

## Pre-meeting Workshop II:

# New to doctoral education

- **Nicholas C Vella**, Director of the Doctoral School, University of Malta, Malta
- **Hans-Joachim Bungartz**, Graduate Dean, Technical University of Munich, Germany, EUA-CDE Steering Committee

**2019 EUA-CDE ANNUAL MEETING**

The societal dimension of doctoral education

Hosted by University of Brescia  
12-14 June 2019 | Brescia, Italy

euacde

# A Doctoral School *for* the University of Malta



**L-Università ta' Malta**  
Doctoral School

**Doctoral School**  
University of Malta  
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# YACHTING

MONTHLY

FOR THE CRUISING SAILOR  
ESTABLISHED 1906 &

MAY 2016  
www.yachtingmonthly.com

## Atlantic crossing advice

Practical tips from crews who've done it

How to update your charts

3,000 miles against the Humboldt Current

## Is your deck gear strong enough?

How to check bow rollers and deck cleats

**FREEDOM 35**  
Cruising without shrouds

**CRUISING GUIDE**  
The sacred haven of Lindisfarne

**NEW LEGEND 51**  
She's massive! But how well does she sail?

**11 AIS transceivers tested**

"I was ran by a ga smugg"

YACHTING  
MONTHLY

# confessions

yachtsmen own up to their sailing sins





# History

- Traces its origins to 1592 as Jesuit College in Valletta
- Grand Master Pinto, Order of St John, re-founded University in 1769
- Main campus is in Msida (since the late 1960s)
- Valletta Campus is now UM's Conference Centre, plus location of Collaborative Degree Programmes





# **Academic Entities**

14 Faculties

18 Institutes

12 Centres

3 Schools

Junior College

# Student Population

- Around 11,500 students
- Over 3,000 graduands each year (of which 40 PhDs)
- 1,073 international students (excluding exchange students )
- 2,000 pre-tertiary students at Junior College





## Governance

- Council – administrative arm of the University
- Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor, Rector and 5 Pro-Rectors
- Senate – academic matters
- Vast array of degree programmes of study at various levels



L-Università  
ta' Malta

NEWSPOINT

Thursday 1 March 2018

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## UM's Doctoral School to provide Support Framework to Doctoral Researchers

Newspoint > News > Features > 2017 > December > UM's Doctoral School to provide Support Framework to Doctoral Researchers

In Notifications 13:50, 12 Dec 2017

Share:



See More

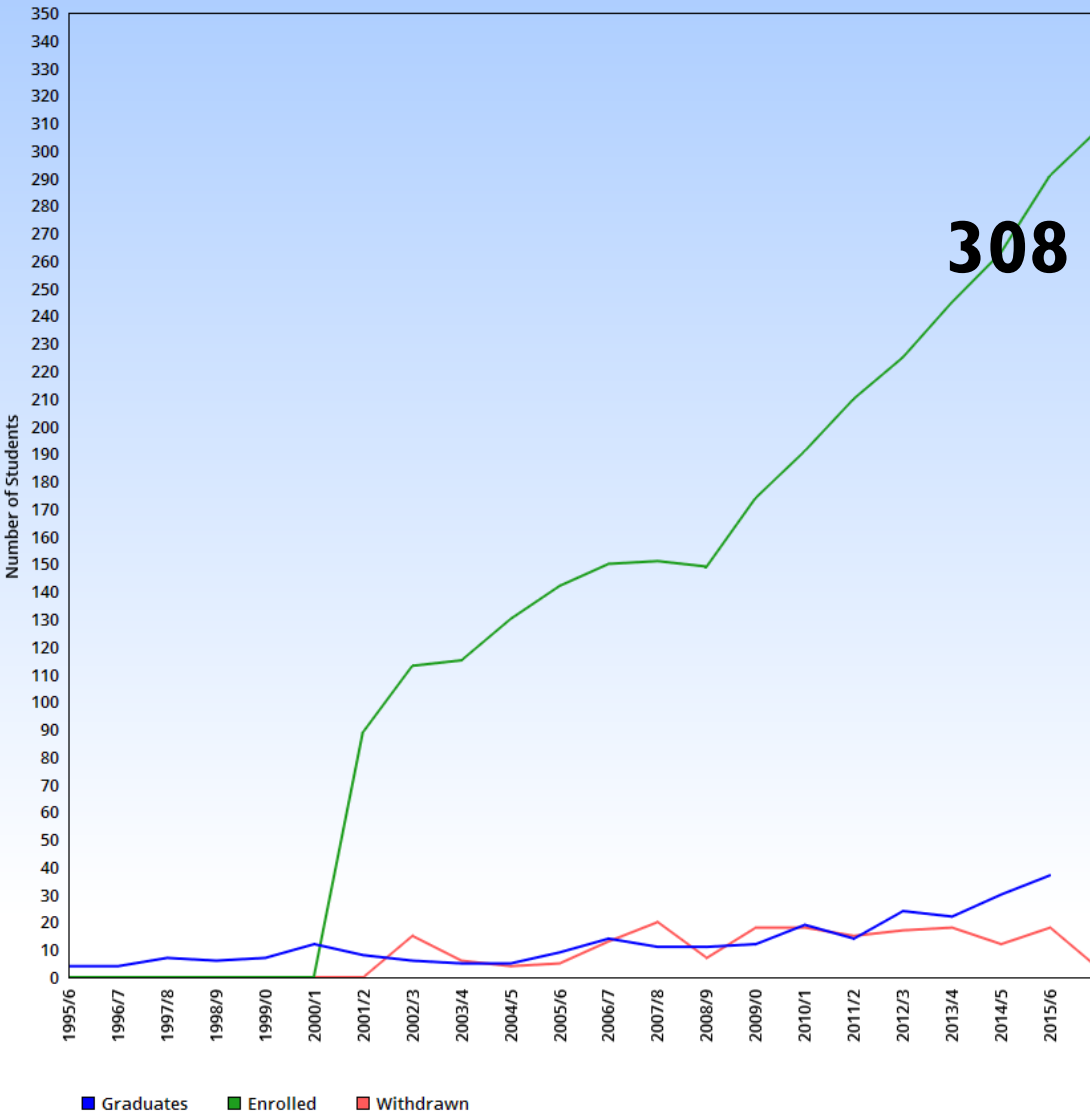


Launch: 11.12.2017

# Background: Rector with a vision

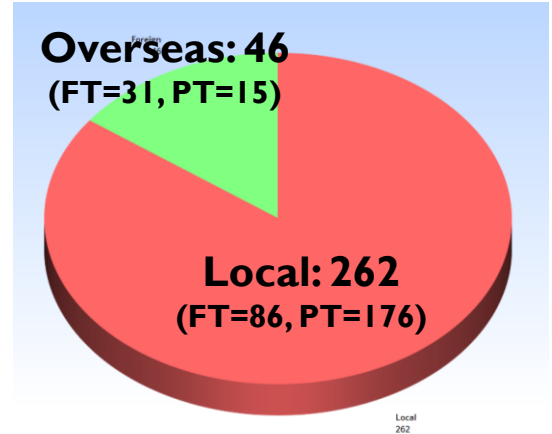


Student Graduate, Enrolled and Withdrawn Statistics



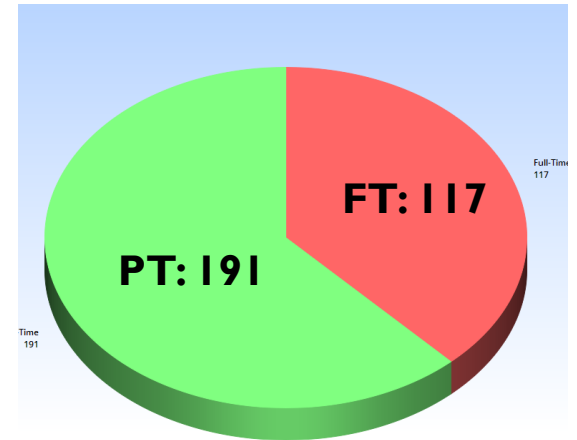
**Overseas: 46**  
(FT=31, PT=15)

**Local: 262**  
(FT=86, PT=176)



**PT: 191**

**FT: 117**



**Background: growing numbers**

	International Students	Total Students	International Students	Total Students	International Students	Total Students
Course	2015/6	2015/6	2016/7	2016/7	2017/8	2017/8
Master in Advanced Clinical Pharmacy	5	17	3	9	11	17
Master of Philosophy	27	166	31	187	37	213
Doctor of Music	1	2	0	1	0	0
Doctor of Sacred Theology	0	2	0	3	0	2
Doctorate in Pharmacy	3	18	7	34	6	24
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)	12	108	15	107	11	108
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>364</b>
<b>PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL</b>	<b>15.3%</b>		<b>16.4%</b>		<b>17.9%</b>	

**Background ... even international students**



I've been thinking about my PhD, and in particular about my relationship with the UM. To put it crudely, I've come to the view that I get absolutely nothing for my money ... Frankly, the only meaningful communications I seem to get from the university is when they want my money. There is no PhD community of any kind ... and I have no idea what facilities are available and have no idea who to ask ... I want to do this PhD. But I am absolutely fed up with wasting my time at the uni, only to come away with nothing but anger and frustration ... It's got to the point now where I simply don't want to leave home for there any more as it will ruin my day.

**PHD RESEARCHER**

What the UM has provided you with is a unique dataset that would otherwise not have been available to you. It really depends on how much you really want this PhD.

I am not impressed with student's attitude.

**PHD SUPERVISOR**

**Background**

NATURE | EDITORIAL

# Many junior scientists need to take a hard look at their job prospects

Permanent jobs in academia are scarce, and someone needs to let PhD students know.

25 October 2017

PDF | Rights & Permissions



The Economist | Follow  
Insight and opinion on international news, politics, business, finance, science, technology, books and arts.  
Dec 27, 2016 · 10 min read

## Why doing a PhD is often a waste of time

The disposable academic



This article originally appeared in the 2010 *Christmas double issue* of The Economist.

On the evening before All Saints' Day in 1517, Martin Luther nailed 95 theses to the door of a church in Wittenberg. In those days a thesis was simply a position one wanted to argue. Luther, an Augustinian friar,

asserted that Christians could not buy their way to heaven. Today a doctoral thesis is both an idea and an account of a period of original research. Writing one is the aim of the hundreds of thousands of students who embark on a doctorate of philosophy (PhD) every year.

### Gene count

The most popular genes in the human genome  
A tour through the most studied genes in biology reveals some surprises.

Previous post  
**Abandon ship, or learn to swim: the gamble young scientists must make**

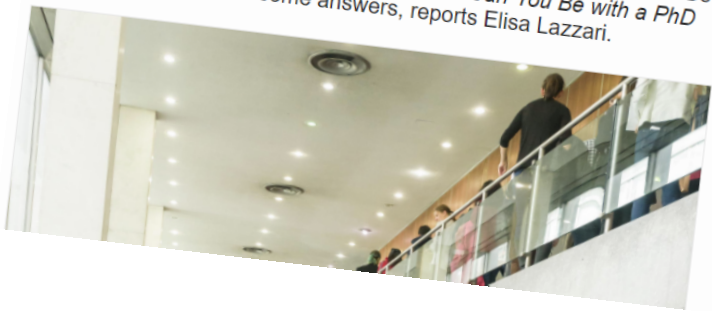
Next post  
**Why scientists should communicate science – getting to the heart of the**

NATUREJOBS | NATUREJOBS BLOG

## What Can You Be with a PhD?

17 Nov 2017, 13:00 GMT | Posted by Rebecca Wild | Category: Academia, Career paths, CV, Events, Industry, PhD

What does it take to land your dream job beyond academia? Do PhDs even have marketable skills? the 2017 *What Can You Be with a PhD* career symposium has some answers, reports Elisa Lazzari.



### About this blog

Naturejobs is the world's leading dedicated science jobs board. The Naturejobs blog aims to be the leading online resource for scientists in academia and industry who seek guidance in developing their careers. The blog delivers a mix of expert advice and personal stories to help readers review, set and achieve their career goals. We like to interact with our readers – we want to know what you want to know. Please share your thoughts in the comments section and get in touch if you have content suggestions. Pitches for guest posts are encouraged and should be emailed to the editor Jack Leeming at naturejobseditor[at]nature.com

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### Naturejobs Careers Community

NEW from Naturejobs, the Naturejobs Careers Community, an open forum for the sharing of expert advice and opinion on developing a career in science. Join today to network, learn and raise your profile to further your career.



# FACULTY/INSTITUTE/CENTRE/SCHOOL

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graph TD; A[FACULTY/INSTITUTE/CENTRE/SCHOOL] --> B[FICS DOCTORAL COMMITTEE<br/>(chairperson1, administrator2)]; A --> C[SUPERVISORY TEAM<br/>(Principal Supervisor,<br/>Co-Supervisor, Advisor)];
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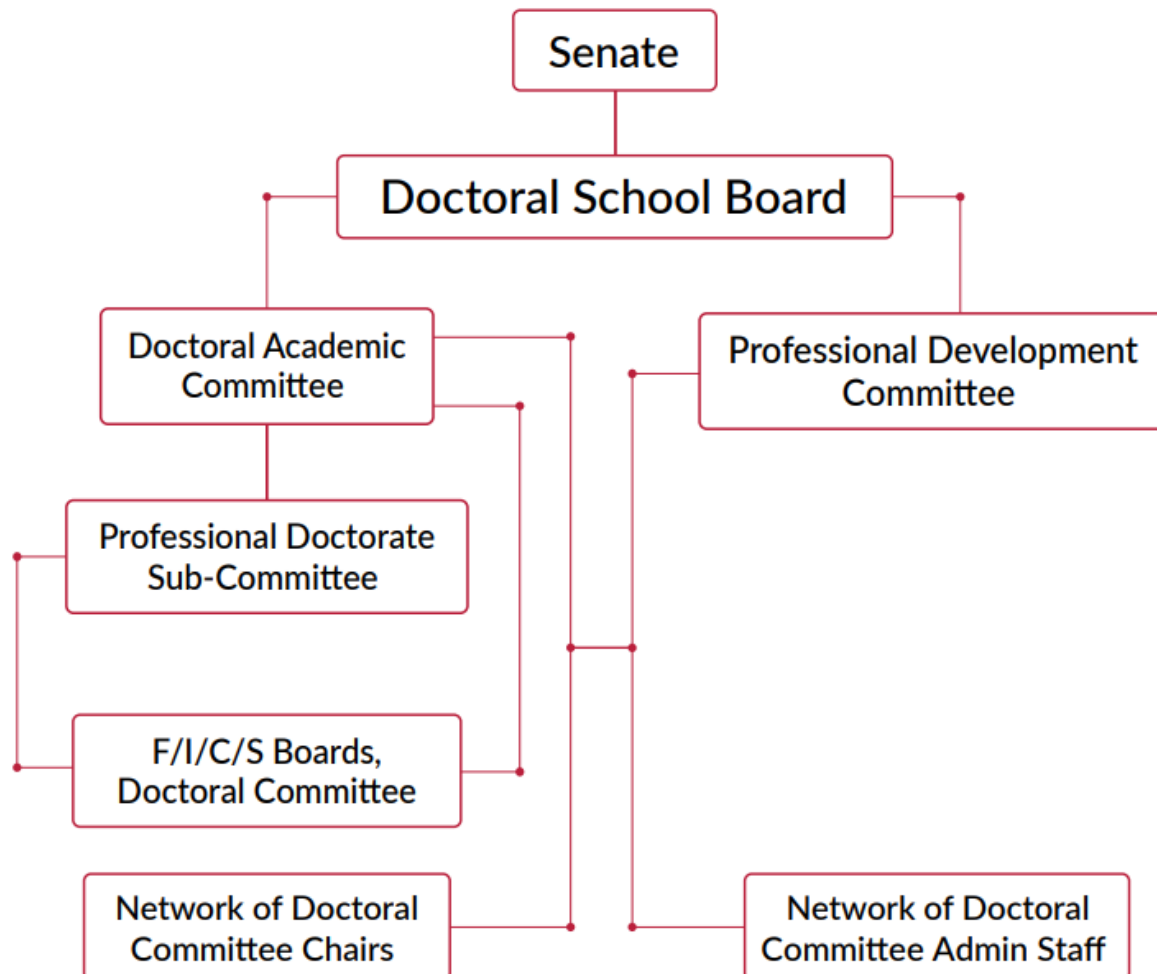
**FICS DOCTORAL COMMITTEE**  
(chairperson<sup>1</sup>, administrator<sup>2</sup>)

**SUPERVISORY TEAM**  
(Principal Supervisor,  
Co-Supervisor, Advisor)

1.[https://www.um.edu.mt/doctorschool/supportandadvice/  
doctoralcommitteechairs](https://www.um.edu.mt/doctorschool/supportandadvice/doctoralcommitteechairs)

2.[https://www.um.edu.mt/doctorschool/supportandadvice/  
doctoralcommitteeadministrators](https://www.um.edu.mt/doctorschool/supportandadvice/doctoralcommitteeadministrators)

**Scope and function: support ... beyond Faculties,  
Institutes, Centres and Schools**



Define scope and functions of School; Governance; Statute; set up Office of the Doctoral School

2018

2019

2020

- Doctoral Academic Committee (progression, MPhil/PhD transfer, award of PhD and PharmD)
- Professional Development Programme
- Annual symposium for Doctoral researchers
- Enhancing doctoral research through short video clips
- Gathered feedback on PDP as part of internal quality assurance

- Doctoral Academic Committee (progression, MPhil/PhD transfer, award of PhD and PharmD)
- Needs Analysis Survey for Doctoral researchers (May)
- Designed Professional Development Programme
- Meetings of networks of Chairs and Admin staff
- Revising rate of honoraria for external co-supervision

- Launch Manual of Procedures of Doctoral Researchers, Supervisory teams, and Admin staff
- Provide Training for novel Supervisors
- Doctoral Student Wellbeing

## **GENERAL WORKSHOPS**

- Starting on your Ph.D.
- Preparing for the M.Phil./Ph.D. transfer
- Managing your Ph.D.
- Preparing for your viva
- Introducing Library Services to doctoral students

## **COMMUNICATION SKILLS**

- Presentation skills
- Debating with the media as a researcher

## **RESEARCH, INTEGRITY, PROMOTION**

- Understanding research integrity
- Introduction to quantitative research methods
- Introduction to qualitative research methods
- Approaching doctoral research through mixed methods
- Data analysis with Python
- Getting published: the book
- Getting published: the journal article (four clusters)
- Getting published: the conference paper

# **The Professional Development Programme**



## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Dealing with conflict situations
- Basic lecturing skills
- Enhancing small group teaching and learning
- Introduction to student mentoring
- Basic research supervision skills

## **LOOKING BEYOND GRADUATION**

- Research and entrepreneurship
- Employability skills: perspectives from employers

# **The Professional Development Programme**



May I take a few minutes of your time to thank you for yesterday's workshop. Your input was very valuable in addressing interesting issues - I have very much appreciated your tips - especially the focus on the viva - and to be honest I've heard so many echoes of my concerns - especially as a parent of twins who has to juggle studies with what life throws at us! To be honest, I entered yesterday's workshop with a lot of apprehensions and concerns - I cannot say that they have disappeared, but at least now I'm feeling really keen to give it a go. Many thanks also for inserting Prof. C's input in yesterday's proceedings - after many years stuck in the world of Mickey Mouse Clubhouse, Disney Junior, Barbie and what have you, I have felt alive again! Looking forward to further experiences like yesterday's.

# Our challenges

Senate Enclosure 180/2018-19  
Revised post open consultation



## Strategic Plan 2020-2025

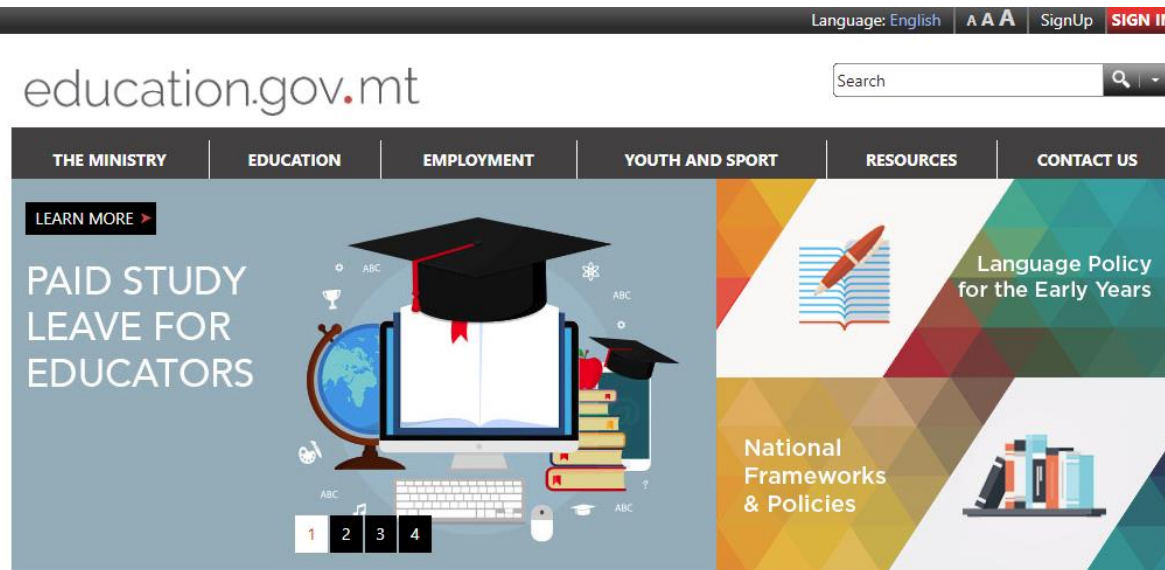
Serving Students, Scholarship and Society, Sustainably



# Our challenges

Only **17% of PhD student cohort** is currently on scholarship from the Government (mostly STEM areas) – not enough!

The University will continue to petition local authorities to meet Malta's stated **Research and Development** investment target of 2% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 2020. Currently the figure stands at around 0.7% of the GDP (i.e., approx. €85 million instead of €250 million).





# Our challenges

Increase the number of COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH DEGREE programmes

- We currently have **17** PhD students on joint programmes – France, The Netherlands, Iceland, Italy
- The UM will be submitting a COFUND application (MSC actions) this year to support Doctoral and Post-Doctoral researchers



# Our challenges

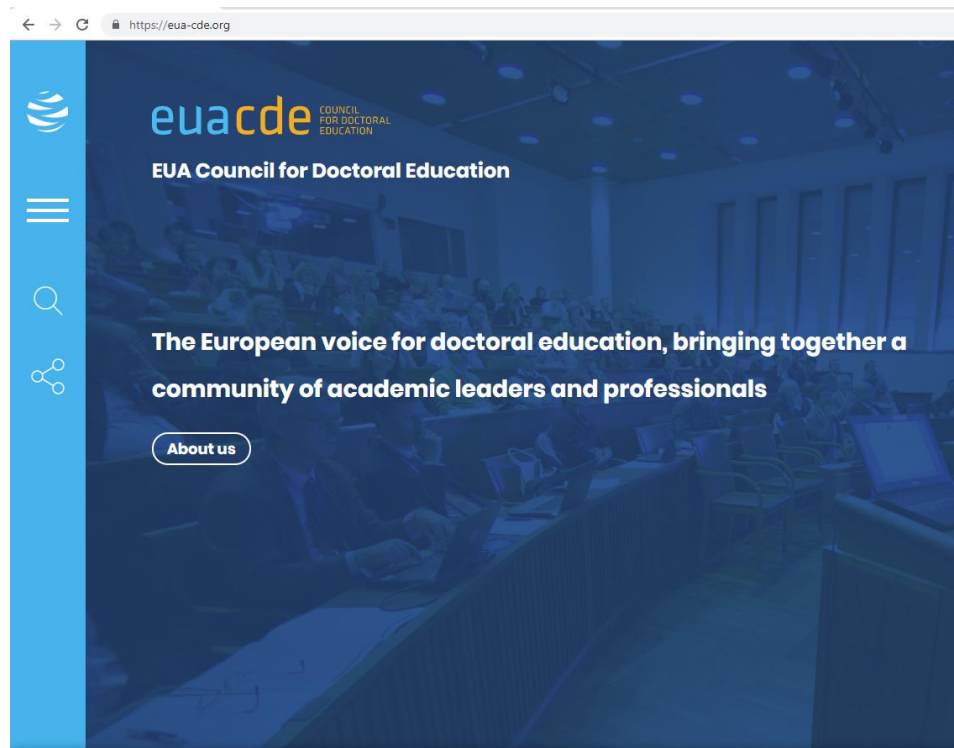
## FACULTIES AND DEPARTMENTS

- 18 **FACULTY OF ARTS**
- 18 Anthropological Sciences
- 58 Classics & Archaeology
- 18 English
- 18 French
- 18 Geography
- 16 German
- 18 History
- 18 History of Art
- 18 International Relations
- 18 Italian
- 18 Maltese
- 58 Oriental Studies
- 18 Philosophy
- 18 Sociology
- 18 Spanish & Latin American Studies
- 18 Translation, Terminology & Interpreting Studies
- 10 **FACULTY FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**
- 10 Architecture & Urban Design
- 10 Civil & Structural Engineering
- 10 Conservation and Built Heritage
- 10 Construction & Property Management
- 10 Environmental Design
- 10 Spatial Planning & Infrastructure
- 10, 45 Visual Arts
- FACULTY OF DENTAL SURGERY**  
(at Mater Dei Hospital)
- 32 Dental Surgery
- 15 **FACULTY OF ECONOMICS, MANAGEMENT & ACCOUNTANCY (FEMA)**
- 15 Accountancy
- 15 Banking & Finance
- 15 Economics
- 15 Management
- 15 Marketing
- 15 Public Policy
- 18 **FACULTY OF EDUCATION**
- 18 Arts, Open Communities & Adult Education
- 18 Early Childhood & Primary Education
- 18 Education Studies
- 18 Health, Physical Education & Consumer Studies
- 18 Inclusion & Access to Learning
- 18 Languages & Humanities Education
- 18 Leadership for Learning & Innovation
- 18 Mathematics & Science Education
- 18 Technology & Entrepreneurship Education
- 31 **FACULTY OF ENGINEERING**
- 31 Electronic Systems Engineering
- 31 Industrial & Manufacturing Engineering
- 31 Industrial Electrical Power Conversion

**WE NEED  
dedicated  
space**



Study or desk space is an important factor for doctoral students, contributing to a sense of belonging and value and this could particularly be a factor in the satisfaction scores achieved by an institution. This may be particularly acute for international students since their personal residential accommodation may be restricted and not conducive to long hours of intensive studying.



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