Research, Innovation & Knowledge Transfer at the University of Malta

Prof. Inġ. Simon G Fabri

Pro-Rector for Research and Knowledge Transfer

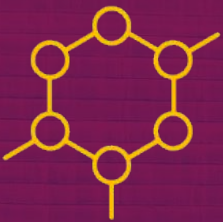# Some Key Facts on the University of Malta

250+ year history

11,000+ student body

3000+ staff members

14 faculties, 16 institutes, 13 centres and 3 schools

Arts, Built Environment, Dental Surgery, Education, Economics-Management-Accountancy, Engineering, Health Sciences, ICT, Laws, Media & Knowledge Sciences, Medicine & Surgery, Science, Social Wellbeing, Theology

Aerospace Technologies, Anglo-Italian, Climate Change & Sustainable Development, Confucius, Creative Thinking & Innovation, Digital Games, Diplomatic Studies, Earth Systems, European Studies, Islands & Small States, Linguistics & Language Technology, Maltese Studies, Mediterranean, Physical Education & Sport, Space Sciences & Astronomy, Sustainable Energy

Biomedical Cybernetics, Distributed Ledger Technologies, Educational Research, English Language Proficiency, Entrepreneurship & Business Incubation, Environmental Education & Research, Labour Studies, Liberal Arts & Sciences, Literacy, Molecular Medicine & Biobanking, Resilience & Socio-emotional Health, Conflict Resolution, Traditional Chinese Medicine

Doctoral School, Foundation Studies, Performing Arts

Research Support Services

Research Support Services Directorate

▶ Identification and notification of research grant opportunities

▶ Proposal writing and submission support

▶ Administrative coordination of internal research funds

▶ Laboratory infrastructure and equipment support

Project Support Office

▶ Pre-award guidance on project financing

▶ Post-award support of project budgets

▶ Management of award acceptance procedures and project closures

Corporate Research & Knowledge Transfer

Research Commercialisation

► Management of UM Intellectual Property (MUIP Ltd – finances start-ups)

► Commercialisation of IP through licencing and spin-outs

► Promoting identification, protection and exploitation of IP among UM staff

► Support and advice on IP and commercialisation

► TAKEOFF Business Incubation Centre

Collaboration with non-Academic Entities

► Collaborative R&D projects with industry

► Collaborative R&D projects with Government entities

► Internships and work placements

► Donations for research from business and commerce (RIDT)

► Consultancy and laboratory services (MUC)

RIDT

THE UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
RESEARCH, INNOVATION
& DEVELOPMENT TRUST

TAKEOFF
THE ENTERPRISE CAMPUS

Research Overview
Academic Year 2022-2023

New Research Grants
199
projects

€19M
total value

Publications
990
on Web of Science & SCOPUS

58%
open access

Doctoral Candidates
491
Ph.D. & Prof Docs

RSOs
315
including Post-Docs

Recent and Ongoing Major Infrastructural Projects

► Sustainable Living Complex	€48 million
► Engineering Research & Innovation Laboratories	€38 million
► Construction of ICT Faculty Building	€15 million

Innovation & Knowledge Transfer *Academic Year 2022-2023*

New Agreements with Industry, Commerce & non-academic entities

38
new agreements

€1.6M
total value

New Patents Filed
11

New Startup Companies
1
Garland Surgical

Other ongoing Initiatives

► Four startups in total since 2019

► TAKEOFF Seed Fund Award (TOSFA) in collaboration with MEFL and MDIA

► Maritime Seed Award (MarSA) in collaboration with Transport Malta

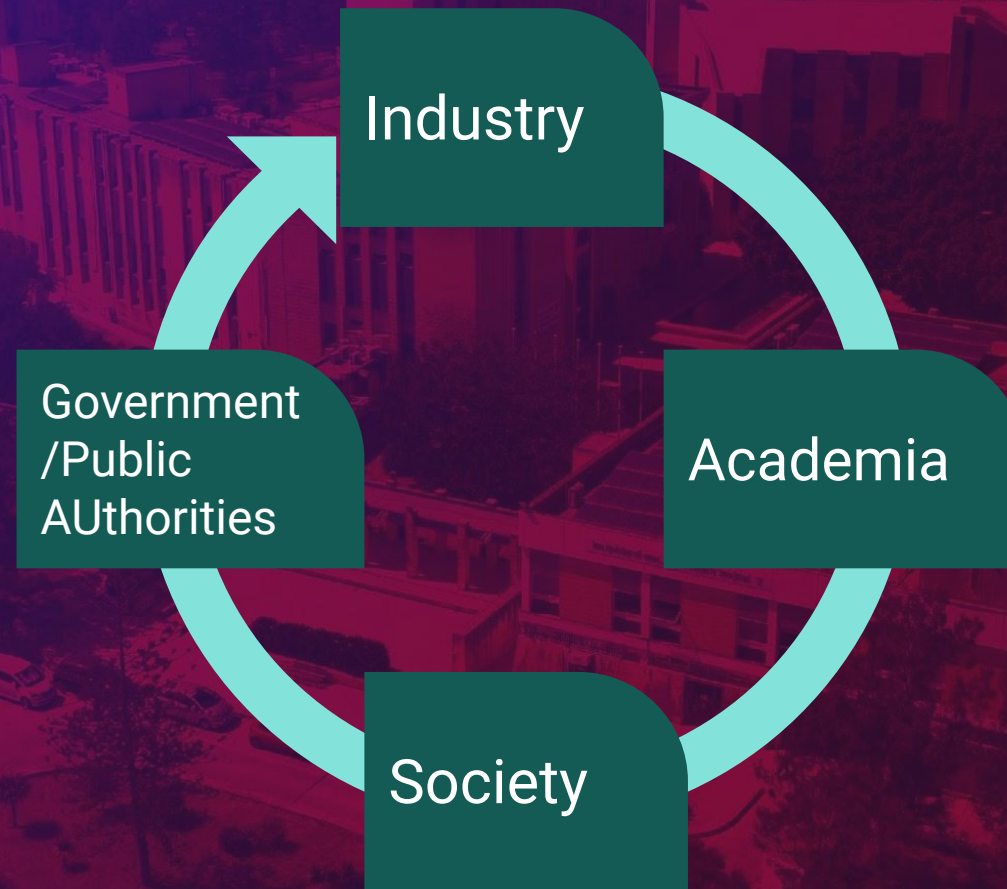► Postdoctoral Fellowships in collaboration with the Ministry and the Chamber

Few examples of collaboration between UM and…

▶ *Environment and Resources Authority* on related studies and surveys

▶ *Ministry for Public Works* on construction industry policies

▶ *Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade* on small island developing states

▶ *Fondazzjoni Dar Kenn għal Saħħtek* on services offered by the NGO

▶ *AIM Enterprises Ltd* on use of AI for monitoring of industrial compressed air systems

▶ *Abertax Quality Ltd* on Integrated Drives for Transport and PV powered water heating and battery systems

▶ *Cartesio Ltd* on an AI chatbot for the Maltese language

Startup companies:

The Innovation Quadruple Helix

- Industry
- Academia
- Society
- Government /Public AUthorities

► Translate R&I results from academia into societal and economic value

► Knowledge-based economy exploiting specialised HR and the creation of IP, leading to innovation that competes in global markets and boosts our economic & social growth

Thank you

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✆ (+356) 2340 2553   ✉ simon.fabri@um.edu.mt