99,121,957</b>

**FUNDS & LIABILITIES NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES**

Lease liability	494,211	893,561	494,211	828,895
Deferred tax liability	11,083	26,819	-	-
Provision for liabilities and charges	8,025,238	8,929,792	8,025,238	8,929,792
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>8,530,532</b>	<b>9,850,172</b>	<b>8,519,449</b>	<b>9,758,687</b>

**FUNDS & LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES**

Funds designated for specific purposes:

Academic	11,787,959	10,250,357	11,925,690	10,388,088
Operational resources	904,475	904,475	904,475	904,475
Other	1,987,730	1,852,861	1,987,730	1,852,861
Trade and other payables	48,496,363	45,438,713	47,471,306	44,991,187
Provision for liabilities and charges	7,217,193	6,403,343	7,217,193	6,403,343
Lease liability	440,035	673,208	375,369	424,467
Borrowings	-	3,079	-	-
Current tax liabilities	35,235	173,117	-	-
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>70,868,979</b>	<b>65,699,153</b>	<b>69,881,752</b>	<b>64,964,421</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>79,399,511</b>	<b>75,549,325</b>	<b>78,401,201</b>	<b>74,723,108</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>192,077,663</b>	<b>177,295,861</b>	<b>188,489,908</b>	<b>173,845,065</b>

Designed and published by the  
Marketing, Communications &  
Alumni Office

**University of Malta**  
**Msida MSD 2080, Malta**

 **+346 2340 2340**

**[um.edu.mt](http://um.edu.mt)**