



Milestones

Oct 1992

The Edward de Bono Institute for the Design & Development of Thinking was **set up** at the **University of Malta** in collaboration with **Dr Edward de Bono**, under the Directorship of **Professor Sandra M. Dingli**.

Jul 1993

The First **International Conference on Creative Thinking** was held at the University of Malta with approx. 300 participants.

The first **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

Jul 1994 – Sep 2003

The Institute ran the **Kids on Campus Summer School** at the University of Malta, for children aged 5 – 12 years. This focused on creativity and learning through activities including play.

Proceedings from **The First International Conference on Creative Thinking** were published by Malta University Press: Dingli, S. (1994) (Ed.), **Creative Thinking: A Multifaceted Approach**. Malta University Press, Malta.

Jul 1994

The second **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

Jul 1995

The **Second International Conference on Creative Thinking** was held at the University of Malta.

The third **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

Jul 1996

The fourth **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

1996

Proceedings from **The Second International Conference on Creative Thinking** were published by Malta University Press: Dingli, S. (1996) (Ed.), **Creative Thinking: New Perspectives**. Malta University Press, Malta.

Jul 1998

The sixth **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

Proceedings of **The Third International Conference on Creative Thinking** were published by Malta University Press: Dingli, S. (1998) (Ed.), **Creative Thinking: Towards Broader Horizons**. Malta University Press, Malta.

1998

The fifth **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

Jul 1997

The **Third International Conference on Creative Thinking** was held at the University of Malta.

1999

Edward de Bono delivered two sessions to ALL Year 4 students from ALL state schools in Malta at the Mediterranean Conference Centre. The event was sponsored by Playmobil.

Jul 1999

The seventh **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

Jul 2000

The eighth **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

Oct 2000 – Jul 2011

Edward de Bono's thinking skills were introduced and taught in state schools in Malta by trained and dedicated Thinking Skills teachers.

Jul 2002

The tenth **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

Proceedings of **The Fourth International Conference on Creative Thinking** were published by Malta University Press: Dingli, S. (2002) (Ed.), **Creative Thinking: An Indispensable Asset for a Successful Future**. Malta University Press, Malta.

2002

The ninth **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

Jul 2001

The **Fourth International Conference on Creative Thinking** was held at the University of Malta.

Jul 2003

The eleventh **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

Jun 2004

The **Fifth International Conference on Creative Thinking** was held at the University of Malta.

Jul 2004

The twelfth **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

Oct 2004

The Institute launched its **Master of Arts in Creativity and Innovation**. At the time, the programme of studies consisted of 40 ECTS taught and 40 ECTS dissertation.

Oct 2005 – Dec 2009

The Institute was awarded **European funds to coordinate Erasmus Curriculum Development Project elnnForM** – European Innovation and Foresight Masters.

Jul 2005

The thirteenth **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

2004 to date

The Institute coordinated the **setting up of ERASMUS student and staff exchanges** with various European Universities. This opportunity is often taken up by the Institute's students and various agreements are in place today.

2006

The fourteenth **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

Jul 2007

The fifteenth **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

2007

Proceedings of **The Fourth International Conference on Creative Thinking** were published by Malta University Press: Dingli, S. (2007) (Ed.), **Creative Thinking: Designing Future Possibilities**. Malta University Press, Malta.

Jun 2008

The sixteenth **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

2008

Sandra M. Dingli wrote and published a chapter on Lateral Thinking: Thinking Out of the Box in Routledge Companion to Creativity, Edited by Mark Runco, Tudor Rickards and Susan Moger, Routledge (Taylor and Francis) (ISBN: 978-0-415-77317-1).

Oct 2008 – Nov 2010

The Institute participated in **EU-funded Lifelong Learning Programme project FEPIC** – Female Engineers Pushing Innovations in Companies.

Oct 2008

The **Master programme was harmonised** to be in line with other Master programmes and the name changed to **Master in Creativity and Innovation**. This course is still offered on an annual basis.

Mar 2009

The **First International Conference on Strategic Innovation and Future Creation** was held as the final conference for the **elnnForM** project. During the conference, the new online **M.Sc. in Strategic Innovation and Future Creation** was launched jointly with Universities in England, Germany and Finland.

The seventeenth **Edward de Bono Seminar** was held at the University of Malta.

Oct 2009

The **M.Sc. in Strategic Innovation and Future Creation** received its first intake of students at the University of Malta. This course was the result of the **elnnForM** project. The partners were University of Potsdam (DE), University of Teesside (UK) and University of Turku (FI).

Apr 2013 to date

Sep 2013

Dr Leonie Baldacchino took over as **Director of the Institute**.

The **Institute is also the national coordinator of the World Creativity and Innovation Week (WCIW)**, which is held every April in 26 countries.

Nov 2009 to date

The **Institute is the official Host Organisation for Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW)**, which is an annual celebration of entrepreneurship, now held every November in over 170 countries.

Oct 2013 – Sep 2016

The **Institute participated as a project partner in ERASMUS Life Long Learning (EU-funded) project OI NET: European Academic Network for Open Innovation**

Jan 2015 – Nov 2015

The **Institute participated in Erasmus+ (EU-funded) project Best Practices in Teaching Entrepreneurship and Creating Entrepreneurial Ecosystems in Europe**.

Jun 2015 – May 2018

The **Institute participated in HORIZON 2020 (EU-funded) project CIMULACT** – Citizen and Multi-Actor Consultation.

Sep 2015 – Aug 2018

The **Institute participated in ERASMUS+ (EU-funded) project CREMO** – Creativity E-Modules in Education.

Oct 2016 – May 2019

The **Institute participated in a study** to evaluate the effectiveness of the Arts Council Malta's **KREATTIV** funding programme.

Oct 2016

The **Institute launched its Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the UM**. This course is offered on a part-time evening basis with lectures held twice a week from 17:00 - 20:00.

Jun 2016

The **Institute launched its Ph.D. programme at the University of Malta**. Doctoral candidates may specialise in research areas related to creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship and/or foresight.

2016

Sandra M. Dingli wrote and published a chapter on Edward de Bono in **The Routledge Encyclopaedia of Educational Thinkers**, Edited by Joy A. Palmer Cooper.

Apr 2017

The **first student for the Institute's Ph.D. programme was enrolled**.

Oct 2017

The Institute's **Diploma in Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship** was offered for the first time at the Gozo Campus of the University of Malta.

Sep 2019 – Sep 2021

The **Institute participated in Erasmus+ (EU-funded) project ProBM2** – Understanding and Developing Business Models in the Globalisation Era.

Jan 2019 – Dec 2021

The **Institute participated in Erasmus+ Knowledge Alliances (EU-funded) project DIFME** – Digital Internationalisation and Financial Literacy Skills for Micro Entrepreneur.

Jan 2018 – Sep 2020

The **Institute participated in the EU-funded project CURIO**.

Jun 2019

The **'Budding Rockstars' Conference received a National Enterprise Support Award (Section A) for Promoting the Entrepreneurial Spirit**. 'Budding Rockstars' was organised by the Malta Communications Authority in collaboration with The Edward de Bono Institute and The Ministry of Education.

2022

Academics from the Institute became members of the **Possibility Studies Network (PSN)**.

Academics from the Institute became members of the **International Society for the Study of Creativity and Innovation (ISSCI)**.

The **Institute commenced Erasmus+ (EU-funded) project InnoGreen** – Innovative Entrepreneurs Leading Green Businesses.

Dr Margaret Mangion took over as **Director of the Institute**.

The Institute celebrates **30th anniversary** since its inception.