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Research Presentation at UM Expo 2024

Dr Charmaine Bonello and Dr Anna Baldacchino from the University of Malta's Department of Early Childhood and Primary Education, together with Prof. Carmen Dalli, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, showcased their research at the UM Expo 2024.

Their project, which will soon be published as a Routledge book titled "An Emergent Curriculum for the Early Years in Malta: Stories of Professional and Pedagogical Transformation," is now complete.

They extend their gratitude to the seven educators and childcare centres/schools who contributed to this achievement and eagerly anticipate sharing their book with everyone.



HTA Newsletter

In errata – the link to the HTA newsletter (printed in the FoE newsletter dated 6th June 2024), should read as follows –

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZaIdmicPgLPo1VuIOFrCsJwXxMWfkuW9/view?usp=sharing



Conference: European Association of Music in Schools

Dr Moira Azzopardi Barbieri participated in the 31st European Association for music in schools. This was held in Dublin, Ireland between the 12th and the 15th of June. The theme of the conference was Traditions in Transformation.

Dr Azzopardi Barbieri took part in the symposium with the theme: Transforming curriculum design, pedagogy and assessment in partnership with learners perspectives from Malta and Ireland.

She described what effective music theory pedagogy for the 21st century learners should look like. Her suggestions include promote active engagement through extensive listening, and performance on the students' primary instruments and the keyboard, rehearsing music repertoire from different musical genres and using digital technologies and portfolio assessment to enable the learners' development of creativity, performing, analysis, listening and composition writing.



What Constitutes 'Powerful' Financial Knowledge?

'What Constitutes 'Powerful' Financial Knowledge?' was the theme of the paper presented by Dr Emanuel Mizzi at the Third International Conference of the journal "Scuola Democratica" held at the University of Cagliari, Italy.

The discussion explored the notions of powerful knowledge and threshold concepts and how they can provide the theoretical framework for a financial literacy program for the secondary school years.

https://www.conftool.pro/scuolademocratica-conference-2024/index.php?page=browseSessions&form_session=52



Critical Arts in Education for Sustainable Societies (CARE/SS) Erasmus Project coming to the finish line

The CARE/SS project is a 30-month project including 5 European University partners from Cyprus, Greece, Poland, Spain and Malta that will finish at the end of June 2024. The project is led by Fredrick University of Cyprus. Through the duration of the project, the partners organised 6 progress meetings held at the distinct partner universities in different countries. The last progress meeting held recently on 13th June 2024 was hosted by the Polish partner team at the Adama Mickiewiecza University in Poznan, Poland.

The Malta team is led by Prof Raphael Vella collaborating with team members Dr Charmaine Zammit and Dr Maria Cutajar from the Department of Arts, Open Communities and Adult Education. On 27th May 2024 the Malta Team organised a multiplier event as part of the CARE/SS project which took the form of a half-day course for Arts Teachers in Maltese Schools.

The project involved educational researchers of the different partner teams working together to research, design, implement and evaluate blended and online learning and teaching in the context of Arts Education and Higher Education Institutions. The <u>CARE/SS project website</u> which will be completed in the next 3 weeks showcases the work achieved. The <u>5 e-books shared in open access</u> convey research reports, teaching and learning resources and a handbook of reflective and position articles derived from this work.

A conference celebrating the work achieved was held on 14th June 2024 at the Adama Michiewiecza University in Poznan Poland. The conference included a keynote by the CARE/SS project lead Dr Victoria Pavlou, handbook paper presentations and several workshops led by Arts Experts involved in the project.





Launch of Professor Kenneth Wain's Book

On Friday, 14 June, family members, friends, colleagues, and members of the education community assembled at Aula Prima, University of Malta, Valletta Campus, to celebrate the launch of Professor Wain's latest book and his contribution to the education sector.

Supported by the Faculty of Education, the event provided those present with an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the different facets of Wain's educational life, as a teacher, a distinguished professor, an educational consultant and policy maker, a curriculum developer and public intellectual.

The event featured, in sequence: an introduction by Professor Carmel Borg, the coordinator of the event; an interview with Prof. Wain; a musical interlude composed by Dr Jes Grixti; a solo reflection by the author on the takeaways of the book; a Q&A; and a short presentation on the book- and music-inspired art pieces produced by Etienne Farrell.

The book - *Lifelong Learning in Malta. Towards the Learning Society* - a Faculty of Education publication, is for sale at the Faculty Office.

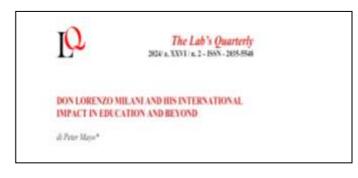


Don Milani Sociology Journal Article

This is an article by Peter Mayo on the sociological and international resonance of Don Lorenzo Milani and the Schools of San Donato di Calenzano and Sant' Andrea a Barbiana.

It is being published, after peer reviewing, in the ANVUR Classe A Italian Sociology journal, Lab Q standing for Lab Quarterly.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fzq2ikYgbIo0xoiG5zZ2wkhDJYjGJYng/view?usp=sharing



Another Research Participation at UMRE 2024

Dr Maria Cutajar from the Department of Arts, Open Communities and Adult Education recently participated in the second edition of the University of Malta Research Expo (UMRE 2024). In her presentation she shared the local research findings exploring the academic experience of university lecturers.

This research is part of a broader research project she is involved in with 2 other European universities. The peer-reviewed research paper reporting on this study titled <u>"A Malta Experience of Being a University</u> <u>Academic: A Thematic Narrative"</u> was published last week in the open access journal 'Trends in Higher Education'.

