



From the Office of the Dean

Newsletter: 'Connect' | No 4

19/4/2017

Dear Colleagues,

I trust this *fourth* edition of 'Connect' finds you well.

The volume of work this Faculty is involved in is nothing short of impressive.

This Newsletter is evidence of the enormous work that academics, administrative staff and students are engaged in. I would like to thank you for your incessant commitment to the cause of social justice, quality of life and social wellbeing which we all try to respond to according to our roles, expertise and responsibilities within the Faculty.

It is important to state that with all that is going on in the Faculty it is quite possible that I missed mentioning an event/s which nonetheless is equally significant and I apologise beforehand if that is the case. In all these 8 pages I am listing what is over and above our core business that is the endless hours of teaching, researching, supervising and mentoring of our students. Indeed, with the risk of repeating myself, the work this Faculty is involved in is striking!

The first thing I would like to point out is that our Faculty Facebook Page has grown from strength to strength. With constant updates being uploaded we have increased the page 'likes' and the analytics show much more engagement. As part of our campaign to promote our courses for academic year 2017-8 we have also started a 'Like' campaign.

If you would like to link up with the Faculty FB Pages these are the URLs:

- **Faculty for Social Wellbeing:** <https://www.facebook.com/uom.socialwellbeing>
- **Department of Counselling:** <https://www.facebook.com/Department-of-Counselling>
- **Department of Criminology:** <https://www.facebook.com/uom.criminology/>
- **Department of Disability Studies:** <https://www.facebook.com/uom.disabilitystudies>
- **Department of Family Studies:** <https://www.facebook.com/uom.familystudies>
- **Department of Gender Studies:** <https://www.facebook.com/uom.genderstudies>
- **Department of Gerontology:** <https://www.facebook.com/uom.gerontology/>
- **Department of Psychology:** <https://www.facebook.com/uom.psychology>
- **Psychology Lab:** <https://www.facebook.com/uom.psychologylab/>
- **Department of Social Policy and Social Work:**
<https://www.facebook.com/uom.spsw>
- **Department of Youth and Community Studies:**
<https://www.facebook.com/uom.youth>

Faculty activities in brief:

- **Rector's message** – Rector wrote the following to the Dean: *'Dear Andrew, Great work! Unless you strongly disagree, I will inform Council (and later Senate) of this example of good practice and diligence and commitment to the scholarship of outreach'*.
- Congratulations to Dr Dione Mifsud who was recently elected **Faculty Senate Representative** by the academic members of staff for the next two years.
- **Dr Charmaine Borg** will be joining the Gender Studies Department from the forthcoming academic year, **Ms Anna Curmi** is the new Administrative Officer at the Department of Counselling and **Mr Rene' Barun** is the new administrative member of staff at the Faculty Office. **Ms Simone Ellul** has joined the U3A.
- Dr Anne Marie Callus (Department of Disability Studies) was **promoted** to senior lecturer, Dr Claire Azzopardi Lane (Department of Disability Studies), Dr Kristina Vella (Department of Psychology) and Dr Marta Sant (Department of Psychology) are now full-timers and Dr Daniella Zerafa (Department of Social Policy and Social Work) has been promoted to lecturer.
- We now have a Faculty easy-to-access **New Courses Landing Page** that will help prospective students get all the information at a click: <http://www.um.edu.mt/socialwellbeing/newcourses>.
- The new Faculty **Twitter Account** is @FacultyforSW.
- It is indeed a pleasure to announce that following the Conference organised by the Faculty for Social Wellbeing in collaboration with Dr Carmen Sammut, Pro-Rector for Student and Staff Affairs and Outreach and the Rectorate, 'Towards a truly accessible University' held last November the University of Malta Senate has now approved a change in regulations that will facilitate admission to candidates who are not in possession of all the qualifications at SEC Level as a result of conditions falling within the **Autism Spectrum** and similar **Learning Difficulties** – a great achievement indeed.
- We are now operating a Faculty wide **SMS Alert** to announce events and to act as a reminder of important upcoming activities.
- A delegation led by the Dean and made up of 5 academics, full- and part-timers, 3 students and 2 administrators travelled to **Brussels** to understand how the social wellbeing and quality of life agenda is being dealt with at EU level. This event was supported by MEPs Dr Therese Comodini Cachia and Dr Miriam Dalli. The intense three-day visit included meetings with the main political groups, S&D and EPP, a meeting with Malta's Ambassador for the EU H.E. Mr Ray Azzopardi, meetings with a number of lobby groups and NGOs involved in the social policy design, namely; Mental Health Europe, Autism Europe, Caritas Europe, European Youth Forum, Youth Intergroup, ILGA Europe and ALDA European Association for Local Democracy and a web, radio and newspaper interview. The Delegation was made up of Dr Andrew Azzopardi, Dean and Head, Department of Youth and Community Studies, Dr Greta Darmanin Kissaun, Deputy Dean and Head, Department of Psychology, Dr Dione Mifsud, Faculty Senate Representative and Head, Department of Counselling, Dr Anton Grech, Lecturer with the Departments of Counselling and Psychology, Ms Maud Muscat, Lecturer with the Department of Youth and Community Studies, Ms Lara Ellul, Assistant to the Dean and member of the Faculty Office Team, Ms Renita Agius, Administrator, Department of Family Studies, Ms Karen Decelis, MCouns student, Ms Solange Abela, BA Hons Y&C Studies student and Ms Andrea Amato Gauci, BPsy Hons student.
- The Department of Gender Studies has organised a second **stakeholders meeting** since being setup as a Department. The Dean joined the DGS for this important event.
- A very successful **Dean's Award ceremony** was held in February. Over 140 people attended the event held at the Valletta Campus. Ms Kristina Zammit was awarded the Jacqueline Azzopardi Social Engagement Award, held for the first time. A conference is being planned to

further support the issue that Ms Zammit is so passionate about, namely ‘migration’. Over 1,200 staff and students were eligible to vote for this award via an on-line poll. The Dean’s Award was presented to 4 Candidates and 8 Outstanding Masters’ Students. 8 Persons were nominated for the Social Commitment Award and 9 Persons nominated for the Jacqueline Azzopardi Social Engagement Award.

- The Department of Family Studies organised a two-day **seminar** on Sex Therapy, a **seminar** on Working Therapeutically with couples and families using an Attachment Narrative perspective by Professor Arlene Vetere and three **workshops** entitled “Dialogical and collaborative practice in therapy and everyday life”, “From Memory work to experience stories” and “Discursive Couple Therapy: Some Call it Love”.
- Dr Trevor Calafato has attended the Predicting, Interdicting and Mitigating Lone Actor **Terrorism conference** organised by PRIME.
- Two **Brown Bag Seminars** organised by the Research, Scholarship and Publications Committee were held since the last edition of Connect. Mr Aleks Farrugia from the Department of Youth and Community Studies and Dott. Roberta Attard from the Department of Counselling led the two sessions.
- Dr Natalie Kenely and Dr Claudia Psaila have just concluded a very fruitful and exciting visit to the University of Worcester where they negotiated **Erasmus exchange programmes** for taught semesters as well as practical placements for social work students. They also spoke with members of other teams, including those engaged in youth justice and criminology.
- A joint Department of Gender Studies and Centre for Labour Studies **Diploma** started in February.
- The Department of Gender Studies **hosted** Dr Richard Hayes for 3 days from WIT, Ireland. His visit included a Public Lecture.
- A delegation from the Faculty led by the Dean met **Corradino Correctional Facility’s** Director Mr Paul De Battista and Ms Mariella Camilleri, Assistant Director Responsible for Education. The visit also included a tour of the facility and Faculty staff also met some inmates. Work has started on the writing of an MoU as a follow-up of that meeting.
- A delegation from the Faculty led by the Dean visited **Dr Anglu Farrugia, Speaker of the House** at Parliament House.
- Prof. Angela Abela (Department of Family Studies) presented a paper during the **Social Affairs Committee Meeting** of the Chairpersons of the Committees on Social Affairs following an invitation by the Speaker of the House. The Dean, Dr Andrew Azzopardi, Dr Christian Borg Xuereb (Department of Gerontology), Dr JosAnn Cutajar (Department of Gender Studies), Dr Andrea Dibben (Department of Social Policy and Social Work), Ms Claire Casha (Department of Family Studies) and Dr Charles Pace (Department of Social Policy and Social Work) attended this event.
- The **Malta Crime Report 2016** compiled by criminologist Prof. Saviour Formosa (Head, Department of Criminology) was presented during a press conference hosted by Home Affairs Minister Carmelo Abela.
- A delegation led by the Dean met with **Dr Simon Busuttil, Leader of the Opposition**.
- A meeting was held by the **strategy sub-committee** with Prof. Tanya Sammut Bonnici, Pro-Rector, Strategic Planning and Enterprise. In the meantime, work is progressing well on the Faculty’s strategy. The sub-committee working on this strategy is led by the Deputy Dean, Dr Greta Darmanin Kissaun.
- Dr JosAnn Cutajar (Department of Gender Studies) met with Mr Jason Micallef and Mr Glen Farrugia of **V18** to discuss technical issues on the provision of counselling and legal clinic in Valletta. Dr Cutajar also participated in an MHRA and NCPE Business Breakfast and presented

a paper on paid paternity leave. Dr Cutajar is involved in the Twelve2Three project on the involvement of dads in the caring of children. Finally, Dr Cutajar met with Madam L'Ambaccatrice of France and the cultural attaché.

- A **Faculty stakeholders meeting** will be taking place for the first time. The Faculty is inviting Commissioners, NGOs, Authorities and politicians to meet the Faculty and exchange aspirations and ideas, relevant for this sector.
- Work on the **Faculty Magazine** is progressing well – another first, more details shortly.
- Dr Marceline Naudi (Department of Gender Studies) participated in a **reading session** as part of her contribution to the book edited by Dr Michael Briguglio (Department of Sociology, Faculty of Arts) and Dr Brown (Departments of Youth and Community Studies and Social Policy and Social Work), 'Sociology of the Maltese Islands'. Dr Naudi also attended a Human Rights Conference organised by the Human Rights Programme of the University. Dr Naudi is the **lead researcher** of 'Full cooperation – Zero Violence'. Dr Naudi was also involved in the **planning meeting** for One Billion Rising Event with VSM, SOAR, MAV, WRF, Merhba Bik, an MGRM Strategy Planning day, attended a meeting of Daphne project on FGM, acted as **speaker** as representative of Council of Europe on EU Responses to Gender-Based Violence, attended a meeting with members of FEMM of the EU Parliament, a WAVE Board meeting in Vienna and GREVIO meeting in Strasbourg amongst other.
- Dr Marceline Naudi (Department of Gender Studies), Ms Amy Zahra (Department of Disability Studies) and the Dean, Dr Andrew Azzopardi are involved in the launch of the new entity of the President's Foundation, **FACE**. Dr Naudi is the co-chairperson.
- The Dean, Dr Andrew Azzopardi participated in the design of a consultative document, an initiative of the Commissioner for Children, 'The **participation of minors** in political communication, election campaigns and referenda and all poll-related matters – Requirements'.
- The Department of Counselling has organised a **weekend training session** entitled "Brief Interventions and Online Counselling".
- The Faculty Officer, Ms Rowena Leontijevic attended the quarterly Faculty Officers **meeting**.
- This semester, the Department of Counselling welcomed **Dr Anne Stokes** (U.K). This will be Anne's fourth time delivering training to our Masters students. The two consecutive weekend seminars covered online counselling and brief interventions.
- The Department of Counselling research conference has become an annual feature in the departmental calendar. This **conference** is an opportunity for graduates to showcase their dissertations and for students to engage in dialogue about current and local research. This year's Keynote Address was delivered by Prof. Jeannie Wright. Hon. Dr Michael Farrugia, Minister for the Family and Social Solidarity, Prof. Godfrey Baldacchino, Pro-Rector for International Development and Quality Assurance and the Dean, Dr Andrew Azzopardi were also present.
- A **weekend training session** was organised by the Department of Counselling entitled "Trauma and Disaster counselling".
- A team from the Department of Counselling are at the 51st **International Association for Counselling Conference**, Buenos Aires Argentina. Dr Dione Mifsud (Head, Department of Counselling and IAC President), Dr Ruth Falzon (EC Member), Ms Niamh Donoghue (MACP Representative), Ms Dorianne Coleiro (Chairperson CCP) and Ms Sharon Martinelli are attending this conference.
- Kudos to Dr Andrea Dibben (Department of Social Policy and Social Work) who was one of the speakers in the prestigious **TED Malta**.
- A preliminary meeting was held to setup the **Faculty for Social Wellbeing Student Association**. A great deal of enthusiasm was shown by students in this initiative.
- Work has started on the preparations to organise the first **Dean's Forum** – more on this soon.

- **A tree was planted** in the garden near the amphitheatre to remember Dr Jacqueline Azzopardi, former Head of the Department of Criminology and Deputy Dean. A remembrance activity will be held in the beginning of May on the 6th month since Dr Azzopardi's passing away.
- The Dean has had a cordial meeting with **MCESD – Gozo Civil Society**.
- The Dean has met **HE the President of Malta Marie Louise Coleiro Preca** to discuss a number of collaborative initiatives between the OPR and our Faculty.
- Work is underway to prepare for the **Faculty Seminar** to be held at Verdala Palace in Buskett. Academics, Administrators and representatives of the student body will be involved in this event. Kudos to Prof. Marilyn Clark (Department of Psychology) who is leading this sub-committee with the participation of Dr Marta Sant (Department of Psychology), Dr Dione Mifsud (Head, Department of Counselling), Prof. Paul Bartolo (Department of Psychology) and Dr Andrew Azzopardi, Dean
- Kudos to BETAPSI, CSA and SHS for organising a successful **Faculty Ball**, “Carpe Noctem”, a joint event for Faculty staff and students. Over 250 people turned up for this event.
- The Faculty has launched its first **mega-poster**. More mega-posters will be soon visible around the University Campus. Over 200 **A2 posters** have been circulated amongst schools, Parishes, NGOs and Local Councils to promote the Faculty. New A4 fliers have been printed.
- A group of academics, Faculty Board Members and administrators are working on the setting up of a **Services Users/Stakeholders Forum**, the first of its kind at the University.
- The proposed **Migration Studies Cluster** will be having its first meeting shortly. A great deal of interest has been shown in this initiative by a number of academics within the Faculty and from other Faculties.
- The **sub-committee responsible for supporting our PhD** students has met the Faculty Doctoral Committee to evaluate the programme it is offering. A number of new initiatives are on the way to further strengthen this initiative. Kudos to Prof. Mary-Anne Lauri (Department of Psychology), Prof. Paul Bartolo (Department of Psychology) and Dr Clarissa Sammut Scerri (Department of Family Studies) for the work they are putting into this sub-committee. It is correct to mention Ms Rowena Leontijevic (Faculty Officer) for supporting the PhD Committee with such industriousness and meticulousness with Ms Sara Mizzi's (Faculty Office) ongoing assistance.
- The Department of Gender Studies, in collaboration with the French Embassy, **screened** ‘Des Femmes ET Des Hommes’ in the ALT. This event was well attended.
- A lovely Faculty staff **Easter Lunch** was organised at *Dar Kenn ghal Sahhtek*. Not only was it well attended but the food and atmosphere were absolutely exquisite. Kudos to Ms Lara Ellul (Assistant to the Dean) for making such detailed preparations.
- A number of academics of the Faculty participated in the ‘2017 One Billion Rising **flash mob**’.
- Congratulations to Dr Melanie Demarco (Department of Counselling) for her **new-born baby Zara**. A bouquet of flowers was sent to Dr Demarco from the Faculty.
- An interesting talk was organized by Dr Greta Darmanin Kissaun, (Deputy Dean and Head, Department of Psychology) and Dr Kristina Vella (Department of Psychology) regarding the **ESPAD** outcomes. Ms Sharon Arpa from FSWS gave an excellent delivery.
- The Criminology Students' Association (CSA) organised a successful **Bake Sale** in memory of Dr Jacqueline Azzopardi's demise.
- The Dean and Deputy Dean met with **representatives of the Church run services** in Malta. It was a fruitful meeting and a number of areas for collaboration have been identified.
- The Dean, Dr Andrew Azzopardi, Dr Marvin Formosa, (Head, Department of Gerontology) and Dr Maria Aurora Fenech (Department of Gerontology) met Mr Andre' Vassallo Grant who

manages the **residential homes for the elderly of the Church**. A number of initiatives were explored.

- A **Forum** is being organised in collaboration with the Faculty of Laws. The Dean, Dr Andrew Azzopardi, the Deputy Dean, Dr Great Darmanin Kissaun and Dr Kristina Vella (Department of Psychology) are involved in the coordination.
- The Faculty for Social Wellbeing is collaborating in an event organised by the Faculty for the Built Environment called '**Probing the plan – a cross Faculty conversation**'.
- The Dean, Dr Andrew Azzopardi, Dr Greta Darmanin Kissaun, (Deputy Dean and Head, Department of Psychology), Prof. Marilyn Clark, (Department of Psychology) and Prof. Saviour Formosa, (Head, Department of Criminology) have met with an Inspector from the **Forensic Unit**. A short course will be offered by the respective Departments of Psychology and Criminology as part of the CPD of this police section.
- The Dean has met **FSWS** to further explore areas of collaboration.
- A call for an **academic post** with the Department of Youth and Community Studies has been issued.
- A number of **scheduled meetings** icw Faculty Board, Community Engagement Sub-Committee, Dean's Award Committee, Research, Scholarship and Publications Committee, Research Observatory Committee, PhD Committee, FREC and HoD Forum, Faculty Seminar Sub-Committee and Strategic Planning Committee were held. These committees are the backbone of the Faculty's operations.
- Filming has started for the new **Faculty video**. This time round students are the protagonists – more on this soon.
- A number of prospective students keep enquiring on the possibility of doing **PhD programmes** with us. The number of current MPhil/ PhD students is at 14 with another four pending Senate approval. We are also awaiting another 4 applications to be submitted to Central Administration following positive feedback from the Faculty Doctoral Committee. An estimated 10 potential students are exploring the possibility of starting a PhD with our faculty.
- Work on the **Research Observatory** is progressing well. More news on this initiative will be announced shortly.
- A new initiative on identifying the **Research Gaps** in our Faculty 'disciplines' will be announced soon.
- **New courses** are expected to start in October 2017, namely the MA in Community Action and Development (Department of Youth and Community Studies), the Master of Social Work (Department of Social Policy and Social Work), the new Neuropsychology stream of the MPsy (Department of Psychology), the new Inclusion and Cohesion stream of the MA Social Policy (Department of Social Policy and Social Work) and the Postgraduate Certificate in Counselling Supervision (Department of Counselling) should these be approved by PVC.
- The Dean, Dr Andrew Azzopardi and Dr Katya Degiovanni, Dean Delegate for International Affairs have met Minister Dr George Vella to explore possibilities of collaboration to entice **international students** to come and study with the Faculty. Dr Degiovanni and the Dean have also met Prof. Godfrey Baldachino, Pro-Rector for International Development and Quality Assurance on this matter.
- The Dean has attended two **College of Deans** meetings these last months. A number of important issues have been discussed.
- The Dean participated in the **EU Youth Conference** which was well attended by a large group of young people from the EU.
- For this first time the **Administrative Team** of the Faculty have had two Briefing sessions and two Team Building sessions organised to consolidate the already very good work that is being

done at the Faculty office and within the Departments. For the first time as well, the Administrative team will be part of the Faculty Seminar to be held in May. This academic year, administrative staff have attended the equivalent of 180 units of training.

- Work is ongoing on the **UREC review Senate sub-committee** – the Dean, Dr Andrew Azzopardi, sits on this sub-committee.
- Dr Natalie Kenely, (Head, Department of Social Policy and Social Work) has been giving sterling service at **UREC** where the Faculty has its representative for the first time.
- Kudos to the **FREC** team for the very good service they give to the Faculty, led by Dr Katya Degiovanni (Department of Psychology). Over 218 proposals have been processed this academic year so far.
- Non-stop **activity** by the Research and Publications Committee led by Dr Anne Marie Callus (Department of Disability Studies). Dr Anne Marie Callus has also been appointed as **Chairperson of ADSU**.
- Meetings are taking place with the Department of Mental Health (Faculty for Health Sciences) and the Department of Psychiatry (Faculty of Medicine and Surgery) regarding the possibility of offering an **MA in Mental Health Studies** course collaboratively.
- Work on the **book** ‘Perspectives on Social Wellbeing: A reader for contemporary issues’ is progressing well. Dr Sue Vella (Department of Social Policy and Social Work), Dr Ruth Falzon (Department of Counselling) and the Dean are in the process of receiving the first drafts of the chapters.
- The Dean has been involved in the statute review of the **Student Societies Senate Committee**.
- Prof. Marilyn Clark (Department of Psychology) contributes immensely on the **PVC**.
- Kudos to Mr Gottfried Catania who is the quasi-official **photographer** of the Faculty.
- Work on an MoU between the Faculty and **Agenzija SAPPORIT** is progressing well.
- Following the signing of the MoU with the **Responsible Gaming Foundation** a meeting on how to take this initiative forward has taken place and the first application submitted.
- A Memorandum addressed to HR and APQRU valuing the **practicum and placements** was written jointly by the Departments of Psychology, Social Policy and Social Work, Family Studies and Youth and Community Studies. It will be submitted shortly.
- The Dean met Mr Albert Debono, from the Student Services to discuss the introduction of the **RPL** for our Faculty.
- The Dean has met practically all the **student cohorts** and is now having the second cycle of meetings for this academic year with each **Department**.
- Prof. Saviour Formosa, Head, Department of Criminology has launched the CLOUDIsle 3D map an **EU funded project** in collaboration with the Planning Authority. The Rector and the Dean were at the launch of this multi-million-euro project.
- Work on the **Tracer Study** is progressing well – kudos to Prof. Saviour Formosa (Head, Department of Criminology).
- The Dean, Dr Andrew Azzopardi and Dr Marceline Naudi (Department of Gender Studies) sit on the **Gender Issues Committee** of the University of Malta.
- A number of meetings were held between the Faculty and the Research Support Services to explore ways of how we can maximise on **EU project applications**.
- Meetings are being organised with the Faculty Board, Academics and Students on the **consultation document**; ‘University of Malta Act: Increased access, Better Quality - A vision for tomorrow's University in the modern world’.
- Prof. Saviour Formosa has been invited to sit on the Research Cluster for **nano-technology**.

- A memo to Rector was sent with the Faculty Board's reaction on the **English for Communicative Aptitude Programme**.
- Estates and Works will be installing the first **mounted couch** shortly. Kudos to Ms Vicky Gauci (Head, Department of Disability Studies) for her persistence.
- The Heads of Department have met the **Registrar** to discuss a number of issues.
- The Faculty is working on a new MoU with the **CRPD** – more on this soon.
- The Dean, Dr Andrew Azzopardi had a meeting with the **Euro Child Study committee**.
- Discussions ensue with the Department of Education Studies (Faculty of Education) on a **joint degree** with the Faculty. A number of meetings were already held on this matter.
- The Dean, Dr Andrew Azzopardi, the former (Dr Sandra Scicluna Calleja) and current (Dr Dione Mifsud) Faculty representatives on Senate have attended each and every **Senate meeting**.
- The following colleagues are currently on **Sabbatical**; Dr Joanne Cassar (Department of Youth and Community Studies), Dr Maureen Cole (Department of Social Policy and Social Work), Prof. MaryAnne Lauri (Department of Psychology), Dr Marceline Naudi (Department of Gender Studies) and Dr Sandra Scicluna (Department of Criminology).
- **I would like to thank:**
 - the team of **HoDs** that are incredibly supportive and committed to the cause; in particular, the Deputy Dean, Dr Greta Darmanin Kissaun. Kudos to Dr Marvin Formosa (Head, Department of Gerontology), Prof. Saviour Formosa (Head, Department of Criminology), Ms Maria Victoria Gauci (Head, Department of Disability Studies), Ms Rowena Leontijevic (Faculty Officer), Dr Dione Mifsud (Faculty Senate Representative and Head Department of Counselling), Dr Brenda Murphy (Head, Department of Gender Studies), Dr Clarissa Sammut Scerri (Head, Department of Family Studies) and Dr Natalie Kenely (Head, Department of Social Policy and Social Work);
 - the **Dean Delegates** who provide timely advise; Dr Claire Azzopardi Lane (Department of Disability Studies) - Dean Delegate focusing on strengthening our strategic development, Dr Katya Degiovanni (Department of Psychology) - Dean Delegate focusing on strengthening our international links, Dr Andrea Dibben (Department of Social Policy and Social Work) – Dean Delegate focusing on strengthening the knowledge transfer, Dr Marvin Formosa (HoD, Department of Gerontology) - Dean Delegate focusing on strengthening our relationship with students, Prof. Saviour Formosa (Department of Criminology) - Dean Delegate focusing on strengthening our facilities, project acquisition, funding and Faculty Building.
 - the **Faculty Office** led by Ms Rowena Leontijevic (Faculty Officer) and her team, Ms Sara Mizzi, Mr Rene' Barun, Ms Lara Ellul and Ms Jeanessa Bezzina who are incredibly supportive of all the Departments and the Dean;
 - the very active **student associations**: namely, Betapsi Malta, Criminology Students' Association - CSA, SHS – Studenti Harsien Socjali and the recently revamped Youth and Community Work Student Association;
 - the **Faculty Board** members for their important role in running this Faculty;
 - the Academic members of **staff**, whether resident full-time or part-time, casual or visiting, the Administrators and the **students** who make this a cohesive Faculty keen to respond to the challenges of society.

This is most certainly not all that has happened in the Faculty during these last months. If there is anything you would like to include in the future editions of Connect please send an email to lara.ellul@um.edu.mt



Dr Andrew Azzopardi - DEAN