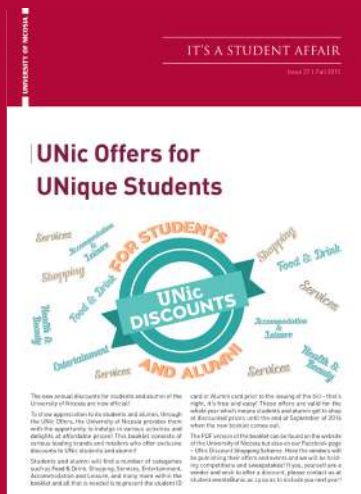


New Roads



The only constant in life is change, and change comes to shake up and reform norms. This year has been a period of remodeling and restructuring for our University, aiming at moving forward from the stable infrastructure its predecessors built, to the exciting and new roads that the new leaders will pave. We want to wish the best in their future endeavours to the ones leaving and welcome with open arms the new leaders and wish them all the success in their positions.

Find out more inside our issue from both the new and leaving. New Rector: Prof. Pouyioutas Philippos - Leaving: Prof. Attalides Michalis, New President of the University Council: Prof. Kartakoullis Nicos - Leaving: Dr Peristianis Nicos, New Vice Rector for Academic Affairs: Prof. Yamasaki Patrikiou Edna and New Head of Academic Affairs Department, Director of Academic Affairs: Dr Lois Petros.



Identity

It's a Student Affair
Issue 28 Spring 2016

Published by
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Leyana Daccache
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Dear Students,

Whether you are new to the University of Nicosia or a returning student, I urge you to reflect on the coming semester and determine what it is that you would like to accomplish within and beyond the classroom. You may never again find yourself at a time or place in your life that offers such a wonderful opportunity for growth. But to ensure this growth, you will need to challenge yourself. Toward that end, I urge you: resist that which is familiar and comfortable to you. You will determine whether these are "the best four years of your life." I hope that you use your time here to establish a personal standard of

intellectual engagement, community involvement and leadership, rich and diverse friendships, and the enjoyment of "generous enthusiasms" that you will sustain and build upon throughout your life.

You will find many opportunities through clubs and societies as well as events taking place all around Campus.

My colleagues and I wish you every success at the University of Nicosia and stand by to support and to challenge you as you take full advantage of this extraordinary chance you have been given.

Best wishes for a successful semester and for your exams!

Myria Thrassou
Head, Student Affairs Department



Dear students,

A very important period is approaching during which you are expected to excel at your examinations. As we live in extremely competitive times, I urge you to put your best effort into everything you do...

When times are hard, education becomes more important. Being educated is to be able to reason, to use your ability to read and write to your benefit and to be able to gain your spectrum of knowledge by surging deeper into the literate knowledge imparted to you.

Believe the words of Nelson Mandela: "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world!"

Here, at the University of Nicosia, we stand ready to inspire, to encourage and to support you to meet your goals and create a better new world!

Accommodation Office

- Variety of accommodation options (e.g. hostels, flats, studios, etc.)
- Information about lease agreements
- Student temporary accommodation at special rates
- Roommate services
- Useful information about airport pick up services



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UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA

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CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

Catch Me if You Can

New Rector



New Vice Rector for Academic Affairs

Professor Edna Yamasaki Patrikiou is the newly elected Vice Rector for Academic Affairs of the University of Nicosia. A Brazilian medical doctor and neuroscientist, she was the former Head of the Department of Life and Health Sciences of the University.

In her new role she is heading the Quality Assurance Office and coordinating activities developed by the Erasmus Office, the Learning and Teaching Institute and Academic Affairs. Her main goals include maintenance of academic quality and standards, adherence to academic policies and procedures, and further growth and development of academic programs and their infrastructure. In addition, she fully supports faculty training and the development of a digital, student-centered university.

Prof Yamasaki Patrikiou is committed to hard work, to be fair, trustworthy and respectful and to have an open door-policy. She will work with faculty, students, administration and staff to further enhance the UNic environment where people are motivated and driven by a common goal for research and teaching excellence.



"Through inclusive participation within an enhanced culture of collegiality, we can all work together towards building a student-centric pedagogic environment that supports excellence in teaching/learning and research."

On April 2nd 2016 a new era began for the University of Nicosia. The UNic Community said goodbye to Rector Professor Michalis Attalides, who served as the first Rector of the University since its establishment in 2007, and welcomed the new Rector, Professor Philippos Pouyioutas.

Professor Pouyioutas has completed 20 years of service at Intercollege and the University of Nicosia. Since his previous position as Vice Rector and Director of Academic Affairs, he has been assisting and working together with students. He was the main contact point for students as regards any of the academic issues they might have been facing. He has maintained an open door policy throughout the years and has always been supportive of the students. Moreover, Professor Pouyioutas worked closely with them in order to develop the Second Exam Period, which was introduced by him

three years ago. He has always been sensitive with regards the financial problems faced by students and has been a strong advocate for maintaining fees at the lowest level possible. Professor Pouyioutas has also supported student rights at various fora, such as the Evaluation Committee for Private Universities, DOATAP (Greek NARIC), KYSATS, Greek Bar Associations, etc.

Rector Pouyioutas has a clear vision and strategy with regards the development of our University. He is characterised by his commitment towards creativity, innovation and entrepreneurial thinking and has passionately worked during the last 20 years towards the establishment and success of the University. He has extensive experience in the field of Higher Education and the regulatory framework in Cyprus, Greece and the EU, and considers himself fully capable of anticipating and reacting to the external opportunities and threats that our University encounters. Furthermore, Rector Pouyioutas aims to prioritize fresh and innovative ideas that will utilize the vast collective intellectual capacities of our University and allow the institution to achieve its goals. In that respect, he considers that the student community is one of the most important stakeholders in this effort.

Rector Pouyioutas is a strong advocate of universities adapting to the Digital era and the knowledge-based society. He strongly believes in a fully digital educational environment that promotes teaching and learning innovation, inspired by technology and driven by pedagogy; thus, he considers emerging developments in Virtual and Augmented Reality to be crucial to the development of such an environment. In that respect, learning spaces (library, classrooms, labs, etc.) need to be transformed in order to support modern

pedagogical learning methods, such as problem-based learning and group work. Furthermore, he considers that it is crucial to ensure that there is no technological gap between the young students entering the University and the supporting human and technical infrastructure of the University.

Rector Pouyioutas thus aims at providing academic leadership to a modern university that maintains excellence in all aspects of education: teaching/learning, research and contribution to society. His efforts will aim towards ensuring that the University continues to comply with European Higher Educational reforms and adopt technological innovations in education. Rector Pouyioutas envisages such reforms focusing on the implementation of the knowledge triangle (academia, research, innovation) for the benefit of both the students and the teaching staff. This entails cooperation between the University and local and international research and innovation centres and industries, in order to promote applied research, build joint degrees and provide the opportunity to students to engage in practicums and internships. To this end, he has recently initiated, through the University Senate, the enhancement of all 1st Cycle

programmes (Bachelor Degrees), with the addition of a Practicum/Internship course.

The new Rector is also committed to promoting the offering of cross-border education through virtual learning environments, e-learning and/or blended learning modes of delivery. He strongly believes in Open Education that supports inclusive access and provides recognition of prior learning, including non-formal and informal learning. It is Rector Pouyiouta's view that education is a fundamental right of every citizen in the world and that no barrier should hinder or impede this basic right. Therefore, the University needs to be able to reach people of all ages from every corner of the world, in order to provide them with access to life-long learning and enable them to pursue their intellectual aspirations, educate themselves, and achieve their career aims.

Finally, based on his expertise in Quality Assurance in Higher Education, Rector Pouyiouta's vision is to position the University of Nicosia amongst the leading universities in Europe, offering high standard education that will make students and graduates proud of their institution.



CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

New Student Union

The new Student Union of the University of Nicosia for the academic year 2016-2017 is here. The aim of the Union is to provide a voice for the students to express any issues or concerns that they may have, as well as to create a community that will support them during their academic career. We wish them all great success in their duties.

1. President: Nikitas Lignos
2. Secretary: Emmanouel Stampoulis
3. Treasurer: Irene Savva
4. Organiser: Stavros Malas
5. Public Relations: Eleftheria Ziouli
6. Press Officer: Frixos Gavriil
7. Events Officer: Nicholas Soultogiannis
8. International Relations: Diamantis Stathakis

Alternates:

1. Andreas Kappais
2. Demetra Petrogianni
3. Kyriakos Ellinas

CATCH ME IF YOU CAN



New Director of Academic Affairs

The Department of Academic Affairs is committed to maintaining comprehensive and effective student guidance and advising system in order to provide the best possible support to students. The purpose of this system is to help students to acquaint themselves with their courses and programmes of study, various regulations and policies, to adapt with the educational environment of the University and support their academic development.

To accomplish the above, Dr. Petros Lois aims at working in order to make available continuously improving services through a dedicated, skilled and friendly staff assisting in the enhancement of both student information systems and services, providing and maintaining user-friendly and accurate information regarding all academic issues and an environment where students are respected and treated as responsible individuals.

The values that determine his priorities and will direct his steps and efforts are the following: Professionalism, Integrity, Respect, Teamwork, Innovation and Student-oriented environment.

Leaving Rector



Professor Michalis Attalides' academic career was established many years ago when his groundbreaking book: "Cyprus, Nationalism and International Politics" was published and after he launched into his diplomatic career.

His outstanding contribution to the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Cyprus was reflected in the important posts he held as ambassador becoming one of the most respected diplomats of our country.

In September 2003 he came to the Intercollege as the Dean of the School of Humanities, Social Sciences and Law. Practical, unassuming and wise he handled the affairs of the School through its early formative years. He was also a member of the European Studies and International Relations Department.

The respect he commands as a person, as an academic and Dean inevitably led him to the post of Rector on the departure of Professor Van Coufoudakis. As Rector he led the academic community of the University with wisdom, respect for academic values and respect for every individual within the University community. He also chaired the Senate.

Under his leadership this apparently unhomogeneous body functioned well and achieved a lot. Striking a sound balance between administration and academia, Prof. Attalides offered a lot to the young University as it progressed and tried to form its own identity.

Rector Michalis Attalides decided not to seek re-election in the last election.

He has served the University well giving it respectability both within the institution itself, but also amongst the wider public, the government and academia in Cyprus and abroad.

His gentlemanly and sincere attitude had over the years made my work more effective and meaningful.

Dr Emilios Solomou states "I would personally like to thank him for all he has done in the years he has been with us. His presence has certainly enriched the institution and all of us in different ways."

We wish him good health, happiness and a productive retirement and he is always welcome at the University.

P.S. this is a brief and not exhaustive tribute to Rector Prof. Michalis Attalides.

Feeling Good

Happiness is a lot of small things coming together. One of those things is personal fulfillment which one can get only by giving. This year's "Feel Good Festival – The Return", which took place on the 14th of April 2016 from 11:00 to 17:00 at the Open Amphitheatre of the University of Nicosia, gave fulfillment to lots of people. To begin with 9 Clubs and Societies participated and a plethora of university staff supported the event and made a commitment of making this initiative a success. The 30 activities planned raised approximately 1.200 euro that went towards the strengthening of the "Student Aid Fund" to support students in various ways.

The biggest congratulations though go to the team of students of THOM-240 (Managing Special Events) and their lecturer, who planned and supported this activity as part of their syllabus.

It is a great opportunity that speaks volumes as to how students can help and develop programmes and events to help their community.

The University of Nicosia hopes that next year's "Feel Good Festival" will be an even bigger success and that it will help more people in the process. We will all be there to offer our support!



CATCH ME IF YOU CAN



CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

Easing Heartaches

The event which the Volunteer Club is most proud of is the annual Bake Sale, which gets better and better every year. The first year, the Club raised money for the Autistic Association of Cyprus and even though it only raised the amount of 500 euros, it was appreciated more than anyone ever could. This year (third time in a row), the Club organised the Bake Sale on the 10th of December 2015, similarly to last year's Bake Sale, to raise money for the Student Welfare Fund of the University of Nicosia, which is a fund established to help students in need.

Once again, the University as a whole showed its appreciation, encouraging students to do more. It is very fulfilling to know that hard work pays off and those in a less fortunate position are being helped. Abraham Lincoln once said: "To ease another's heartache is to forget one's own". Which is a proven fact, as far as the Volunteer Club is concerned, that it is also fulfilling for the people who are helping to know that they are able to assist others, even with the slightest action.

The members of the Volunteer Club believe in the importance of volunteerism, as well as the sharing of the values of volunteerism with others. These are two reasons which led to the creation of the Club. The ability to help is an ability we all have; it just takes a small push for some people to do it. People do not realise that lending a hand every once in a while can make a huge difference to someone's life.

The Volunteer Club hopes that more young people will be involved in volunteerism over the years and that they will pave the way for future generations!

"You are Somebody's Type..."

On the 9th of March a Blood Donation took place at the Nursing Lab on the second floor of the Main Building of the University. In 2015 there were 62,000 blood units donated and 100,000 blood products transfusions in Cyprus alone. The need for blood units in Cyprus is extremely high because of the Thalassemia issue the island faces. It is very important that we all help to sustain the blood units and have available blood at all times.

The blood donation was organised by the Student Affairs Department in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, who sent nurses to carry through the blood donation procedures. A blood donation can save up to three lives for just a 325ml of blood. It can save someone who was in a car crash or someone with Thalassemia and also in surgeries, and there is no other way of collecting it but donating to this purpose. We are proud to say that



in Cyprus we have the highest donation rate in Europe compared to our population, which is very positive, so let's try to keep it up and keep donating to save lives.

If you accidentally missed the previous blood donation, don't worry. It is organised every semester, so make sure you follow the Student Affairs Department on social media and notice board for the next time you can save

a life. We are calling on all students, alumni, staff and faculty, as well as friends to join us in donating blood and saving lives.

All it takes is a few minutes of your time to "light up" a life!



CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

Taking Over

On the 31st of March the African culture took over our University. The African Society with the support of the Student Affairs Department brought an African taste to the night. The music, the clothes and entertainment lived up to the hype of the event. Traditional food was served to satisfy even the most demanding taste buds accompanied with drinks. The attendees had the opportunity to gaze upon and buy traditional African creations and clothes.

Theatrical performances and parade of traditional clothing took place as well to show off the African culture to the guests. Student from diverse backgrounds attended the event and all had an amazing time sharing with each other and enjoying this unique African evening. The African Society did an amazing job bringing their community together while also promoting their culture to others through entertainment and fun.



CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

Cretan Night

On the 27th of March, the Student Affairs Department of the University of Nicosia had the pleasure to host the first ever Cretan Night. In honor of the Cretan culture and people, the night was full of traditional food, music and dance.

The audience began pouring in around 9:30 pm as excitement started to slowly build. The volunteers from the Student Affairs Stuff and the Greek Society were up and ready as the tables started to fill up. The candles gave a magical essence to the decorations, with pitchers decorated with Cretan Night stickers and table cloths. The food and drinks were mouthwatering and carefully selected, with feta cheese, souvlakia and other traditional dishes accompanied of course with the national Cretan drink, Raki, which kept the spirits high throughout the night.

After the guests enjoyed the food and had a few drinks the amazing "Minoites" band took the audience on a musical journey with traditional Cretan songs. The Greek Society of the University of Nicosia accompanied the band with traditional dances. The guests had the opportunity to get on stage as well and show their moves, as the party started to heat up.

The Cretan Night was an amazing experience for the attendees. It was a great success in terms of celebrating the Cretan culture while introducing the guests to it. All the guests left the event buzzing and wanting more, as the event ended long after the dedicated hour. The Student Affairs Department numbers another great event and aspires to getting better in delivering remarkable experiences to students every time.



“MASLENITS”

A Spring Celebration

There are a lot of native Russian speakers in Cyprus but a gathering event for them is very rare. “MASLENITS” is the perfect day to bring everyone together and to share this day with other people as well.

“MASLENITS” in Russia is a public holiday to celebrate the arrival of Spring. They eat crepes and other traditional dishes. On February 26th, the Russian Society organised an event to promote “MASLENITS”, to introduce other students to their culture and celebrate as well.

On the day of the event, the Society’s members received a lot of help from friends, who came to support them and make this event possible. Some of them helped behind the bar, some at the buffet and some filled in positions where needed. The guests started to arrive as early as 20:30 when the final details were finished. As the ticket selling begun and the place started to fill up, the guests had the pleasure of enjoying home-made crepes with Russian dips, meat pie, potato pie and cabbage pie.

A small museum was also created, where one could appreciate some Russian traditional items such as metallic cup holders, a gramophone, a hat with ears, etc. The only problem

faced during the night was at the bar. It was an open bar event and everyone was waiting to order their drinks and with more than 200 people it created a bit of a hectic environment.

Apart from that, everything else ran smoothly. The event also included a dance performance from T.E.A.M the Hip Hop Dancing Center, as well as competitions, where guests participated and won valuable prizes. A DJ party followed, with dancing and socialising. The event ended on a high note. The majority of people loved the event and left with some amazing comments and positive vibes. Kyriakos Aristide, one of the participants stated: “I was very excited about the event and I hope we can have more of these events!” The group of Erasmus students also noted that: “It was one of the best nights”.

The president of the Russian Society wants to thank everyone who has helped with the event and also all the people who believed in them and were next to them to support them in every step of the way. He states that “It is one of the most important things, to have people around you who you can trust. A huge thank you to the sponsors: Absolute, Theos Cava, Uradio, Russian Media Group and Student Affairs Department.”



CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

The Road to Success

Every year the University of Nicosia’s Marketing Department offers the opportunity to students to participate in a career development experience. For the last three years the students of the E- Marketing (MKTG390) class and the students of the Social Media Marketing (MKTG301) class, under the supervision of their lecturer Dr Yioula Melanthiou, analyze and propose e-marketing strategies for companies based in Cyprus. The companies in turn, are invited as guest lecturers, sharing with students their invaluable insights and experiences, and offering additional advice and guidance for the assigned projects.

For the Social Media Marketing class, the Marketing Department has teamed up every year with CYTA, each year working for a different project assigned by CYTA. For the E-Marketing Class, a different company is chosen every year. After a successful collaboration with Lanitis Bros, this year SigmaLive offered the opportunity to the students to study and propose new e-marketing strategies. The best three projects were chosen and the respective teams were called to present their ideas in class. The first two teams, through a tie, were awarded by Sigmalive for their interesting and innovative ideas. The following students were awarded: Stephen Ugochukwu Anarado, Ashdjian Sylvia, Kittos Melis, Stavridi Elena and Mocanu Vlad.

This initiative is an invaluable experience for students since it offers hands-on experience with a company, which not only enriches their CVs but also potentially may lead to future employment opportunities in these companies through this programme... (see next page)

The University of Nicosia will continue to support these initiatives and offer its students a well-rounded educational experience.

A photograph of three people smiling for a photo. On the left is a woman with dark hair and bangs, wearing a dark hooded jacket. In the center is a man with a shaved head, wearing a dark jacket. On the right is a woman with long, wavy brown hair, wearing a dark jacket with a white fur collar. They are standing in front of a background of warm yellow streetlights and strings of purple and white Christmas lights. A building with lit windows is visible in the background.

Employees of the World



- Responding to calls for traineeship

applications posted by employers on websites or other forms of media.

- Communicating with a recognised work placement agency, which will help you find and negotiate a suitable traineeship – these agencies usually charge for their services.

When?

- The traineeship must have a minimum duration of 2 months and a maximum duration of 12 months.
- The duration and timing must be agreed and approved by the University of Nicosia, which is responsible for providing recognition of the learning outcomes of the traineeship.

Where?

- Erasmus traineeships can take place in all European member states and in any type of enterprise/organisation (with limited exceptions).
- Students should feel free to pursue their traineeship in any kind of company or organisation they wish.

Exceptions:

The following types of organisations are not eligible:

- European institutions (such as the European Commission)
- Organisations managing EU programmes (such as National Agencies) in order to avoid possible conflict of interest and/or dual funding
- National diplomatic representation (embassy/consulate)

Funding:

- The grant amount (calculated on a monthly basis) is proportional to the cost of living in the country of destination, based on estimates of the European Commission.
- It is your personal responsibility to arrange for your accommodation and living expenses with the amount of funding granted to you.

Prior to departure:

Prior to the departure the students are provided with:

- A Grant Agreement covering the mobility period and signed between the student and the University of Nicosia.
- A Learning Agreement regarding the specific traineeship programme, approved by the student, the University of Nicosia and the enterprise.

At the end of the traineeship period:

- For a traineeship, which is part of the curriculum, the University of Nicosia will offer full academic recognition for the period spent abroad, by recognising ECTS credits to the student's academic path.

- In case the traineeship is not part of the curriculum of the student, the University of Nicosia will provide the student with a Diploma Supplement or, in the case of recent graduates, a traineeship certificate.

The sooner the better!

The earlier you start your preparation for a traineeship, the more likely it is that you will find a suitable one for you.

There is a lot of competition for traineeship positions so you should start the process as early as possible.

For more information on Erasmus Traineeship (Work Placements) please visit the website:

<http://www.unic.ac.cy/study-with-us/erasmus>

Erasmus Office:

Millennium Building, 1st floor, M102
(09:00-18:00)

Contact:

Georgia Argyrou, Email: argyrou.g@unic.ac.cy, Tel.: 22841571/1752/1785/1727

CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

Lifetime Experiences

"The Erasmus+ programme and the Erasmus Office of the University of Nicosia in Cyprus gave me the opportunity to experience an amazing period abroad, as a Trainee and specifically in Finland at the University of Jyväskylä. When I was selected as a Trainee at the University of Jyväskylä as a Dance Teacher and Dance Assistant Teacher in the Faculty of Sport and Health Sciences, I was very excited. I knew very well that this experience in this country would be very challenging and the only thing on my mind was to successfully complete this challenge.

When I arrived in Jyväskylä, I instantly felt in love with the city and its people. Everything looked different and extraordinary. There were lakes, forests, trees, parks, pathways and bike paths everywhere. When I went to the University of Jyväskylä and met my supervisor, Mariana Siljamäki, for the first time, she made me feel so comfortable and familiar with her and so did many of University's staff. Immediately, I felt like a member of the Sports and Health Sciences department and I was eager to start working with my colleagues and students."

More about this Erasmus experience in the UNique magazine, issue 12.



Gearing Up

Careering

The Gentleman Blogger

The Marketing Society of the University was lucky enough to be a part of one of the most successful events of the year. Ms Yioula Melanthiou got in touch with a very inspiring person, Matthew Zorbas, who accepted to visit our University and share his journey to his success. Matthew Zorbas shared his experiences with the seminar's attendants on the 10th of December 2015.

Matthew Zorbas has been featured in Dolce & Gabbana, done photoshoots for Famous Grouse and many other famous brands. Working his way up from zero, Matthew Zorbas became a fashion icon for men within two years of launching his own blog, called "The Gentleman Blogger". Even though this was a marketing-related event, the room was full, comprised of not only marketing students but also people who were curious to hear about his journey.

The beauty of marketing is that it is a subject that covers many fields including advertising, media and so on and so forth. The great thing about Matthew's presentation is that he emphasised the importance of blogs, which unfortunately are very much underestimated nowadays – especially since Facebook came into the picture. He proved to us the power of blogs, demonstrating his own success and the best thing about it, is that he turned his hobby into a career. He made the attendants of the seminar reconsider the use of blogs and widen their understanding of social media outside typical Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn environment.

The Marketing Society of the University of Nicosia aims to promote the importance of marketing and, also, to enrich the knowledge of those outside the "marketing circle", in a way that they practically benefit rather than just feeding them information. So make sure you stay tuned for future events!

"You cannot climb the ladder of success dressed in the costume of failure" –

Zig Ziglar, American author, salesman and motivational speaker.

Throughout the academic year, the Careers Office of the Student Affairs Department organises a number of seminars to enhance students' capabilities and pave the way for their successful career path, as well as to add to their university experience. On April 7th, students and alumni of the University of Nicosia had the opportunity to put the knowledge they acquired from the seminars to test, during the annual Careers Exhibition Day.

With more than 40 companies partaking in the annual event, students had the unique opportunity to come in first-hand contact with representatives of some of the most sought-after companies in Cyprus, as well as worldwide, making themselves stand out from the pool of numbers and CV's.

This also gives a great opportunity to the companies to interact with potential candidates and have a more representative understanding of the people behind the applications.

Some of the companies and organisations participating were Baker Tilly Klitou, KPMG, Deloitte, PwC, Grant Thornton, the Ministry of Labour, the European Parliament Office in Cyprus and the European Commission Representation in Cyprus and many more. One of the objectives of the event was to allow students and alumni to explore the variety of employment possibilities that are available in the market. It is, therefore, highly encouraged that students attend the event and make the most out of their experience.

The ever-growing number, of both companies and students attending throughout the years, is indicative of the interest from both sides. With

the job market slowly (yet surely) opening to new possibilities, Human Resources representatives met with hundreds of our University's students, exchanging business cards and CV's. Experience from previous years shows that a few of our students managed to enrich their careers by attending the exhibition and scored an interview for either an internship or even a job. The Careers Exhibition is also a fantastic way to expand your business network and meet several people from various industries and, with that, see the current requirements of the ever-changing job market.

Whether one is in their first year of studies or their last, attending the Careers Fair will give them the opportunity to build a firm foundation for their career path, while, at the same time, providing them with valuable personal experience. Continuing with the annual tradition, this year's exhibition, once again, proved to be a roaring success, leaving both students and company representatives eagerly anticipating for next year's Careers events.



GEARING UP



Out N' About

Sports for All



#do join our Sports Office community and like our Facebook Page: Sports Office University of Nicosia. Learn our latest news instantly!

The academic year 2015-2016 was a big success year for the University of Nicosia/UNic Sport. As such, 2015 was concluded with the Cyprus Universities Championship (CUSF) Award Ceremony that took place at the European University in December 2015. The ceremony was a celebration of the Cypriot University Sports and it was dedicated – especially and specifically in administering the awards – to the Cypriot Universities that excelled during their performances in the previous academic year. UNic excelled indeed and was awarded with golden, silver and bronze medals for the following sports:

1st place: Futsal Men, Volleyball Women, Volleyball Men, Basketball Women, Basketball Men, 100m Running Men, Table Tennis Single Women

2nd place: Badminton Single Women, Sambo Men, Judo Men

3rd place: Judo Men, Tennis Men, Table Tennis Men

Congratulations go to the coaches Ms Artemis Pavlidou, Mr Marios Yiaxis and Mr Michalis Matsentides and to all UNic students who competed in the championships.

Currently, the CUSF is still in progress

and the best of the results await to be celebrated and make the UNic community proud once more! Additionally, several sports clubs worked in an attempt to engage as many students as possible to physical activity for fun, health and socialisation, with no or extremely low cost. Aerobics and Fitness Club, Table Tennis, Outdoor Activities, Cricket, Tennis, Sailing and Futsal and Basketball tournaments are planned to take place during April. The focus is always on sports-for-all. In addition, within the framework of Erasmus+ and Horizon 2020, the Sports Office will co-organise sports and physical activities, that will take place during April. They will be announced soon – stay on hold!

Further and consistent with the tradition of UNic being represented at the National Parade of the 25th of March, UNic participated in the 25th of March 2016 parade.

In parallel, the 3rd Sports Awards Ceremony is scheduled to take place on the 17th of May, 2016. The University of Nicosia will honour its students-athletes who currently compete in the CUSF. It will certainly be a moment of university life that will nicely conclude the academic year 2015-2016.



Dialogue with a Diplomat

Ever since its conception, the International Relations and European Affairs (IREA) Society envisioned providing a platform for students interested in politics, history and current affairs to broaden their horizons and develop their skills in the field. Last year was a stepping stone for IREA, which resumed its activities after a hiatus period. During the first semester, the Society, with the help of Professor Giorgos Kentas of the International Relations Department, organised a discussion on the Russian-Ukrainian crisis in the form of a debate. In the second semester, a lecture was organised by the Society, delivered by the University's Law Lecturer Dr Antonis Stylianou, concerning the British Sovereign Base Areas of Cyprus. Shortly afterwards, another round of debate gave students the opportunity to discuss the possibility of the Greek debt being forgiven.

The new academic year started with the announcement of a new lecture series entitled "Dialogue with a Diplomat", organised in collaboration with the Diplomatic Academy of the University of Nicosia. The objective is to acquaint students with the elusive world of diplomacy by inviting members of international diplomatic service for a short lecture on a topic that concerns their country.

The series kicked off on the 1st of December with Ms Pamela Tremont, Deputy Chief of Mission of the United States Embassy in Cyprus under the topic of "NATO in the 21st Century". Ms Tremont thoroughly explained the historic objective and dimension under which NATO was created in 1949, the challenging period during the Cold War, as well as the framework under which it operates today. Throughout her speech, it became evident that due to the changes, particularly after the end of the Cold War, NATO's 28

member states are facing demanding global challenges unlike any other in the past.

According to NATO's "Article 5", member states commit to take up military action in case of an attack against another NATO member state, specifically stating "an attack against one Ally is considered as an attack against all Allies". With the ongoing crisis in Ukraine and the recent violations of Turkish airspace by Russia, many states are urging NATO to take action against progressive Russian aggression. Furthermore, Ms Tremont also noted that Montenegro could possibly be the newest member to accede to NATO after successfully completing the membership steps required.

The lecture was concluded with Ms Tremont enthusiastically answering the various questions posed both by the University faculty and the students, with the definite promise of expanding the series with the addition of more countries.



OUT N' ABOUT

Exercising Photography Skills

The Photography Club with the support of the Student Affairs Department organized a series of events this year and they are still going strong. The first event was a Photography Exhibition in the University, where they had the chance to share their beautiful photography and the stories behind the photographs. They continued strong with a walk in the beautiful old Nicosia to capture the beauty of town and create bonds between them. The third adventure was a Treasure Hunt in old Nicosia on the 1st of April where they had fun discovering and exercising their photography skills as well. If you want to join the Photography Club or learn more about their events follow them or the Student Affairs Department on Facebook.

Photography club: <https://www.facebook.com/unicphotographyclub/?fref=ts>

Student Affairs Department: <https://www.facebook.com/StudentAffairsDepartment/?fref=ts>



Treasured Moments

Great Explorations

Exploration is in the human genes, consequently the African Society decided to explore Cyprus on the 19th of December 2015. The bus departed from the University of Nicosia at about 10:45 am with several impatiently longing students to live the adventure.

The transition to Larnaca was smooth while the tour guide, Ms Georgia, reeled out the island's history on the way. The tour launched at Meneou village and then Kiti, continuing over at the beautiful ancient Panayia Angeloktisti mosaic church built in the 11th century. After about half an hour at Kiti, the bus left for the 18th century Hala Sultan Tekkesi Mosque near Larnaca salt lake. It was time to relax at the beach side for lunch and sport activities. At 3:00 pm the group was reunited and visited the 9th century St. Lazarus church, where they explored the ancient tomb of St. Lazarus. The group departed from Larnaca at about 4:00 pm and arrived in Nicosia 40 minutes later with all of the buzzing students.

According to the students, that joined the excursion, the trip was very exciting. They also expressed their enthusiasm and wish for similar trips, organised every semester by the Clubs and Societies, as they give them the opportunity to discover Cyprus and have stories to tell in the years to come!



The Psychology Society has been very active this year. The highlight of these activities, though, was the charity event organised, which aimed at donating toys to impoverished families with many children during the Christmas holidays. Resembling the procedure followed by Santa's elves down in North Pole Avenue, the initiative was broken down in three stages.

First came the collection of toys, which was, truly, long and challenging. Nevertheless, there were some caring individuals who went into the trouble of finding some well-functioning used toys. Some people went even further and bought new toys for the purpose. The collection of toys took about a month, but eventually it was rewarding and worthwhile.

Then the toys had to be wrapped up. During that time, the president of the Society and a handful of volunteers, feeling like the Santa's team in his little toy lab, wrapped up the toys while listening to Christmas carols. The only thing in their mind was the look on the children's faces when given the gifts. Indeed, this was their first thought that motivated them to carry through the process. After wrapping up and categorising the toys, based on gender and age, the volunteers were all up for a group photo in front of a mini mountain of beautifully wrapped up toys, feeling confident about their work and effort!

The final and most important stage was the materialisation of their initiative: to give the toys to the children. After getting information about certain impoverished families from "Alkionides" and the "Volunteer Body Cyprus", they had the opportunity to either welcome them at the University or visit their house and deliver the toys themselves. In any case, they had the chance to get a glance at their way of living, talk with the parents, get to meet and have conversations with the children.

The experience of giving these toys to these children was truly unique. That pure joy on their face while opening their little arms to receive their gift, the excitement while tearing the wrapping paper in pieces to see what's underneath, the smiles and the giggling while opening the toy, their curiosity and gratefulness, as well as their parents' emotional moment while watching a stranger giving a toy to their child, was an experience that the Psychology Society's volunteers, as they say, will cherish forever. Specifically, the Society's president said: "I was never more proud to be a psychology student than during those very moments. It was that particular look in those children's eyes that made us experience what we call 'magical moments' – the moments were people remember how it is to be human!"



To Be or Not to Be

To be or not to be a Human Biologist? And the right answer is yes. The Human Biology Society has been “transcriptionally” active this year. One of the highlights of the events organised, and the first event during December, was based on Stem Cells and Transgenic Animals. A scientific talk conducted by Dr Stavros Malas, Head of the Developmental and Functional Genetics group, who shed light on this very interesting topic.

According to Dr Stavros Malas, stem cells are remarkable, totipotent cells, which can give rise and differentiate into many various cell types during early development and growth. Scientists work with two kinds of stem cells: the “embryonic” and the “somatic” one. Both of them can be distinguished from other types due to their ability to reconstruct themselves and because they can be induced under specific conditions to become tissue specific cells with unique functions. Furthermore, the medium plays a vital role in controlling and guiding not only the developmental fate of stem cells but also the state that should stop their division, otherwise they can be highly cancerous. What is more, during the seminar students were inspired by the importance of stem cells for living organisms. In the 3 – 5 day embryo, blastocysts, the inner cell mass, give

life to the entire body including all the specialized cell types and organs. Concerning their regenerative abilities, stem cells could be the key for treating diseases like diabetes and heart disease. All members of the Human Biology Society came in touch with the knowledge of reparative medicine strategies and how healthy cells replace damaged cells in adult organisms.

The lecture offered the opportunity to study the processes biologists follow in order to create a transgenic mouse. The techniques were the embryonic stem cell method and the pronuclear method. According to these techniques, the formation of a mouse over expressing a specific targeted gene is taking place. The valuable information that students received has to do with the evolution of cell lineages, as well as the basis of some fetal congenital malformations. Last but not least, the combination of stem cells research and the study of transgenic systems could lead to the next steps necessary for future applications of tissue and organ engineering, with the further progress in Developmental Biology. What would be the next presentation topic of the Human Biology Society? You will know soon. Keep calm and be a stem cell because you can be anything you want to be!

OUT N' ABOUT

The Significant Step

The Student Affairs Department of the University of Nicosia took a significant step towards connecting with its alumni this year by launching a series of free seminars. The seven seminars covered a wide range of professional sectors launching with Arbitration (Law) and continuing with Career Development, Personal Development, Strategic Marketing, Nutrition and Dietetics, and Entrepreneurship. The seminars provided certifications for CV enhancement and some of them directly gave the chance to professionals to cover hours for their professional titles or professions such as the Career Development and Nutrition and Dietetics seminars.

It was vital that our University gave our alumni motive to continue their life learning experience, but also give them a voice to express what they would like to see their University offer. Thus, it was extremely important that feedback was given for the future to tailor these seminars in the best possible way for the alumni.

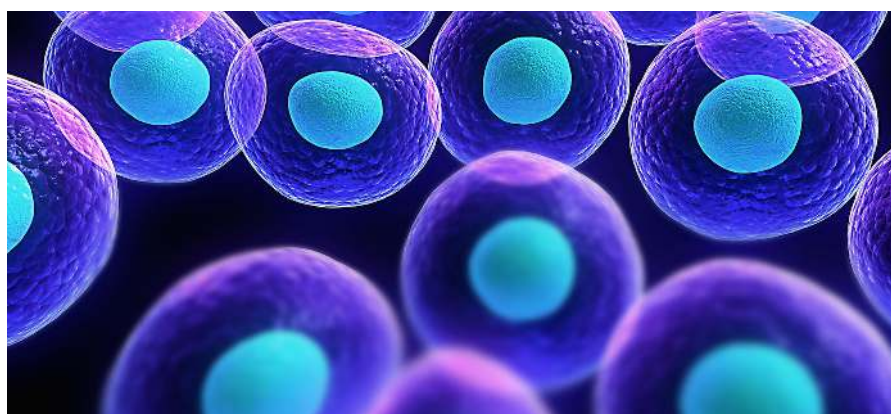
The Student Affairs Department and the University of Nicosia will continue to strive to create an active alumni community to ensure the tradition of the University in providing high standards of education not only with the education programmes but also after graduation. If you haven't heard about the seminars or any services for alumni, make sure to follow the Student Affairs Department on Facebook, send an email or make a call to learn more.

For additional information about the events and more:

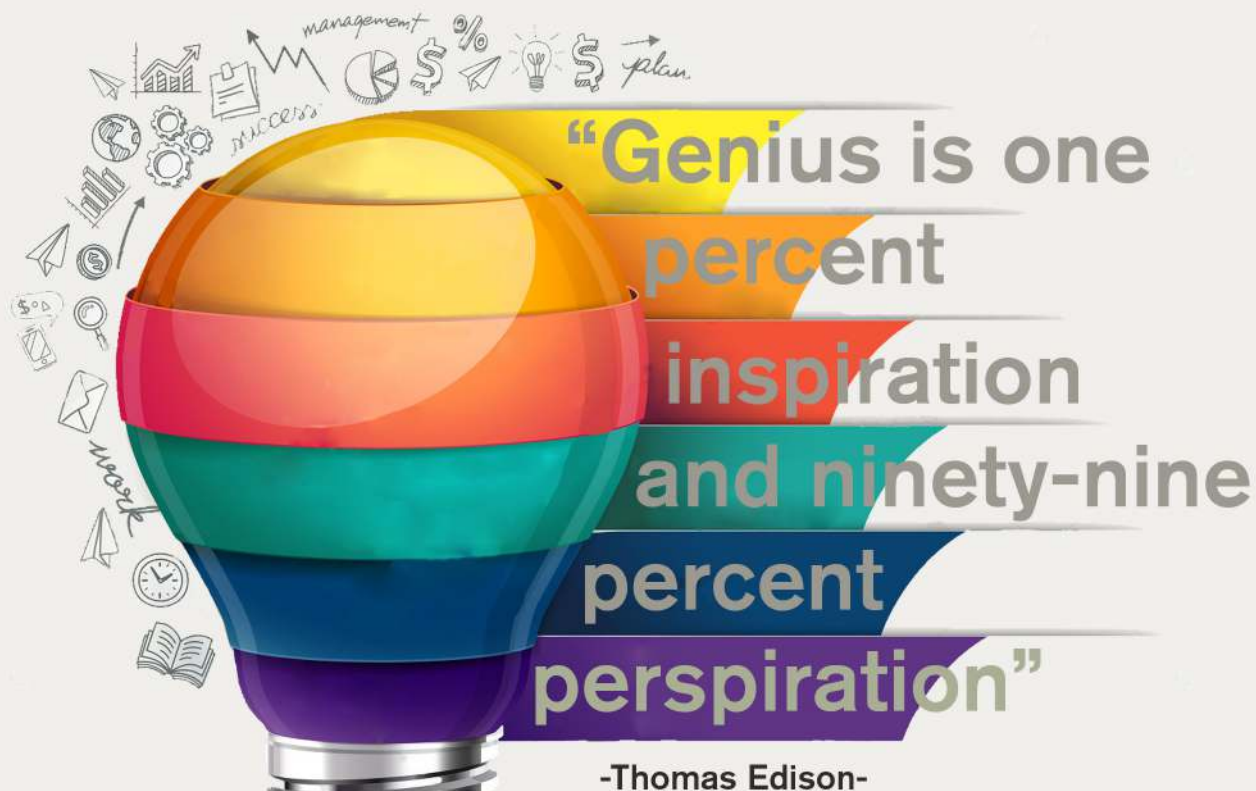
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StudentAffairsDepartment/events>

Email: alumni@unic.ac.cy

Telephone: 22842150



Careers Office



- Job & Internship Opportunities
- Seminars & Workshops
- Student Success Center
- Preparation of CV's & Cover Letters
- Mock Interviews
- Careers Exhibition Day



Student Affairs
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