

Trip to Luxembourg fully subscribed

The Faculty of Laws announced to the M.Adv. and LL.M. students that this year it is organising another trip to Luxembourg, in March 2024. We will be visiting the Court of Justice of the European Union, and the Court of Auditors. The students were given full details and within a few days the thirty allocated places were all taken up. Our visit to the CJEU includes meetings with the Maltese Judges namely Prof. Peter Xuereb, Prof. Eugene Buttigieg and Dr Ramona Frendo.

Our visit to the European Court of Auditors includes a meeting with Dr George Hyzler amongst other distinguished persons. Overall, this trip promises to be interesting and an experience which we augur that our M.Adv. and LL.M. students will cherish for many years to come.



Faculty of Laws' & Theology refurbishing

We are rather pleased to announce that after four-and-a-half years of pushing for the Faculty of Laws and Theology building to be refurbished, at last we have achieved a partial result. It is nowhere near what we were hoping for, which was a full refurbishing from the ring road right inwards, including the library on the second floor, but we can at least feel slightly relieved that the corridors, which were painted last summer, and decorated with the posters designed by two students (one from our Faculty, the other from the Theology Faculty), are going to be slightly improved further: in June 2024, as soon as the exams are over, the tiles of the ground and first floor will be changed, and the doors of the offices too. Considering that these hark back to 1993 and have given in to the weight of the thousands of

students and UM Staff who have passed through these corridors, to say that we are happy with the small progress is an understatement even though we were hoping for more, not least the upgrading of the lighting in the corridors. Our plan is to never refuse what is offered to us, but to always continue pressing for more and more. We do this because although we are aware of the UM's financial limitations, we still believe that our Faculty should be a dignified, welcoming place where to work and study.



Of course, the actual refurbishing work will not be without sacrifice, since it involves pulling up all the existing tiles, so with works scheduled to last around eight weeks, we are all in for a very dusty summer.

Work will commence from the first floor, during which time Admin will in all probabilities shift operations to somewhere else possibly to Room 317. Once the first floor is ready, the ground floor will be done too, the plan being to be completely ready by the start of AY 2024-25.

Apologies are offered from now, for the inconvenience.

January Strike

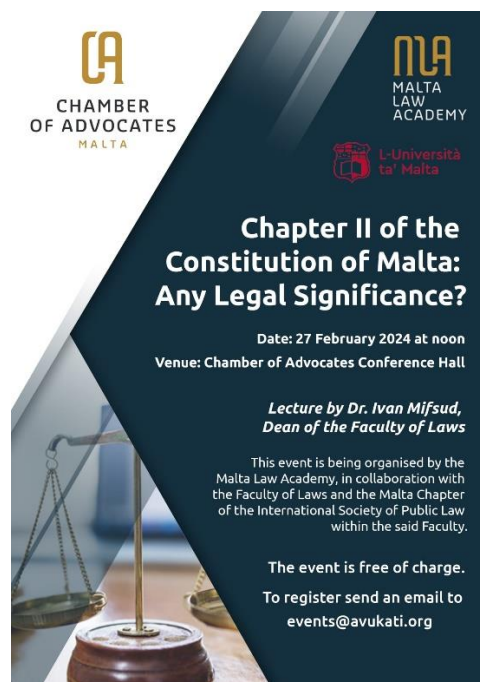
The UM is a colorful place to be in. This last month we experienced a new shade, in the form of a strike: non-academic staff, members of the UHM, staged a strike in connection with an apparent breakdown in negotiations of their collective agreement. This led amongst other things to the postponement by one week of the scheduled Faculty Board Meeting due to the lack of administrative support, and refusal by the Dean to allow non-striking staff to do the work of those on strike (since this might be seen as undermining the strikers, something which Academics were directed by UMASA not to do). Once the strike was over, matters settled down seamlessly and those staff who were previously on strike actually made an extra-effort to catch up with any work that may have been left undone. This extended as far as Estates Staff, who were scheduled to come over and do some maintenance work within the Faculty building but did not due to the strike: they turned up the very first day after the strike came to an end, and concluded the tasks in record time.

Faculty of Laws' Journal: another hitch

Unfortunately just when we thought we had sorted out everything and were in the process of scheduling a day for the signing of the agreement with our planned sponsor, the Faculty of Laws' journal hit another hitch, this time from overseas. The publisher withdrew their offer, after they were bought out by a competitor. Needless to say, we are starting our search for another publisher who can offer the same level of service as was offered by the previous one, hopefully at broadly similar rates.

ICON-S lecture at the Chamber of Advocates

The ICON-S Malta Chapter met in early January and agreed on this year's events. We are now pleased to announce the first of a series of lectures to be held during. This will be delivered by the Dean on the 27th of February 2024, at midday. The subject of this lecture is *Chapter II of the Constitution: Any Legal Significance?* Details below:



New publication on the EU Internal Market

Professor Ivan Sammut and Dr Ivan Mifsud are co-editing a book on *The EU Internal Market in the Next Decade : Quo Vadis?* While we are very happy to announce that a good number of Academics have undertaken to contribute a chapter, should anybody else also be interested in contributing, they are to get in touch with Prof. Ivan Sammut at their very earliest. Our plan is to collect all

contributions very soon after end of Easter Recess (7th April 2024) and conclude the book for publication and printing by the end of September 2024.

Faculty Board decision to note

The attention of Academics is drawn to the following Faculty Board decision, that "as per online assignment guidelines, students will be provided with the possibility of uploading and reuploading their dissertation for examination as many times as required in both the draft and final containers always prior to the submission date".

Congratulations on Staff Promotions (Admin)

During January 2024 Ms Celine Agius, Ms Maria Sciberras and Mr Ryan Grech were promoted to Admin Specialist. The Editorial Board, aware of their hard work and continuous commitment towards the Faculty of Laws, congratulates them for this achievement.

Have you got any news to share? If you have any item of relevance to this newsletter, feel free to inform us about it. You may contact any member of the editorial board, these being Prof. Tonio Borg, Prof. Ivan Sammut, Ms Rowena Leontijevic and Dr Ivan Mifsud. The Board reserves the right to refuse to publish an item submitted to it for its consideration.