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*Editorial*

## **A Time to Celebrate**

**Cristiana Sebu**<sup>\*1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Department of Mathematics, University of Malta, Msida, Malta*

Dear readers and authors of Xjenza Online, as Editor-in-Chief, I am very pleased to announce the release of the second issue of 2021 of Xjenza Online. This year has been quite a rollercoaster, but as we are now entering 2022 it is the time to embrace the new and celebrate the past achievements of the journal and, moreover, of the scientific community it serves .

I would like first to thank our team of copy editors who contributed to this issue: Luke Collins whose contributions for the past two years have been invaluable to ensure the publishing continuity of the journal during difficult times while upholding quality and accuracy of content, Yun-Yun Tseng for her enthusiasm, proficiency and hard work, and Julia Curmi who has recently joined our team in her wider role of Science Officer of Malta Chamber of Scientists.

The issue opens with a follow-up study by McBerry et al. on tooth whitening procedures which focuses on the participants' self-reported subjective evaluation of their experience.

In the following empirical paper, Ayrton Zarb investigates the impact of larger class sizes on the academic performance by students and, hence, encourages management teams in schools to design smaller classes to enhance students' academic wellbeing and advance the economic and social development of society.

The issue concludes with an insightful article by Grech et al. on the supply-side and demand-side shocks inflicted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

I would like to take the opportunity to wish all readers and contributors of Xjenza Online, a New Year 2022 with good health, happiness and scientific achievements! To continue in the festive spirit, the Editorial Board of Xjenza Online is delighted to announce that two special issues of the journal dedicated to the celebration of Malta's top scientists will be released soon.

\*Correspondence to: C. Sebu ([cristiana.sebu@um.edu.mt](mailto:cristiana.sebu@um.edu.mt))