

The NEW STUDENT App.

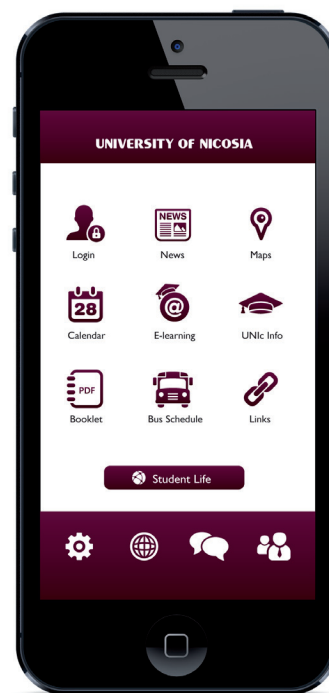
The Distance Learning IT Unit, in line with IT trends and student needs, has developed the first in-house mobile application for the University. The app, which will be available on Windows Store, Google Play and App Store, aims to facilitate dissemination of useful University-related information. The app offers a range of key student resources from the Student Intranet and the UNic website. Moreover it has a GPS location tool that will assist students who are lost by helping them find all the UNic buildings.

This app is a stepping stone to future app development at the University of Nicosia. The initial idea of the app development was to bring basic features that students use every day to the palm of their hand. This then expanded to the idea of how those features might be improved to increase student interaction with University systems. The app will be available very soon on Android, Apple and Windows devices. Some of the key app features include:

Login: The Login function integrates with the University's Student Intranet. By logging in with their intranet details students will have access to their class and exam schedule, grade report and courses available for registration.

Bus Schedule: The bus schedule provided by OSEL - Transportation Organization of Nicosia District includes all the routes that buses travel and the time schedule for each route. Routes to or from University campuses are clearly marked with a U to allow students to quickly find which bus to take in order to reach their campus.

Maps: Many times at the start of the semester students have trouble finding the buildings for their classes. With



the Maps' feature students can select where they want go and they will get directions about how to navigate to their chosen destination. This feature can also be used to locate all other University buildings and certain University offices.

Phonebook & Service Hours: These two features are necessary for anyone attending the University. Students often find that they need to contact offices but don't know where to find the telephone numbers. This provides a solution to their problem by listing the numbers of all the main offices.

Other features currently available are: UNic Info, Faculty (Who is Who), Calendar, Distance Learning, Erasmus and Medical School.

The members of the team (Ali Tayari, Mobin Hosseini, Pooya Charmarai Tohidi, Daryna Dombik, Dr Chris Alexander) express their appreciation to Dr Dmitry Apraksin, for his invaluable assistance in API creation, and are additionally thankful to Professor Dimitris Vrontis for his support of this project. Special thanks to Dr Florent Domenach, Christos Savva and Gregoris Vishnumolakala for their helpful feedback at different times during the project.



Identity

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Dear Students,

As we approach the end of yet another semester we reflect on the current economic crisis and the difficulties faced by many of our students. The University is trying to do everything possible to help our students to continue their studies. These are difficult times and we all need to embrace ourselves and look ahead with optimism. Initiatives like the "FEEL GOOD FESTIVAL" should point the way toward co-operation and support for those people who are really in need.

Now it is more important than ever to work hard, to be innovative and explore new opportunities. Adversity can help us to reflect, to be self-critical, and ready to adjust. Education is valuable: it provides the means that lead to survival and cultivates the prospects for a better future.

We owe it to ourselves, our families and our country not to give up.

Myria Thrassou Head, Student Affairs Department



Dear Students,

Another academic year is almost over... My hope is that you will look back on a fine, long list of accomplishments, achieved because you aimed high, took chances, lived up to your potential, and most importantly did some great things!

Lately we had to deal with a lot of changes happening in our society and in our lives. Difficult times are not forever and we can and will overcome the crisis. The university aims to support our students in all possible ways.

Do the very best you possibly can in everything you attempt! Remember that if you are determined to get something, nothing can stop you from achieving it!

Keep working hard!

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join us:



CARING FOR OTHERS

Caring for Others

Life Drops



Donating blood is one of those little things that despite costing nothing to one's pocket could be worth millions for someone else. Driven by this perception, the Student Affairs Department in cooperation with the Cyprus Blood Establishment and student volunteers of the University organized this year's second blood drive on the 4th of April, 2013.

Donating blood doesn't cause any harm. On the contrary, it provides the donor with a warm feeling of blissfulness. Generally, anyone who is in good health, between the ages of 18 and 65 and of an average weight may donate 450ml \pm of blood. There are some restrictions as to when healthy individuals are not eligible to donate. A volunteer donor should contact

the local blood donating center* for specific advice or questions regarding the eligibility to donate blood.

The blood donation is a procedure that takes no more than about 45 minutes; however the actual blood donation takes only 5-10 minutes. Prospective donors are asked to register by completing a medical history questionnaire. The medical staff then checks the donor's blood pressure, pulse, temperature and iron level. If everything is fine, he/she may donate blood. There is no health risk associated with a healthy individual giving blood. After the donation, the donor is asked to stay in the refreshments area for at least 10 minutes following the donation to start replenishing fluids by having soft beverages.

Donating Blood Can Save up to Three Lives!

450ml of blood can be separated into three components: Red Blood Cells (shelf life of 35 days) that are used primarily for surgery and trauma patients, Plasma (frozen and stored for one year) is mainly used in treating shock and burn victims and Platelets (good for only five days) are primarily used to treat cancer and leukemia patients.

Time is crucial in saving an injured person. Rushing to give blood only when hearing the siren of an ambulance may already be too late. Thus preemptive blood donation is essential.

The adequacy of blood is everyone's responsibility. Blood means life, and the only source is every single one of us, the volunteer blood donors.

Thank you for participating in the blood donation. We hope to see the ones who did not make it (because of low blood pressure, etc.), giving blood next year.

**A blood bank station is located in Nicosia at Egkomi Health Center (tel.22809052-22809048). Blood donations are also conducted at all general hospitals around Cyprus.*

Moodle It

In an effort to create a paperless environment at the University of Nicosia, Moodle Intranet has been adopted to replace the current method of distributing course material to students. For the time being, this applies only to some courses with the vision to establish it, as a new University policy.

The Moodle Intranet is an easy-to-access, user-friendly platform. Lecturers will provide students with a course password and then students will have access to everything in order to successfully complete their course (including lecture notes, additional readings, videos etc). Moodle Intranet gives the lecturers the opportunity to provide students with a variety of instant feedback activities and interactive materials, such as quizzes, podcasts, videos and forum/Q&A activities.

In each course, students will have access to the Course Forum. This forum is a central place for students to ask questions to their lecturer and fellow students. Any announcements about the course (class cancellations, change of room, exam dates) may be placed on this forum by the lecturer. For students, it could be used to co-ordinate study groups or exchange ideas about course activities. Live chat and emailing will also be available for students to communicate with each other within the system.

All students are encouraged to get to know Moodle Intranet as they will be hearing of it more often in the future.

Moodle Intranet is available at:
<http://moodle.intranet.unic.ac.cy>



Feel Good Festival

A different farewell was organised on the 23rd of April, at the Open Amphitheatre to send off the academic year 2012-2013 and help students in need. The farewell festival's main aim was to make everyone feel good!

The students', faculty members' and lecturers' spirit was uplifted by volunteering to help with the organisation of the festival, by participating in the different activities (e.g. traditional Cypriot games, rope pulling, egg runs, etc.), donating dry food and other essentials, by buying freshly made (by the University students and staff) tasty cakes, falafels, tsourekia, chocolate chunk cookies, pastries, etc. or just by quenching their thirst with a cold frappe specially made for the day by the lectures' own hands. The event was truly a great success and a lot of students will eventually benefit from this truly valued act of fellowship and kindness. During the event, Live Link by Super FM shared its blissful tunes with students and staff visiting the event.

The event's incredibly pleasant and uplifting atmosphere left everyone with pleasant memories. All participants and visitors promised to promote the event during the next academic year as well. Even more events will follow which will support our students best interests.



CARING FOR OTHERS

GEARING UP

Click for Clubs

Talking to the "Heads"

A 'Talk to the Heads' meeting took place this year as well. Students were given the opportunity to talk to the decision makers of the University. The motto of the session was 'If you are seeking answers to your questions, ask the Heads!'

Dr. Peristianis, the President of the University's Council and Dr. Solomou, the Executive Vice President for Administration of the University, were there to answer to all of the questions students had, listen to their ideas and suggestions, and express their readiness and willingness to help.

The session took place on the 28th of April 2013, at 12:30, at the 2nd Floor Conference Room. Be there next year to ask, express any complaints and make yourself heard!

Participating in the University's various clubs and societies provides students with the opportunity to become active and have the most incredible experiences.

Starting a club or a society at the University is an easy procedure. The University provides both funding and support to a wide range of student-run clubs and societies. These include sports and activities such as dance etc. In addition, there are ethnic societies, where students can mingle with students of different cultures and share their backgrounds.

This year's student-run clubs and societies were extremely active and brought a constant smile to everyone's face. Having students that are so active is a blessing for every university as it uplifts the students' quality of life. The next few pages are dedicated to some of the societies and their work during this year. We hope that this blessing will be proliferated next year!

Just a handful of the societies offered in 2012-13:

- Arab Society
- Dance Club
- Design Society
- Erasmus Society
- Human Biology Society
- Indian Society
- Iranian Society
- IREA Society
- Law Society
- Literature Society
- MBA Society
- Russian Society
- Ukrainian Society

Design Society

Design is one of the most loved-to-have careers by today's students. Designers get themselves involved with designing breath-taking creations which consume countless hours of their life. However, it is undeniably worth it!

The Design Society is open to all students who have an interest in art and design, and focuses on the fields of graphics designing and multimedia. The society works to promote and encourage different forms of visual expression and appreciation of the arts and design around campus. Along with the Department of Design and Multimedia, it organises several discourses, competitions, events, workshops and seminars such as the Poster Exhibition at the 'Scarabeo' and the Gallery restaurant of the University, the 'Game Development' seminar, as well as the T-Shirt bazaar at the Feel Good Festival and several more.

Arab Society

Those who didn't attend the Arab Society's event on the 16th of May 2013 missed an amazing opportunity to enjoy an exquisite night of arabic music, belly dancing and shisha!

The main aim of the event was to give the participants a glimpse into the warmth of the Arab culture. The annual Arabian Night took place at the Open Amphitheatre and started with an opening speech from the president of the Society. The attendees had the opportunity to taste the exquisite delicacies of traditional Arabic food, while listening to oriental beats and tunes flowing in the back-





ground. After a delicious dessert, a breath-taking belly dance show followed, while several lucky participants were bubbling away on their nargileh. The event ended with everybody on the dance floor... dancing!

Dance Club

The University Dance Club provides the opportunity for students to dance in a relaxed atmosphere. Students and staff can join the Dance Club for an incredible dancing experience. Anyone with a passion for dancing who is eager to learn and have lots of fun can still 'move those hips on campus'. The University provides its students with free dance classes until the end of the academic year, such as: Greek, Latin and Hip Hop. This year the dance classes were held at the Dance Studio 1 (School for the Deaf).

Literature Society

The Literature Society of the University has been quite active this year. Its eager members organised poetry showers throughout the academic year as well as several illuminating lectures discussing poetry and literature. The Society's events will conclude with the Society's final farewell gathering at the end of the semester where all of its members and invited lecturers will enjoy a night of intriguing literature and captivating poetry.

All in all, the Literature Society aspires to further develop next year. It aims at publishing newsletters and hold more meetings where those who appreciate literature and poetry will be given a chance to discuss their favourite authors with

other hobbyists similar to Madame de Stael, Madame Geoffrin and Madame de Tencin salons of the pre-Revolutionary France.

African Society

The clubs and societies also provide support to the Cyprus minorities community associations to promote the improvement of practices and policies in relation to international students. The African Society organised an extraordinary African Cultural Night on the 28th of March at the Millennium Cafeteria.

The night was a true success starting with a few words about Africa by the beautiful presenter, followed by a multicoloured fashion show of modern and traditional outfits to symbolise African culture that amazed everyone, and ended with incredible dances. The beats of the drummers were so loud, fast and hypnotizing that they echoed throughout the cafeteria inviting everyone to a vigorous dance. By the end of the dance the dancers were gasping, trying to keep up with the upbeat rhythm of the drums. Participants couldn't help but leave the cafeteria with a smile on their face.

The African Night's and the African Society's goal is to increase awareness and demonstrate the different cultures that coexist in the African continent, their customs and traditions. All in all, it proves that the inclusion of such events in local community programs can be particularly beneficial for all parties. Intercultural understanding and interaction is possible.



GEARING UP



GEARING UP

Sign Out Unemployment



On the 18th of April some of Cyprus' finest companies, with a focus on the boom industries of the new millennium, attended the 12th Careers Exhibition that took place at the Millennium Cafeteria. The companies advised students on current vacancies and opportunities for the future. It was a chance for the students to ask employers face-to-face what working for them involved, what to do when looking for a job and find out what opportunities exist in the industry the particular companies belonged to. It was obviously an excellent opportunity for every student. Final year students and graduates found out about job vacancies recently available. In addition first year students - since it is never too early to start career planning - evaluated possible career paths and work experience needed for jobs they aspired having.



Even if a student planned to travel before starting his/her job hunting, the exhibition provided him/her with the appropriate and valuable information in advance for when he/she decides it's time to look for a job. The Careers Exhibition constituted an excellent opportunity to gain a good understanding of what is available.

For those who did not attend the Careers Exhibition this year, do not miss the 13th Careers Exhibition next year.

Come along and find out more about the possible employment choices you may have!



Some of the participating companies/organisations:

Amdocs
Apola Human Solutions
Baker Tilly Klitou
BDO Ltd
Cablenet
CNP Laiki Cyprialife
Consulco Ltd
Cyprus Association of Physiotherapists
Cyprus Computer Society (CCS)
Cyprus Consumer Association
Deloitte Cyprus
Eurofast
Grant Thornton (Cyprus) Ltd
Horwath DSP Ltd
Human Resource Development Authority of Cyprus (HRDA)
Hyperion Systems Engineering
Intercollege Globaltraining
Lanitis Bros Ltd
PriceWaterhouseCoopers
SEK Youth Department
TEN-DEOK
University of Nicosia
WorkForce Cyprus



GEARING UP

Closer to Success

During the Academic Year 2012-13 the Careers Office organised the following Seminars/Workshops:

Note Taking Seminar/ Time Management Seminar/ Stress Management Seminar/ Professional Appearance Seminar/ Self Confidence Seminar/ CV Writing Seminar & Interviewing Techniques Seminar/ The Importance of Positive Attitude at Work Place/ Academic Writing and Conducting Research Effectively, Unemployability in Cyprus/How to give a presentation/ What employers want from young graduates/ Consumerism/ CV Writing and Interviewing Techniques Seminar/ A to Z- How to Ensure a Job/ Careers Exhibition Day and Success in Exams Seminar.

The duration of each seminar was approximately an hour long and the participation was free of charge for all students and alumni. All participants received a certificate of attendance.



THE NEW STUDENT APP

Available for Apple, Android & Windows Devices



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