



## 2015 Researcher's Mini-Symposium

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Postgraduate researchers from the Faculties of Science, Engineering, Medicine & Surgery and Health Sciences gathered for a forum to present their research interests. The symposium was held in the afternoon of 30 January 2015 in the Engineering Lecture Theatre.

The meeting consisted of two sequential sessions of 13 speakers with an intermission for socialising and networking between colleagues. Each researcher gave a brief 4 minute overview of their current research projects. Some of the topics presented included piezoelectric materials, neural circuitry of the brain, structures of proteins, colorimetric pH indicators, statistical modeling, apoptosis-inducing potential of curry powder extracts on cancer cells, broadband antenna design, osteoporosis, neurodegenerative research with fruit flies, aspirin-induced cell death, macrobenthic assemblages, genetic variation in the Maltese population, auxetic materials, biogenesis in drosophila, design of micromirrors, co-crystallization of lanthanide complexes, surface coating stainless steel, university students statistical view on divorce, development of electrical circuits, rats behavior to nicotine, analysis of the human genome, surface treatment of biomedical titanium and molecular chaperones.

The symposium promoted multi-disciplinary networking between various university faculties. Participants were invited based on research topic diversity and gender balance. Refreshments during the intermission were provided with financial support of the Malta Chamber of Scientists.

### List of Postgraduate Researchers and Affiliated Departments

L1: Rosalin Bonetta – Department of Physiology and Biochemistry  
L2: Russell Farrugia – Department of Micro- and Nanoelectronics

L3: Maria Cardona – Department of Chemistry  
L4: Nowell Zammit – Department of Physiology and Biochemistry  
L5: Lara Azzopardi – Department of Statistics and Operations Research  
L6: Clayton Axiak – Department of Biology  
L7: Melissa Formosa – Department of Applied Biomedical Science  
L8: Eman Farhat – Department of Physics  
L9: Michelle Briffa – Department of Physiology and Biochemistry  
L10: Gianluca Farrugia – Department of Physiology and Biochemistry  
L11: Lourdes Farrugia – Department of Physics  
L12: Jeanesse Scerri – Department of Physiology and Biochemistry  
L13: Marija Mangion – Department of Biology  
L14: Joanna Vella – Department of Physiology and Biochemistry  
L15: Keith Azzopardi – Metamaterials Unit  
L16: Rebecca Borg – Department of Physiology and Biochemistry  
L17: Jordan Gauci – Department of Micro- and Nanoelectronics  
L18: Stephanie Ghio – Department of Physiology and Biochemistry  
L19: Duncan Micallef – Department of Chemistry  
L20: Sarah Farrugia – Department of Metallurgy & Materials Engineering  
L21: Lara Montebello – Department of Statistics and Operations Research



**Figure 1:** The poster is compiled from figures from the 26 presentations given by postgraduate researchers at the Researcher's Mini-Symposium on the 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015 held in the Engineering Lecture Theatre at the Msida campus, University of Malta.

L22: Barnaby Portelli – Department of Micro- and Nanoelectronics

L23: Caitlin Davies – Department of Physiology and Biochemistry

L24: Clint Mizzi – Department of Physiology and Biochemistry

L25: Michelle Cortis – Departments of Anatomy and Metallurgy and Materials Engineering

L26: Marita Vella – Department of Physiology and Biochemistry