



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 37

OCT - DEC MALTA UNIVERSITY HOLDING COMPANY LIMITED
2018

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CEO'S CORNER



In the first Newsletter of the year it is customary for me to look back at the achievements of the previous year and look forward to the aspirations of the new one from an MUHC and personal perspective.

The quirk is that whilst talking of financial and operational performance I tend to stick to the financial year ending on the 30th September. But when relating to specific initiatives and events I prefer to make my observations on a calendar year basis with the Christmas to New Year period usually signifying the end of the previous 12 month bracket.

Group Performance

As expected the audited financial statements for the year ended 30th September, 2018 confirmed our expectations of reaching a new height with regards to operational profits before taxation.

The year was also characterised with the renewal for another minimum two year period of the lease agreement with the landlords of the Lija Residence. During this period we saw MUHC involved in the delivery for the first time of live streaming of the Masters Graduation ceremonies from Valletta. The Company also started hiring out graduation attire for the undergraduate ceremonies. As promised a couple of billboards were erected on Campus with advertising messages appearing during the second quarter of the year.

On the HR front the Company signed a new 4 year Collective Agreement for Campus FM and finalised negotiations for a new 3 year Collective Agreement relating to Malta University Residence Ltd.

After an initial postponement due to inclement weather the Battle of the Brains Quiz Night was held on the 9th November and was a huge success.

A major development towards the end of the year was the go ahead by MEPA for the New Residency Project on Campus. This project has massive implications for MUHC and we will be heavily involved in its implementation phase and as a major ongoing stakeholder/user when it is finished.

During the year our Consultancy and Training Unit was very busy as the number of clients seeking our services continued to increase. We now have another NCFHE accredited course – Digital Marketing.

Looking ahead

A quarter and a half of the current financial year has already passed and things are looking good for the Group to consolidate the previous year's results and possibly improve them even further. We do now have MEPA approval for another billboard overlooking B'kara By-Pass. This Billboard, in fact, has already been erected and will soon start functioning.

The Ring Road Races for this year are scheduled for Sunday the 10th March. We are expecting another healthy attendance by runners of various ages and categories. Sponsor and media attention continues to increase in our annual event. With three major construction projects going on at University – Engineering, Sustainable Living Complex and the New Residence – this year's event will present its own organisational challenges but we will be prepared as usual. We also hope that the weather will be kind to us.

Comings and Goings

Unfortunately, Hannah Pace has finally resigned for good from the Sports & Leisure Unit in pursuance of a new career elsewhere. During the last years, we had come to appreciate Hannah's efficiency, work rate and reliability. We wish her well in her future endeavours.

The Language School welcomes two new additions. Roger Gatt – who features in this Newsletter's Personality section – joined MULS with the turn of the year as our new Marketing, Sales and Administration Coordinator. In the coming days we will also be having on board a new A/Director of Studies, Mr Sergio Gatt, who has accepted to join the team at an exciting time for MULS.

Finally a big welcome to the world to baby John, the brand new son of Dr Michelle Vella Wood (Training & Consultancy Executive Assistant) and her husband. Congratulations from everyone at MUHC.

Personally

The final run-in to my kids' forthcoming O level and A level exams in Spring is well and truly on. Actually, I have a feeling that I am more excited, or rather anxious, than the actual protagonists themselves and when compared to when I went through the ordeal myself many many moons ago. Fingers crossed.

In the Autumn I did my customary routine health check-up and the doctor ordered another suite of blood tests within three months (bang in the middle of the festive season – what timing!!). Well, in spite of everything, I passed with flying colours and was given a clean bill of health. Tarzan is back folks.

Cheers,
Joe

Battle of the Brains

Raising Funds for Research in Als.



On Friday 9 November, Malta University Sports & Leisure teamed up with Saracino's for the 4th edition of Battle of the Brains, an annual quiz night series which has built quite a reputation for itself.

This year's event was once again a record-breaking evening with 90 participants teaming up to go head to head in a heated competition of the smartest. What makes Battle of the Brains such a success year after year is that it is not your regular quiz night. In fact, the 4th edition saw the addition of the mystery drink round where teams were asked to taste a cocktail and decipher the six ingredients used to make this.

The organisers are extremely grateful for the overwhelming support they received from external companies as well as the general public. It is thanks to these people that the amount of EUR 850 was raised and is being donated to RIDT to support research in ALS.

Raising Funds for Hospice Malta

Various initiatives

Throughout the month of December, various initiatives were organised to help raise funds for Hospice Malta. This marked the start of Malta University Sports and Leisure's annual campaign through the BRND WGN & University Ring Road Races. One of the main scopes of these races, being held on Sunday 10th of March in 2019, is to support Hospice Malta and thus various initiatives are organised months in advance to raise even more money for the worthy cause.



A Bake Sale was held on campus whereby €410 was raised

Members of staff collected funds to be donated to Hospice Malta as part of their Christmas present to the CEO. The latter also gave a donation and together the team raised €190



Want to do your part? Sign Up for our Races !



Or Donate at:
[www.zaar.com/
projects/murphy](http://www.zaar.com/projects/murphy)

Consultancy & Lab Services

Testimonials based on recent reports

'A brilliant report and exactly what we were after. You left no stone unturned! Thank you so much. Apart from that, the insights we acquired throughout the consultancy have proved invaluable. In fact we'd like to extend our collaboration further, possibly spanning to other areas. Once more, mille grazie!'

Manager - Malta Innovation Hub

Medelec Switchgear Ltd has had the opportunity of making use of the services of Malta University Consulting Ltd on different occasions - we have always been given an accurate service, before time and at an economically advantageous cost. Highly recommended!

Commercial Manager - MEDELEC Switchgear Ltd

'Excellent report, well done.'

President - St John's Co-Cathedral Foundation

Malta University Consulting Limited performed a very extensive test procedure using an endless list of hi-tech equipment accompanied with extremely competent professionals in this science resulting in a very comprehensive conclusive report. The services of Malta University Consulting Limited are therefore recommended to anyone needing them with merit and without reserve.

Senior Executive - Pantalesco



In December 2018, Ing. Mario Cachia attended the third transnational partners meeting of the Following Taste Project that was held in Treviso.

This Erasmus+ project which is in the area of Gastronomy is led by the Spanish partner – CECE – and includes participants from ENAIP & UNINDUSTRIA SERVIZI E FORMAZIONE (Italy), ACADÉMIE NATIONALE DE CUISINE (France), FEDERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE HOSTELERÍA (Spain) and Internationaler-bund (Germany).

The aim of this project is to develop the educational and commercial potential of professional skills in gastronomy leading to the establishment of the skills sets required for a Local Taster Guide. The projects identified the good practices that have emerged at local and European levels in the use of gastronomy to promote tourism to the territory by promoting the quality of life and environment. The project seeks to identify the required skills set for such promotion and how this skills set can be best be included in continuous professional training programmes.

During this meeting, a Group SWOT Analysis was carried after a discussion on the pre-submitted partners' individual SWOT Analysis following the consideration of the on-line survey carried out each participating partner. This activity will eventually lead to the establishment of how the recommendations emanating from this project can be implemented. The list of skills essential for the Local Taste Guide drafted in the previous meeting was reviewed to include the conclusions of the Group SWOT Analysis. An overview of all the tasks carried out during the project was carried out so as to integrate these outcomes into a final professional profile of a Local Taste Guide and to identify opportunities for implementation. The Project Quality Plan drafted by MUC was also discussed. At the end of the meeting an agreement was reached on the way forward for next activities so that the Project will be successfully completed on time.

Participants were also given a short tour of the kitchen laboratories of ENAIP at Conegliano and the UNICEF Sensorial Laboratory Centre in Treviso.

Courses

<http://muhc.com.mt/category/consulting/current-courses/>

A short course on Living in Silence

Addressing the Caring & Coping needs of people supporting individuals with Depression was held during November/December 2018.

This short course was organised by the Department of Mental Health, University of Malta in collaboration with Malta University Consulting Ltd.

The course co-ordinator was Dr Alexei Sammut and various lecturers contributed towards the success of this course which was very well attended.

Dr Alexei Sammut, University of Malta and Ms Maria Bugeja, Malta University Consulting congratulating one of the participants on receiving the certificate after having successfully completed the course



Upcoming Courses

 MALTA UNIVERSITY CONSULTING 

Pharmacognosy and Herbal Products

**2nd–26th July 2019
(28 hours)**



This course has been approved by the National Commission for Further & Higher Education as equivalent to Level 6

Venue: The University Residence,
R Mifsud Bonnici Street, Lija

Lecturer: Prof. Everaldo Attard

Course fee: €360 (Cheques payable to Malta University Consulting Ltd)

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email: maria.bugeja@muhc.com.mt | website: www.muhc.com.mt

The Department of Accountancy – University of Malta – in collaboration with Malta University Consulting Ltd is also holding monthly CPE seminars on various topics.

Focus on Personnel

Roger Gatt



Hello everyone, my name is Roger Gatt and I have recently joined Malta University Language School as the Marketing, Sales and Administration Coordinator.

I am excited to join MULS and look forward to settling in and learning more about the company.

For circa 15 years I worked in the social work field, first as a team coordinator with ICPE, a non-profit humanitarian organization, on projects, which took me travelling to South East Asia, Africa, and Eastern Europe and West Africa. I then joined Caritas Malta, where I was a facilitator in the New Hope project, a rehabilitation program for young people battling with drug addiction.

In 2008, it was time for me to make a career change and I ventured into the world of English Language Teaching. Starting as a teacher at Easy School of Languages, I soon found myself taking on administrative tasks in the office. I gradually worked my way up to Administration Manager and for 8 years, together with my team of five, I had the responsibility of overseeing student bookings, accommodation, airport transfers, the front desk duties and keeping track of payments.

On another note, travelling, running and playing the piano are among the things I really enjoy doing in my leisure time. However, with my 18 month old bundle of joy, Lora, it goes without saying that most of my 'free' time, for the time being, is taken up looking after her and taking her to the swings. Although I come to MULS with 10 years of experience working in a language school, I look forward to learning and taking on new administrative, sales and marketing challenges.