

NEWSLETTER

MALTA UNIVERSITY HOLDING COMPANY LIMITED

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Brian Decelis
Training & Consultancy Executive
Malta University Consulting

CEO'S CORNER



Growth through Change

We are in the second year of the pandemic and it still feels like trying to navigate through quicksand (business-wise). For the second consecutive Summer our business prospects suffer from sudden incoming travel restrictions (this time limiting incoming tourists to fully vaccinated ones) and the decision to close language schools once again in the aftermath of a spike in the virus and so soon after the general opening up of the economy.

We are now getting used to cautiously plan for the future (nowadays this being mostly the immediate future) with one hand gripping the hand brake for any unexpected developments.

However, the pandemic has not only thrown up a myriad of temporary changes but also presented some really long-lasting ones. Businesses have learned, and the MUHC family is no exception, that there are long term benefits to be gained from current labours.

- On-line delivery is here to stay. This opens the door to a wider market which is not dependent on travel.
- A hybrid work arrangement of working from home and the office seems to be the way forward. This encourages sharing of work spaces and the interchangeability of offices and meeting rooms.
- A positive outcome from this is the reduced amount of commuting to and from work with more quality time dedicated to productivity and consequent lower pollution in the streets.
- Businesses can also rationalise on the cost of leased office space thus releasing funds for business development.

Finally, these trying times have thought us that business is best served by employees capable of being all-rounders and able to think on their feet as they face never ending changing circumstances. Yes, the professional hard skills remain key but equally important is the individual ability to remain calm and focused under pressure with a propensity to seek teamwork, communication and the exchange of ideas. The leadership qualities in every employee need to be freed.

Comings and goings

We bid goodbye to Michela Checchi whose contract as Executive Officer with the Sports and Leisure Unit expired earlier this year and welcome Pierre Demicoli to the same role. Pierre will be starting his engagement with us in the coming months.

The months of June and July 21 saw the retirement/resignation of two stalwarts of the MUHC family, Marthese Jones (Senior Accounts Executive) and Dr Michelle Vella Wood (Training and Consulting Executive). We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavours. The process for the engagement of their successors is currently ongoing.

Projects

Projekte Global Limited are the contractors being entrusted with the implementation of the project related to the resurfacing of the 5-a-side football pitches and the general refurbishment of the surrounding complex. The works will be carried out during the current Summer months.

The construction of Campus Hub is proceeding according to plan and the transfer of the majority of MUHC operations to the new facility is on course to meet the end 2021 target.



Euro 2020

So, the England-Italy final has come and gone and completely in line with the general dramatic nature of the tournament the final dragged on to the last of 10 penalties. In the end it went Italy's way. Cue wild celebrations on the streets with green, white and red painted faces, Italian flags on roof tops and facades and carcades.....in Malta. I am positively sure that had the English won, it we would have been even worse given their long wait for silverware. It hurts hearing Maltese citizens interviewed on TV before the match saying "*ahna t-Taljani*" or "*ahna l-Inglizi*". When will we ever learn?

Anyway, well done to the Italian team and especially Roberto Mancini for finding the way to pick up the pieces following their previous disastrous World Cup qualifying campaign. He now faces a transition period as he must phase out a number of key squad senators in their mid-thirties.

Gareth Southgate on the other hand has slowly built a reputation as being dependable with England reaching the World Cup semis and the Euro Final in succession under his charge. He did this by sticking to his guns in player selection (no prima donnas) and, most importantly, the cautious *non-English* yet effective playing style. The difference from Mancini is that he has a relatively young England team which can only improve with more major tournament experience (he does need to find a creative advanced playmaker though). He was nearly perfect in everything except in the choice of the last penalty taker. Virtually the last kick of the game.

How on earth do you dump the enormous responsibility of a whole nation's hopes with a legacy of 55 barren years on the shoulders of a 19 year old boy, who is talented yes but a complete novice on such grand stages? It beggars belief. He said he used an algorithm to choose the penalty takers. He should only have used common sense.

Cheers

Joe



We're back!

After a spell of being closed due to Covid, June finally saw the re-opening of facilities, including our 5 and 7-a-side pitches! Many were those who breathed a sigh of relief, as they could return to their beloved past time, football.

It was a sad time for us, having to close our pitches due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The League that was taking place had to be put on hold, too. So when, in June, we could finally re-open our gates, we were very excited to do so, while at the same time observing the safety measures. Our regulars were coming back, all excited to be practicing again. With them, we have been having new teams joining us on the turf. Everyone was happy that they could finally be active again.

The League, which obviously had to be put on hold, was finally continued, and has now ended for this season with prizes being given for the League, the Super Cup and the Knock-out Competitions. It will be taken up again later on this year in September or early October, Covid permitting of course.

In the meantime, we have something exciting planned for the summer. We will be having our pitches resurfaced and refurbished to make them safer and a more pleasant place to play in than they already are. We will be working on one pitch at a time, so as to always have a space to use, and not close both pitches at the same time.

Do get in touch if you would like to book one of our pitches.

You can do this by phone or by WhatsApp (7979.7075) or by

Facebook messenger (<https://www.facebook.com/Malta-University-Football-Pitches-366688260484844>)

Come and play!



UPCOMING COURSES



MALTA UNIVERSITY CONSULTING

CPE SEMINARS FOR the rest of 2021

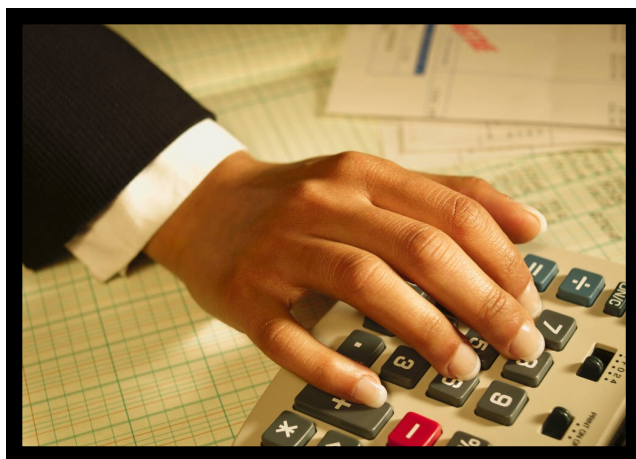
MONTH/DAY	TITLE	SPEAKER
September – Wednesday 15	Business Valuations	Ms Anita Aloisio
October – Wednesday 13	VAT	Mr Saviour Bezzina
November – Wednesday 17	Pensions Update	Mr Mark Musu

SAVE €30 on CPE Seminars

SET OF 3

ADVANCE BOOKINGS

FOR €120



AWARD IN THE ART OF PUBLIC SPEAKING

MQF Level 5 (4 ECTS)

4th Oct — 5th Dec 2021



Two half-day training seminars on Social Work Supervision (8hrs)



12th & 13th October 2021

More information [here](#)



MALTA UNIVERSITY LANGUAGE SCHOOL



We offer various English Online courses :

[General English Online](#)

[Conversation Classes Online](#)

[General English Online Part-time course, 3 days a week](#)

[Intensive English Online](#)

Contact us on

+356 2132 2785

info@universitylanguageschool.com

[Listen](#)
[on demand](#)

SCHEDULE OF PROGRAMMES: July 05 – October 03, 2021

<p><u>Monday</u></p> <p>09.00 Analizi tal-ġurnali 09.30 Summer Brunch 12.00 Fsejjes u stejjer 13.00 Analizi tal-ġurnali 13.30 Koktejl Sajfi 14.00 BBC News Hour 15.00 Patrimonju kulturali 16.00 Mid-djarju tal-istudent 16.30 Meta l-Moħħ isir Palk 17.00 Radju ritwali 17.30 Għal fejn illejla? 18.00 The Interviewer 18.30 Classic FM 21.00 BBC World Service</p> <p><u>Tuesday</u></p> <p>09.00 Analizi tal-ġurnali 09.30 Summer Brunch 12.00 Kompli Tgħalliem 13.00 Analizi tal-ġurnali 13.30 Għawdxin 14.00 BBC News Hour 15.00 Mill-Casino sa' l-Ariston 16.00 Sigġu jaħraq (Arch) 16.30 Fsejjes u stejjer 17.30 Jazz & more 18.30 Classic FM 21.00 BBC World Service</p>	<p><u>Wednesday</u></p> <p>09.00 Analizi tal-ġurnali 09.30 Summer Brunch 12.00 The Interviewer 12.30 Sigġu jaħraq (Arch) 13.00 Analizi tal-ġurnali 13.30 Mid-djarju tal-istudent 14.00 BBC News Hour 15.00 Jazz & more 16.00 Koktejl Sajfi 16.30 Mill-Casino sa' l-Ariston 17.30 Miegħi Maltin 18.30 Classic FM 21.00 BBC World Service</p> <p><u>Thursday</u></p> <p>09.00 Analizi tal-ġurnali 09.30 Summer Brunch 12.00 Radju Ritwali 12.30 Għal fejn illejla? 13.00 Analizi tal-ġurnali 13.30 Meta l-Moħħ isir Palk 14.00 BBC News Hour 15.00 Il-politika fil-mużika (Arch) 16.00 Għawdxin 16.30 Kompli Tgħalliem 17.30 Putumayo Radio Show 18.30 Classic FM 21.00 BBC World Service</p>	<p><u>Friday</u></p> <p>09.00 Analizi tal-ġurnali 09.30 Summer Brunch 12.00 Patrimonju kulturali 13.00 Analizi tal-ġurnali 13.30 X'hemm moħbi? 14.00 BBC News Hour 15.00 Minn awl id-dinja 2 (Arch) 15.30 Nobbli fil-ħsieb (Arch) 16.00 Għal fejn illejla? 16.30 Campus Weekend Show 18.30 Classic FM 21.00 BBC World Service</p> <p><u>Saturday</u></p> <p>09.30 X'hemm moħbi? 10.00 Kompli Tgħalliem 11.00 Sigġu jaħraq (Arch) 11.30 Għawdxin 12.00 Mill-Casino sa' l-Ariston 13.00 Miegħi Maltin 14.00 Classic FM 20.00 Jazz & more 21.00 Bejn Fiesta u Siesta 23.00 BBC World Service</p> <p><u>Sunday</u></p> <p>09.30 Meta l-Moħħ isir Palk 10.00 Weekly highlights 11.00 Classic FM 14.00 Bejn Fiesta u Siesta 16.00 BBC World Service</p>
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FOCUS ON PERSONNEL
Brian Decelis
Training & Consulting Executive
Malta University Consulting



With a background in Marketing and Project Management Brian Decelis has been mainly working within the Higher Education sector before joining Malta University Consulting as Consulting and Training Executive at the beginning of this year. In the meantime his role has changed to Training and Consulting Executive focusing mainly on training.

After graduating from the University of Malta, when he was working with one of the leading banks in Malta, he first moved to the Institute of Financial Services and then to Saint Martin's Institute before emigrating to Australia with his family in 2007 where he lived for 10 years. His varied roles included developing go-to-market strategies for new or to revitalize current products, carry out customer and market research and liaise with relevant stakeholders to create new opportunities. He also undertook postgraduate studies in Project Management in Australia.

On his return to Malta in 2017 he was given the opportunity to return to Saint Martin's Institute in the overarching role of General Manager where he could oversee the different facets of the organization with the most challenging undoubtedly being the HR function especially in the current Maltese climate where finding the right employees for the different roles is a chore.

With his appointment Brian feels he has come full circle with his life experiences returning to the old stomping grounds of the campus at Tal-Qroqq, where he spent innumerable hours during his undergraduate studies active as elected member and Public Relations' Officer of the University Students' Council (KSU) and as students' representative on the Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy (FEMA) board.

His appointment has also given him the opportunity to reconnect with old friends such as MUHC Director David Fabri and former undergraduate classmate Marie Briguglio, albeit virtually... one hopes they will soon be able to bump into each other and catch up for a coffee post-Covid!

Brian is also a bit of a news junkie having worked across major news media in Malta. He was also a desk assistant to CNN during their coverage of the Bush-Gorbachev summit in Malta in 1989. He is also an amateur photographer, stamp and coin collector ... although with two kids he does not find as much time as he would like to his hobbies!

Photo Credit: DavidBorg@BrandingLads.com