



welcome to the **10th issue**

magazine

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Mr. CHARLES THEUMA

BEHIND THE SCENES

A Word from the Editor by JOE CAMILLERI



This particularly magical time of the year brings with it light and colour, and thus was the main theme of the 10th issue of *Aspire Magazine*. This light and colour reflect the colourful ambience that heralds the start of the academic year 2015-16 at St. Martin's and the start of a brand new calendar year which seems just as promising!

We have tried again through text and image to portray the myriad of activities that have become the legend of St. Martin's Institute. We leave it up to you to browse and realise the reality which continues to make St. Martin's retain the forefront in the island's academic scenario.

We promise to come back with even more details from the classrooms of SMI in next year's issue as we explore the realm of Creativity at SMI, which we have partially exposed through the GDC6 article in this issue. Find out who are the student representatives and what makes them tick and discover the magic of GoDrawit. A magical issue indeed!

We would like to wish our readers a magical Christmas and a most successful New year.

Joe Camilleri
Editor

It is December and this month brings with it intense activities with the end of the Autumn Semester which leads to two weeks of seasonal holidays eagerly awaited by both students and staff. These past twelve weeks have been packed solid with activities and events, which make academic life such an exciting one – so much, that some students opt to remain at University all their lives, and become Academics!

Although many students may be rather bemused by this concept of perpetual study, *Homo sapiens* have excelled amongst all living organisms due to the inherent and unquenchable urge to learn and accumulate knowledge. The Book of Genesis describes the Tree of Wisdom as the very temptation that befell mankind to a perpetual state of searching for the holy grail of truth. The transitional state from forced study to motivational urge to know more will happen – sooner or later. We are all trying to glean further knowledge from our environment with continuous change as the only static paradigm we come to accept. We at Saint Martin's Institute are endowed with a community of students and academics who are second to none. The Institute, through its annual performance is at the very top of the rankings within the University of London institutions, and through the attainment of students such as yourselves, we rank amongst the very best there is in Malta. I wish you to be proud of your achievements, I wish you to stand tall when you speak about the degree you are reading and where

Saint Martin's Institute of Higher Education will continue to make strides in Maltese education bringing the sector closer to international standards. We are not here simply to help you pass examinations – we are here to assist you during the important transition in your lives from students to professional and proficient individuals, with a civic sense towards community service which will enable not just you and your loved ones to develop and prosper, but collectively generate wealth and well-being in society.

I augur you and your families all the joy that this season brings with it.

Charles Theuma
Principal



THE NEW Student Council

Who are the People behind the New Council?



Mariah
The President



Waqas
The Vice-President



Brendan
The Media &
Communications
Coordinator



James
The Treasurer



Naomi
The Events Manager

What is your current role in the student council?

Mariah - President :)

Waqas - I'm the vice president.

Brendan - Media and Communications Coordinator. I take care of all the material that goes online on our social channels; mainly Facebook. However we will be soon using Twitter, Instagram and Moodle as well, besides setting up and launching our own Website. I create the Posters, Banners, Tickets and any other material needed, and took care of the Council's current image/logo.

James - My current role in the Student Council is that of a Treasurer but I also help out in other things when needed.

Naomi - My role in this year's student council is Events Manager.



What was your reaction once you were elected?

Mariah - Bring on the challenge!

Waqas - I knew to some extent that I would be selected however, I never expected in my wildest dreams that I would be the student who got the highest votes.

Brendan - Happiness? Excitement? Pressure? I had a variety of mixed feelings. I am happy that I got elected once again in the Student Council and excited that I could continue build and work on the foundations we set last year. Pressure because I am in my third and final year, where together with my thesis and work, I'll have to work more on time management - which I think that I am doing quite well so far!

James - I was surprised that I was chosen because I am still a first year student and the other students who applied for council were more well known than myself at Saint Martins.

Naomi - I was very nervous going into the election. I am quite shy at first and my level of confidence was wavering. So, when I found out that I was elected I was very relieved and grateful! I'm no longer so shy and I feel eager to organise memorable events.

What are your plans for the council for the coming academic year?

Mariah - Creating a better student experience for students and making students feel like they belong.

Waqas - My major reason for applying was to improve the campus life of Saint Martin's institute, We are currently in the process of getting a table tennis and either foosball or billiards(still haven't decided yet). As time goes by, I plan to introduce more stuff that will enhance your experience at Saint Martins.

Brendan - Continue working and building on the foundations we set last year, work more as a team whilst looking for ways how we could expand our tasks. Expand our image and reach with the use of more marketing and social means.

James - My plan for this year is to introduce a CV collection service whereby every student hands in his/her CV upon their consent and with the approval of the school we are able to hand all the CV's to the relevant companies during Careers day or any jobs position which are received by St Martins.

Naomi - This year, I believe, we are really trying to build a name for ourselves within the community. Personally, I want to create more of a sense of belonging amongst the student body and I would love for everyone (SMI staff too) to bond and have fun at our upcoming events!

Describe the SMI council in 3 words!

Mariah - Continuous learning & improvement!

Waqas - Creative, Passionate and Fun

Brendan - Young, able, potential

James - Motivated, Teamwork, Goal-oriented

Naomi - Welcoming, Cosy, Enthusiastic

NO PAIN... NO GAIN!

Games Development Challenge 6

BEHIND THE SCENES

GDC is the acronym for Games Developments Competition; a big name for an equally big event in the annual calendar of St. Martin's Institute of Higher Education. Initiated 6 years ago, this competition is a unique chance for coders, musicians and artists to hone their respective skills and learn different techniques in their field and even envelop new learnings from fellow competitors and the organising lecturers from the said Institute.

GDC is 4 months of balancing time and keeping to deadlines – a baptism by fire, one can say, for future game developers who intend to make it big in the games development industry. It is a harsh reality in the real world; but this event, set up annually by St. Martin's, aims to provide the enlisted competitors with the tools necessary to face and overcome this challenge, thus gathering important practice and substantial self-development with regards to this particular field of work.

This year a total of 4 teams made it to the final. The judging was not easy, as stated by many of the judges present on the night of the closing of GDC 6. These judges, representing some of the biggest names in the game development industry, both in Malta and the world had a tough time deciding the winners. But decisions had to be taken and yet again it was the closing chapter for another long adventure.

Tired smiles and brilliant games were once again the result of months of commitment as the judges closed the evening with some striking words of wisdom, embraced by all and sundry. See you again next year!



COMING SOON

Higher Education Institute No. 1081

game DEV CHALLENGE 6

GDC Judging Ceremony

20th November 2015
From 5pm to 9pm

Come and support the participants

T: 21235451
E: infodesk@stmartins.edu

<http://gamedev.stmartins.edu>
[f/StMartinsInstituteMalta](https://www.facebook.com/StMartinsInstituteMalta)



PRESENTS



... developed by...

matthew von brockdorff
maria camenzulu
josef von brockdorff



JANE IN
STUDIO



... developed by...

James Lanzon
Jean paul cassar
malcolm tanti
manuel scicluna



Kuntrumbajisa

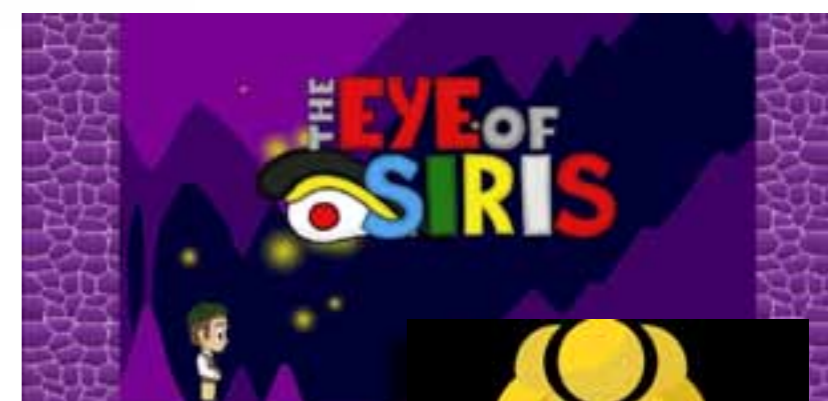
... developed by...

daniel cassar
massimo saliba
darren camilleri
stephen abela
jacques camilleri



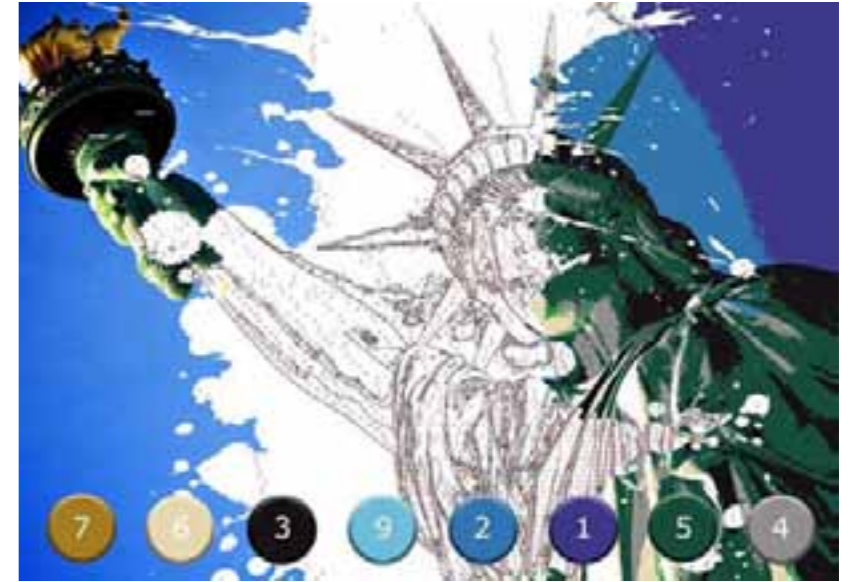
... developed by...

Franco Farrugia
keith uella



... developed by...

adrian farrugia turban
isaac boldarini
timothy cefai



Go Draw It stained glass walls, murals, cross stich, quilt, mosaic, embroidery ... everything needs a drawing, and www.godraw.it provides you with a drawing from any photo in less than a minute simply over the internet. Try it now visit www.godraw.it and register at just \$2.99 for unlimited patterns.

From Photo to Paint by Number in less than a minute ... I just print and start my painting!

I'm a grown-up, but I still love colouring books I always loved colouring in as a child, but gave up the habit as an adult. Now I've returned to it – and judging from sales figures, it seems I'm far from alone.

STEP ONE ...upload an image you like.
STEP TWO...you get a traced print file for download
STEP THREE ... you enjoy painting it!

Go Draw It Just THREE steps. Upload any Photograph or Image that you like. GoDraw.it will trace it for you and you may download a trace to print and paint. www.godraw.it

Start painting your favorite portraits or landscapes in an instant! Try it out, you will be pleasantly surprised.





Dr. Lynne Roberts



at
ST. MARTIN'S INSTITUTE



Dr. Lynne Roberts



Dr. Lynne Roberts is responsible for overseeing the learning and teaching strategy for the EMFSS programmes. She previously worked in the LSE's Teaching and Learning Centre and has experience of developing and delivering different teaching and study support sessions and tools in a variety of environments.

Dr. Roberts is also Programme Coordinator for the International Foundation Programme, launched in 2013-14 and delivered through approved teaching institutions.

Head of Learning and Teaching, University of London International Programmes at LSE, and academic co-ordinator for the International Foundation Programme.

Dr. Roberts was an educational developer at the LSE's Teaching and Learning Centre for six years and previously worked at King's College London and Imperial College London. She has a strong interest in education and international development.

Dr. Roberts acts as the academic co-ordinator for the International Foundation Programme and also has overall responsibility for the EMFSS programmes' learning and teaching strategy.

The visit to Malta by Dr. Lynne Roberts was a much awaited event. This was a definite means by which students could relate better to a direct representative of the London School of Economics. The lecturers at St. Martin's Institute have been applauded by the likes of Dr. Roberts for their aptitude in pedagogy, yet the smiling Dr. Roberts is always most welcome at this institute.

Students reading for LSE and EMFSS diplomas and degrees at St. Martin's Institute of Higher Education, had the

chance to clarify any issues that they might have stumbled upon. Dr. Roberts is always ready with a smiling answer and eager to clarify until she is sure that any new concepts and practices established at LSE are employed with the usual success at St. Martin's. The Management and Staff of St. Martin's Institute would like to thank Dr. Lynne Roberts for her time and dedication during both her visit to Malta and through all correspondence to and from the UK.



SMI

freshers's

DAY





sml students holiday photo competition

You are invited to join SMI students' holiday photo competition. You don't have to be a photographer, you do not need to have a professional camera, all you need is a keen eye and a great travel spirit J

Simply upload any photos (they can be a landscape, must-see attractions, memorable events with your friends and family etc.) Just shoot during this holiday and post on Flickr by using the below login details:

Entries for this competition will be accepted till Sunday, 3rd January 2016 midnight.

Share your adventures!



Username: smiphoto5@yahoo.com
Password: smi123456789



*Thank you to our
Readers*

2012 - 2016