

Junior College Multi-Disciplinary Conference:

Research, Practice and Collaboration

Breaking Barriers

18-20 September 2018

& Pre-Conference Events, 17 September 2018

1. Conference venue and dates

Ġ.F. Abela Junior College, Ġużè Debono Square, Msida
MSD 1252, Malta

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Email: mdconf.jc@um.edu.mt

Tuesday 18 September 2018

Wednesday 19 September 2018

Thursday 20 September 2018

2. Conference Topics and Call for Papers

This multi-disciplinary conference encourages learning through difference, and particularly this year, through the breaking or affirming of paradigms in the following areas of study: the social, natural and human sciences; arts and the humanities; education; business; technology and the environment.

All the great scientific discoveries and critical theories in these subject areas have encouraged out-of-the-box thinking; they have helped enrich our own reasoning; they have contributed to the expansion of each other's viewpoints. Hence, breaking down barriers, becomes not only an individual activity, but also a collective one. Many scholars and practitioners today appear to depart from traditional research intent on feeding one's own particular discipline; many try to engage in multi-disciplinary projects addressing the broader questions raised by society. In essence, many scholars are often seeking answers to questions that lie beyond the confines of their own discipline, thus breaking traditional barriers and reaching new grounds.

In an era of change, we are obliged to ask ourselves which are the discoveries, concepts or theories that have changed perspectives, challenged stereotypes, and illuminated issues. The multi-disciplinary nature of breaking down barriers can thus provide us with a universal language that breaks down cultural differences allowing us to peer through the prejudices that separate us as different ethnicities, different nationalities, and different religions. The exercise of breaking down barriers could thus be utilised to form more inclusive and more tolerant identities in our societies.

We call for papers that look into the theme of “Breaking Barriers” in the following areas:

- Education
 - Education in Society
 - Education for Social Justice
 - Education and Employability
 - Differentiated and Inclusive Education
 - E-learning, Digital Literacy and ICT in Education
 - Multi-Ethnicity and Multilingualism in Maltese classrooms
 - Curriculum Development and Education Policy
 - Hyper-Textuality and Learning in Literature
 - The Crisis of Foreign Language Learning in Malta
 - Non-Verbal Communication Strategies and Pragmatic Competence in Language Learning
 - Science Education
 - Art Education
 - Physical Education
 - Health Education
 - Business Education
- The Social, Natural and Human Sciences
 - The Social Sciences
 - Diversity, Inclusion and Gender studies
 - Science and the Humanities
 - Theory and Practice in Science
 - Discoveries and Breakthroughs in Science
 - De-fragmenting the Scientific Borders
 - Unlocking the Entrepreneurial Potential of Scientists
- Arts and the Humanities
 - Language(s)
 - Literature(s)
 - Translation
 - The Crisis of the Humanities
- Business and IT
 - The Economy, Sustainable Development and Socio-Economic Justice
 - The Dynamic Business World
 - Artificial Intelligence (AI)
 - High Quality Data and Advanced AI Algorithms
 - Blockchain Revolution
 - Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
 - Law and Marketing Ethics
 - Balancing Financial, Social and Environmental Obligations
 - Crypto Currencies
 - Past, present and emerging technologies and devices that enhance ICT
 - Cloud-based Computing
 - Outsourcing and key processes in a Supply Chain paradigm
 - Digital threats due to the Computerization of Business Processes (Cyber Threats, Ransom Ware)
 - Big Data and Data Mining
 - Digital Forensics and Contemporary IT needs
 - I-gaming

3. Pre-Conference Academic Activities

This year our academic event shall be hosting two separate pre-conference events: a Philosophy symposium and a Physics workshop which shall be addressing specialised issues pertaining to the disciplines such as Ontology and the didactics of Physics. These shall be held on the 17 Sep 2018 at the same venue of the conference. Further details on themes and speakers shall be announced in the future.

3.1. Pre-conference Physics Workshop

Date: 17 Sep 2018

Workshop title: **A vertical path proposal based on hands-on experiments on magnetic and electromagnetic phenomena.**

Workshop keynote speakers: Prof. Marisa Michelini (Udine), Dr Daniele Buongiorno (Udine), Dr Viola Rossana (Udine). Physics Education Research Unit, University of Udine (Italy).

3.2. Pre-conference Philosophy Symposium

Date: 17 Sep 2018

Symposium title: **Ontology in a contemporary context.**

Symposium keynote speaker: Prof. Maurizio Ferraris (Torino).

A series of papers by Labont (Laboratorio di Ontologia - Università di Torino), University of Malta and Junior College scholars shall be presented.