



## UPDATE ON IMLI'S ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENTS AS COVID-19 PERSISTS

The Director of IMLI, Professor David Attard, would like to bring to the attention of the readers that despite the unabated persistence of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Institute has sustained its capacity building activities in novel ways to ascertain continuity without jeopardising quality assurance, whilst safeguarding the health and safety of its students and staff.

Since early March, the Institute's lectures were carried out remotely via virtual learning. It has constantly tried to improve its medium of lecture by trying various other applications meant to be fully functional and interactive, so as to ensure the very best service to its students. Members of Faculty and the Institute's staff have also been working online from home. This has enabled the Institute to complete the lectures for the current academic year successfully.

IMLI is also proud to announce that the end of year examinations for the current academic year (2019-2020), were successfully held online.

Furthermore, to ensure that students dedicated fully to the preparation for their exams in these difficult times, the Institute postponed the deadline for submission of the academic projects to early August. Accordingly, supervision and assessment of academic projects is still ongoing. Meetings between students and their supervisors are being held online and, to ensure the efficacy of the supervision, a system has been devised requiring that there shall be a minimum number of four supervision meetings between student and supervisor. The instructions given in these meetings are being recorded in the form of an electronic logbook. The newly introduced system enables Members of Faculty to maintain the necessary contact with the students for them to be able to continue the academic year despite the surrounding circumstances.

All of this has been achieved whilst constantly monitoring the changing situation and aiming to follow international practices, respecting the precautionary measures that are being taken by the authorities of the Host State. IMLI has also held sessions with the students instructing them on the recommended health and safety practices and recommending social distancing to prevent the further spread of the virus. The Institute has also devoted efforts to assist students in obtaining repatriation flights to their countries so they can return to their families in these difficult times.

As the health and safety of the Institute's students and Members of Staff remain its number one priority, the Institute is tirelessly working together to ensure the welfare of all.

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