

## Rosienne Farrugia BSc MPhil PhD

Assistant Lecturer  
Biology  
University of Malta

### Personal Profile

Rosienne is the eldest of three sibs and was brought up in Mqabba, the daughter of a customs officer and of a nurse.

Her sister is a keen amateur opera singer and her brother is studying towards the priesthood.

Rosienne however has always been into science.

Following her education at Maria Regina Junior Lyceum, she went to the Junior College Sixth form and studied towards a BSc in chemistry and Biology at the University of Malta. She then proceeded to a Masters at the faculty of Medicine and Surgery and following a brief time in Industry travelled first to Switzerland and then to the UK to read for her PhD in Haematology. She settled down into Darwin College where she joined the Darwin College Students Association and was secretary of the Association for two years.

Following her return, Rosienne once again took up a post at the University of Malta, teaching mainly in the Junior College section but also giving lectures in Haematology and Molecular Genetic Techniques at the University.

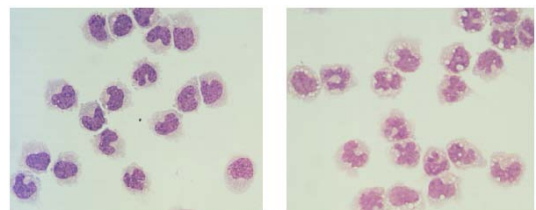


Rosienne has a fierce and comic wit and enjoys the company of like-minded individuals, who appreciate science.

### Research Profile

Rosienne's Masters research helped identify a rare type of dopa-responsive dystonia common in people of Maltese descent but otherwise rare worldwide.

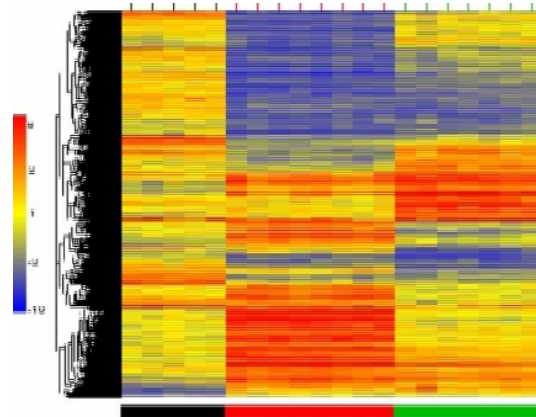
Her PhD research looked into changes in the expression of RNA profiles (a kind of cellular signature) which are specific for monocytes (white blood cells which protect us against infections).



Monocytes are able to change depending on the signals found in their environment. Rosienne's research looked at the changes which take place in monocytes that encounter bacteria and compared them to the changes which occur

when a monocyte arrives at a site of wounding.

Now that she is back in Malta, Rosienne is enjoying passing on her love of biology to a new generation of potential scientists but is no doubt itching to get back into scientific research and using her knowledge of high throughput screening methods to assess local and more widespread problems.



## Other interests

Rosienne is a fabulous cook and is also extremely keen on handicrafts. She also enjoys reading, and reads all sorts of books especially science fiction, loves traveling to places with a lot of history and many old buildings, and has fond memories of rowing at 6 o'clock in the morning on the river Cam.

## Relevant Links or info

Further information about:

Darwin College

<http://www.dar.cam.ac.uk/>