



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

NEWSUOC
e - Newsletter

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UoC ▶▶ WOMEN IN SCIENCE



The University of Crete welcomes the
Erasmus+ Students of the spring semester
2023



Student exhibition: «Memento Mori: Portraits
of Death in European Art
(15th - 17th century)»

NEWSUOC

EDITORIAL TEAM

Director:
Georgios Kossioris

Edition Coordinator:
Tonia Tzanaki

Editorial team:
Georgios Kossioris
Antonia Konstandeli
Agapi Vathianaki
Stella Melina Vasilaki

Graphic editing – illustration:
Anna Arkoulaki

The English Newsletter is partly based
on the [Greek Newsletter of UoC](#)

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The official start for



INGENIUM

The **INGENIUM European University** has officially started! Rectors and representatives from the 10 partner universities attended the kick-off meeting at the **University of Oviedo** in Spain on the 24th and 25th of January 2023 to officially initiate the INGENIUM activities.

In the historic building of the University of Oviedo that dates back to 1608, the teams of European universities discussed the collaboration and coordination of the projects for the next four years, shared their views on issues related to the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) and explored thoughts and ideas for further partnership.

The University of Crete was represented by Prof. Georgios Kossioris, Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, Lifelong Learning, International Relations & Outlook, Prof. Pavlidis Michail, Vice-Rector for Research & Development, Prof. Argyros Antonis, Head of the Department and Professor of Computer Science and Mr. Chalkiadakis Georgios, Deputy Director of the University's Center of Infrastructure Technology Services Informatics & Communications. The official Consortium Agreement was signed in Heraklion, by the Rector of University of Crete Prof. George Kontakis.



Snapshot from the 1st official meeting of INGENIUM in Oviedo



Snapshot from the 1st official meeting of INGENIUM in Oviedo

The UoC will coordinate and develop the Digital INGENIUM Working Package. For the next four years, teams from each INGENIUM University will work together, sharing views and expertise, in order to create the suitable infrastructure that will allow the achievement of the common vision of INGENIUM.

INGENIUM represents a new model of university education in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA). The heterogeneity of different European Institutions becomes their greatest strength and through cooperation and teamwork, new research and education partnerships are achieved, while

pedagogical innovation and entrepreneurship is promoted in the key activity areas for each Institution.

INGENIUM represents a new model of university education in the EHEA. The heterogeneity of different European Institutions is actually their strength and through cooperation and teamwork, new research and education partnerships are achieved while pedagogical innovation and entrepreneurship is promoted in the key areas of activity for each Institution.



The UoC Rector Prof. G. Kontakis and Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, Lifelong Learning, International Relations & Outlook Prof. G. Kossioris at the 1st INGENIUM meeting

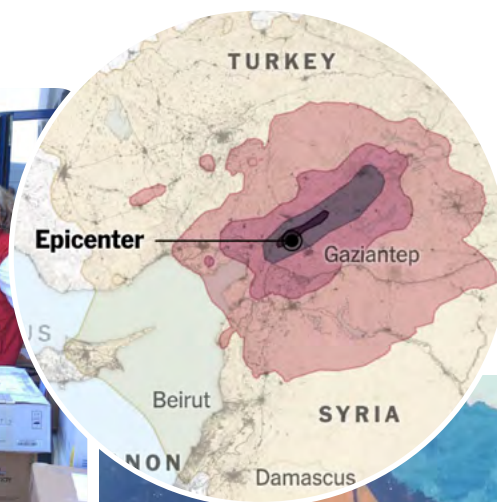


Snapshot from the historical building of the University of Oviedo

more info



THE UoC IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS OF TURKEY AND SYRIA



The University of Crete, in collaboration with the Regional Departments of the Hellenic Red Cross in Rethymnon and Heraklion, contributed to the collection of necessary resources for the relief of the great humanitarian crisis caused by the terrifying earthquake in Turkey and Syria. The university community joined forces with the local community in both cities and responded to the UoC invitation to provide aid to our neighbours. We would like to thank the active student community and the staff of the UoC who offered volunteer work for the collection, categorization and packing of the items collected. The University of Crete always embraces actions of solidarity and promotes humanitarian values, especially in times of crises and in tragedies such as the catastrophic earthquake in Turkey and Syria that sadly claimed thousands of lives. The UoC community would like to express its deepest condolences and stands ready to provide any needed assistance.



Snapshot from the collection of humanitarian aid for the earthquake-stricken areas in Turkey and Syria by UoC student volunteers

The Natural History Museum of Crete (NHMC) honors women scientists

“One is not born, but rather becomes, a scientist”

The **Natural History Museum of Crete** of the UoC celebrated the **International Day of Women and Girls in Science** on Saturday February 11 with a special event featuring a series of talks and workshops that introduced distinguished women scientists and their personal & professional journey to the public.

Ioanna Keklikoglou, Associate Professor at the Department of Biology of the UoC presented her work in “A chronicle of understanding the biology of cancer: a modern Lernaean Hydra” and shared her inspirational story of climbing the hierarchical ladder in research.

Giota Poirazi, Director of Research at the Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology of the **Foundation for Research and Technology (FORTH)** presented “My life and experiences as a scientist, wife and mother” and shared useful tips for time management and multitasking as a researcher and a mother.

Dr. Kiki Chrysopoulou, Chief researcher in **FORTH** / Institute of Electronic Structure and Laser presenter the important work of the FORTH Gender Equality Committee: “Efforts to make gender equality in research a reality” and interesting statistics about the gender gap observed amongst top positions in research and education.

Vasiliki Pavlidou, Researcher at the Institute of Astrophysics and Associate Professor at the Department of Physics of the UoC presented her work and explained to the attendees how and why “The Universe is comprehensible”, partly thanks to women scientists that we barely know!

Nena Galanidou, Professor at the Department of History and Archaeology of the UoC presented her experience “Between science and motherhood: women’s challenges at the 21st century” together with the Palaeolithic Archaeology Team of the University of Crete.



The event also included the following parallel workshops & games for families and children and –perhaps- future scientists:

- **“Painting with code”**, Dr. Zambeta Kalogeropoulou, Automate Testing Engineer: how to code in Python and make images!
- **“Exploring by playing with the periodic table of chemical elements”**, Dr. Smaragda Lyberopoulou, Dr. Konstantina Alexaki, Dr. Loukas Michalas and Stelios Ninidakis: explore the world of the Periodic Table through a fun board game and discover the chemical elements around us.
- **“Women in Astronomy and Space”**, board game.
- **“Drawing space missions”** for children aged 5+
- **“Observing the properties of light through the equipment of an astronomical team”** (telescope, spectroscope, aurora borealis and more!) UoC Astronomy Student Group: Fay Papadiamanti, Maria Anevlavi, Dimitra Armenou, Amalia Baizop, Anna Vervelaki, Katerinioviou Triantafyllaki & Michaela Pardalaki.
- **“Women scientists that made history!”**, board game and collage by the Exhibition team of the Natural History Museum of Crete
- **“Experimenting and discussing about chemistry!”** **Chemistry Outreach Group (COG)** of the UoC Department of Chemistry.

SUCCESS STORIES



**The Haematology Department
of the University of Crete (UoC)
& the Public Cord Blood Bank of Crete**

Prof. **Helen A. Papadaki**
and the Cord Blood Bank of Crete

The distinguished work of Dr Helen A. Papadaki, Professor of Haematology at the School of Medicine of the UoC, has been widely recognized by the scientific and academic community in Greece and abroad and serves as an excellent example of women's success in science and leadership.

The Haematology Team of the UoC is focused on the treatment of patients with all types of haematologic diseases and accepts patients from all over Crete and beyond for special diagnostic procedures and treatments such as autologous haemopoietic stem cell transplantation and CAR-T cell therapies. As regards to research, the Haematology Team is focused on Bone Marrow Failure Syndromes with a particular interest in Chronic Idiopathic Neutropenia.

The [Public Cord Blood Bank of Crete \(PCBB Crete\)](#) was established in 2016 at the School of Medicine of the UoC and was the result of the hard work and inspiration of Prof. Helen A. Papadaki and her research team. The PCBB Crete aims to enrich the national repository with umbilical cord blood units for transplantation of HLA-compatible patients with haematologic malignancies.

Recent research in **PCBB Crete** focusing on the characterization of the HLA immunogenetic profile of the Cretan population, under the auspices of the 7th Health Region and the Prefecture of Crete in collaboration with the Institute of Computer Sciences [Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas \(FORTH\)](#), Heraklion, has revealed significant HLA differences between the Cretan and other European populations. Thus, the PCBB Crete is particularly important for the promotion of haemopoietic stem cell transplantation at the national level and beyond.

The research in the PCBB Crete has been also extended in the field of **Regenerative Medicine** aiming to develop innovative cellular and cell-free products for basic and clinical research purposes using the inappropriate for transplantation umbilical cord blood units. Currently, an interesting project using the umbilical cord blood-derived plasma for the treatment of diabetic ulcers is under investigation in collaboration with the Vascular Surgery Department of the University Hospital of Heraklion.



Helen A. Papadaki is Professor of Haematology at the University of Crete and Head of the Department of Haematology of the University Hospital of Heraklion, the Public Umbilical Cord Blood Bank of Crete (PCBB Crete) and the [Haemopoiesis Research Laboratory of the Medical School](#). She is currently the coordinator of the [European COST \(Cooperation in Science and Technology\) Action EuNet-INNOCHRON](#) (European Network for the Innovative Diagnosis and Treatment of Chronic Neutropenias), implicating researchers from 32 countries, aiming to explore chronic congenital and acquired neutropenias and promote novel diagnostic and treatment approaches. EuNet-INNOCHRON gives particular interest in the education, training and career development of young researchers by promoting short-term scientific missions, training schools and multiple networking activities. Prof. Papadaki also coordinates the project **"Efficacy optimization of umbilical Cord Blood Banks and Marrow Donor Registries based on HLA profiling"** funded by the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation.

The [Haematology Research Team](#), apart from Professor H.A. Papadaki, consists of the Associate Professor [Charalampos Pontikoglou](#), the post-doc Researchers Grigorios Tsaknakis, [Irene Mavroudi](#), [Aristea Batsali](#), [Ioanna Gontika](#), the PhD candidates [Irene Fragiadaki](#), [Nikoleta Bizymi](#) and [Erasmia Boutakoglou](#) and the Research Assistance [Athina Damianaki](#).

Excerpts from the interview of Prof. Helen A. Papadaki at the radio show "Women in Leadership Positions"



Of course, I did not let the "environment" change my decision and at the end, I had a wonderful time there! I learned a lot by living in a place where there is no immediate access to medical care and I felt that I had a lot to offer. I worked with enthusiasm and empathy, I never experienced discrimination because of my gender, people respected me, and of course I respected them too. Plus, I had a lot of free time to study but also to enjoy the wonderful landscape of Sfakia that I will never forget!

About the potential of women to succeed...

"I strongly believe that women can achieve all their goals but of course we need self-confidence and a supportive work and family environment, equal to men. We should not be distracted by existing stereotypes and barriers regarding the position of women in the family, work and society that result in gender gaps and inequalities.

One of the most meaningful experiences of my life was my choice to serve as a rural doctor in Anopoli of Sfakia, an isolated area of Crete where no women doctors had worked there until that time (1988-89). As I was a woman and a young doctor, many colleagues tried to discourage me, listing all the difficulties and challenges I would face.

My experience in Sfakia early in my career, helped me to realize that we should not put dilemmas or barriers to ourselves or let stereotypes and other people's opinions to influence our decisions".

About the glass ceiling effect and work-life balance...

"The *glass ceiling* is a term describing the invisible and hard-to-track barriers that prevent women from reaching top positions. My feeling is that these barriers can be sustained not only by the society or our work environment but, unfortunately, even by ourselves when we generate dilemmas between career development and family that finally limit our aspirations and opportunities and result in self-deprecating behaviors. Sometimes, not only men but also women in top positions can discriminate

against other women, and we can see the *queen bee phenomenon*, where these women expect others to “serve” them. Caring for your team members, respecting their work and efforts and making their life easier by taking measures for work-life balance, for instance, is a matter of ideology, not gender. This is what I strongly believe and what I am trying to do for my colleagues.

My involvement in decision making positions has helped to introduce gender-inclusive strategies. For example, as an EHA Board member and Chair of the Membership Committee I have suggested a career-based rather than age-based membership with the advantage of a low fee, whereas as a Principal Investigator in national and international consortia I tried to give as many opportunities as possible to women scientists.

When I decided to become a mother, I did not put the traditional “career or motherhood” dilemma to myself. It was important that I had a supportive partner and environment. Being a mother has been the most important role of my life. Of course, the academic career is demanding and time is not unlimited, therefore, I have restricted the time dedicated to myself. However, I never gave up my yoga practice!”

About the current state of gender equality at the School of Medicine...

“Haematology is an inspiring but also demanding specialty. There is an increasing number of women Haematologists during the last years and even in the Hellenic Haematology Association we have women chairs for two consecutive terms. In our Department, in the University Hospital of Heraklion, among 13 staff members, 10 are women Haematologists! In the Haemopoiesis Research Lab, among the 10 researchers, 8 are women!



The Academic environment of the Medical School, however, is a typical example of the underrepresentation of women in demanding positions. Although there are more women than men graduating from the Medical School and even receiving a PhD diploma, we have only 35% of women in the Academic Staff and among A level Professors only 21% are women. What we need in the Medical School is not only to develop policies on gender equality – which is of course important- but also to evaluate the KPIs and re-schedule the policies when the goals are not reached.

“

My advice to young women/scientists is to work hard and probe deeply into their scientific field and when the opportunities related to their work arise, to follow their dreams without seconds thoughts and dilemmas

”



*The radio show “Women in Positions of Leadership” is broadcasted by the UoC radio “rastapank” and presented by Konstantina Tsantaki, student of Medicine and member of the Gender Equality Committee of the UoC. The radio show is part of the actions of the Gender Equality Committee of the UoC to promote positive role models to young women and the important work of distinguished UoC women.



The Gender Equality Committee of the UoC

The University of Crete (UoC), respecting its democratic principles and acknowledging the major importance of developing policies for gender diversity and equality, formed the **Gender Equality Committee (GEC)** in June 2020 as an advisory body to the University Senate and the Administrations of the Faculties and Departments. The goals of the Committee are to promote gender equality throughout education, research and administration procedures to contribute to the prevention and/or confrontation of gender discrimination and sexism as well as to provide mediation and accountability services in cases of discrimination; to organize events in order to raise awareness about discrimination and gender competence; to promote the inclusion of the gender perspective in education and research, and to systematically collect and analyze data related to gender equality and diversion in the academic community.

Gender Equality Committee

The Gender Equality Committee of the UoC has thirteen (13) **working groups** dedicated to different aspects of the promotion of Gender Equality. These groups have prepared among other, the GEC Regulations, UoC Senate, the Code of Ethics for Gender Equality in Research, which is annexed to the Funding and Management Guide (FMG) of the Special Account for Research Funds (SARF). In addition, Regulatory/Informative texts on Discrimination/Harassment and a Guide "Dealing with Sexual Harassment at the University" have been prepared and are available in the GEC website. A Guide to "Using Non-Sexist Language" has been completed and soon will be posted.




Εργαστήριο Φιλοσοφικής Έρευνας & Μεταφυσικής

ΔΙΑΛΕΞΗ

Gary Ostertag.
The Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai & The Graduate Center, CUNY

«Including Early Modern Women and Feminist Philosophers in the Undergraduate Philosophy Curriculum»



ΠΜΣ: Φιλοσοφία, Γνώση, Αξίες & Κοινωνία

5/12/2022
ΟΡΑ: 18.00

σύνδεσμος zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82433604767>

Gender Equality Plan

GEC has designed (2022) and is implementing the [Gender Equality Plan of the University of Crete](#) (GEP, 2022-2024) to promote gender equality in the Institution. It was endorsed by the University of Crete Senate. Through the design, implementation and monitoring of the GEP, the University of Crete aims to serve and advance gender equality in the academic life of the Institution (in the administration, education, research, communication, interaction among its members), and to strive to safeguard the principle of acceptance of diversity, denouncing all forms of discrimination and fostering a culture of inclusion. It also seeks to reduce inequalities in professional development, to mitigate discrepancies between men and women in research, and to achieve a higher share of women in administration and decision-making positions, thus contributing to the promotion of research, the advancement of scientific knowledge and innovation, and the creation of an equal academic community. These goals will be pursued by means of systematic recording and monitoring of all data.

The GEP actions and initiatives that were implemented in 2022 by the UoC GEC include:

- ◎ A series of seminars and lectures, taking place throughout the year, both online and with physical presence, on discrimination issues.
- ◎ A two-month workshop on Gender Equality in Research directed towards UoC young researchers and an online seminar on "Gender Equality in Research and Innovation" open to the UoC academic community
- ◎ Seminars (1/wk, 4wks) for the use of non-sexist language for UoC students, academic and administrative staff
- ◎ Promotional activities on the subject of "Women - Science - Public Space", such as presentations of female role models in the UoC media, and the Webinar on "Including Early Modern Women and Feminist Philosophers in the Undergraduate Philosophy Curriculum" by Prof. Gary Ostertag

In 2023, the GEC announced the annual Scholarship Award for the best Master's and PhD thesis on Gender Issues for graduate and PhD students of the UoC.



The University of Crete welcomes the Erasmus+ Students of the spring semester 2023



On Monday 13 February 2023, the University of Crete (UoC) welcomed 70 new Erasmus students from different Higher Education Institutions worldwide.

The International Relations Department organized welcome events in both campuses (Gallos Campus in Rethymno and Voutes Campus in Heraklion) where the Erasmus students had the opportunity to receive useful information and tips about their studies in UoC, student life in campus and in the city. Volunteer students of the UoC and members of the ESN team participated in the Orientation Day with presentations and campus tours.

The staff of the International Relations Departments wish all the Erasmus+ students of the spring semester 2023, a pleasant and fruitful stay at the University of Crete!

Snapshot from the orientation day in the two UoC campuses (Rethymnon and Heraklion)



Erasmus+

Erasmus+ Heraklion city tour

The Municipality of Heraklion welcomed the new Erasmus students of the University of Crete with a captivating city tour on Monday February 20, featuring the most important monuments of the old city of Heraklion.

The city tour focused on August 25th Street, where the most important monuments of the city are located. These monuments bear a centuries-long history of fierce battles with conquerors, natural disasters, and the cultural imprint of its different settlers (Arabs, Venetians, Ottomans). Today Heraklion is the commercial center of the island of Crete and home to the most famous archaeological attraction of Crete: the Palace of Knossos.

We would like to thank the Municipality of Heraklion and the tour guide, Mr. Manos Koukakis, for offering their excellent welcome services to the Erasmus students of UoC.



Erasmus city tour— Morosini fountain in the old city of Heraklion

Erasmus+ VET project **3D2ACT** Training Activity in Nicosia, Cyprus



The C1 training activity (Blended Learning Mobility of students) of the Erasmus+ VET (Vocational Education Training) project “**3D2ACT: Fostering Industry 4.0 and 3D Technologies Through Social Entrepreneurship: An Innovative Programme for a Sustainable Future**”, took place in Nicosia, Cyprus, between the 13th - 17th of February 2023.

This five-day seminar was attended by **46 participants**, including students and teachers of 7 different schools from 5 countries, who have been trained in advanced topics of 3D design & 3D printing, as well as in social entrepreneurship and business model topics.

Teams of students from the 6th EPAL High School of Heraklion and the 1st EPAL High School of Rethymnon were distinguished in the **3D design & 3D printing Pitching Competition**, winning the «Best Innovative Idea» award and «Best Business Model» award respectively.

The University of Crete was represented by **Dr. Pitikakis Marios**, Lab Teaching Staff member of the Computer Science Department, who coordinated the development of the 3D design & 3D printing educational material, was one of the key trainers of the five-day seminar, and one of the Competition judges.

The **3D2ACT** project proposal addresses three key priorities of the **Erasmus+ Programme**:

- Strengthening key competences in initial and continuing VET
- Supporting the uptake of innovative approaches and digital technologies for teaching and learning
- Supporting educators, youth workers, educational leaders and supporting staff.

more info



ACES Star: Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters Degree in Aquaculture, Environment and Society



The Department of Biology of the University of Crete (UoC), together with centres of excellence in Scotland and France (Nantes University), organize and offer the Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters Degree in Aquaculture, Environment and Society, ACES Star.

This 2-year international programme provides a global learning in Aquaculture, Environment and Society that reflects the international nature of the industry. It is part of the European Union's ambitious Erasmus+ programme and one of Europe's highest ranked academic programmes.

Since 2015, more than 110 students from 38 countries worldwide have been equipped with the necessary skills to work in senior management roles in a wide range of settings, including fin & shell-fish farms, environmental & regulatory organisations, international trade organisations & non-governmental organisations. Through ACES Star, students gain a broad understanding of the key principles of aquaculture and an in-depth knowledge of the many

major scientific, technological and social challenges facing the sustainable development of the global aquaculture industry, including fin-fish, crustaceans, bivalves and seaweed.

The ACES-STAR programme is geared towards developing professional practice & policy, with close links to the aquaculture industry. The 63 affiliated partners based all over the world, offer quest scholars, industry placements and dissertation projects for the ACES Star students. The unique nature of the course and the opportunities for travel offer students a valuable learning experience.

The University of Crete, hosts all ACES-STAR students in Semester 2 as a centre of excellence focusing on fish physiology, endocrinology, behaviour, welfare and innovative new methodologies that test fish and product quality. The University of Crete also specialises in the aquaculture-environmental interactions of Mediterranean marine species.

more info



“one of Europe's highest ranked academic programmes”



Study aquaculture in three centres of European aquaculture research & teaching excellence

- Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS), partner of UHI Oban, Scotland
- Nantes University France
- University of Crete, Greece



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

James Hedge, EMJMD ACES (Alumnus 2020):

"After completing the ACES Masters I was hired to work for a feed company and now visit salmon farms all over Scotland. I conduct fish quality checks, feed trials, and provide fish diet advice to farm managers. ACES was a life changing experience, allowing me to see and experience different countries and cultures while making many friends and gain a first-class aquaculture qualification. The subjects covering Atlantic salmon and feed were crucial in obtaining my current role. I would not have the opportunities I have now without this incredible Masters."



Faazil Dahlan, EMJMD ACES student (2021-23):

I have really enjoyed the course, particularly the lectures on Environmental Impact Assessments, seaweed farming and Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture (IMTA).

Graciella Medina Madariaga, EMJMD ACES+ 2020 (Alumnus 2020):

Being in ACES+ was amazing. I met the most amazing friends and had the best experiences. I learned a lot from all the people I had contact with and I know it has made me grow a lot. I'm sure this experience will stay with me forever, starting with the professors who have taught me so much during the last two years. I appreciate, greatly, this opportunity and I know that now I'm a better professional than I was before starting this master.



M

Student exhibition

emento Mori



Michael Wolgemut, *Dance of Death*, 1493, woodcut print, Blanton Museum of Art, Texas

Representations of Death in European Art (15th–17th century)

The Central Library of the University Campus in Rethymnon hosts the exhibition "*Memento Mori: Representations of death in European Art (15th–17th century)*", curated by post graduate students, **Eva Vrentzou** and **Eva Pasparakis** as part of their internship at the **Postgraduate Study Program in Art History** by the **Department of History and Archeology**, supervised by Associate Professor of Art History, Titina Kornezou and designed by the conservator at the University of Crete's Library, Nicki Petraki. The exhibition was inaugurated on the 23rd of November 2022 and will remain open to the public until the end March 2023.

The exhibition, which is based on reproductions of paintings, engravings and precious objects, showcases aspects of the iconography of death in western painting by developing two themes. The first being *Encounters with Death*, while the second focuses on *Death as a Reminder: Vanitas*. The centuries covered by the exhibition were plagued by pandemics, hunger, wars and invasions, leaving behind hundreds of victims and establishing death as

an integral part of human existence. The awareness of mortality and the desire to commemorate the dead led to the creation of works that depicted the ephemeral nature of human existence, familiarized the individual with the idea of death and helped them manage their grief. From the 17th century onwards, allegorical compositions with moralistic and symbolic character, specifically, in the form of still life paintings, indirectly remind the onlookers of the vanity (*vanitas*) and inevitability of death. Skulls, blown out candles, musical instruments and items associated with gambling, along with fruits, flowers, insects, food and soap bubbles, all symbolize the transience of earthly life. Phrases like "*Homo bulla est*" (Man is but a soap bubble) and "*Memento mori*" (Remember that you [have to] die) take on artistic forms, even in the form of household items. Everything comes back to the constant reminder: Remember, everything is temporary. The two curators conclude that 'through these artworks the people of that distant era send us their timeless message': "Live [your] life".



Snapshot from the exhibition opening at the UoC Library in Rethymnon



N.L. Peschier, *Vanitas still life*, 1660, Rijksmuseum Amsterdam

Distinctions



Four members of the UoC academic community have been distinguished at the 2022 Academy of Athens awards:

- **Katerina Panagopoulou**, Assistant Professor of Ancient History at the UoC Department of History and Archaeology was awarded with the "Olga Tsakatika-Despotopoulou" Prize, for her published work "The Early Antigonids: Coinage, Money and the Economy", (The American numismatic society, New York, 2020).
- The Athens Academy Prize was awarded to the Dr. **Maria Vakondiou** and **Olga Graziou** (ed.), Professor Emeritus of Byzantine Archaeology at the UoC Department of History and Archaeology for their two-volume work "Sculpture in Venetian Crete (1211-1669). Volume A: Studies, Volume B: Lapidarium" (University Publications of Crete, Heraklion, 2021).
- **Konstantinos Neochoritis**, Assistant Professor at the UoC Department of Chemistry was honoured with the "Hildegard Award" in the field of Sciences for his paper titled "Synthesis of tetrazoloindoles via multi-component reactions".



Georgios Kochiadakis, Professor of Cardiology and Dean of the Medicine School at the University of Crete, was elected President of the Hellenic Cardiology Society (HSE).

We wish him success in his work!



Vassilis Charmandaris, Professor at the UoC Department of Physics, was elected Director of the Institute of Astrophysics at the Foundation for Research and Technology (FORTH), for a second 4-year term. At the same time, he will continue his work as Director of the Skinakas Observatory, a joint research infrastructure of the University of Crete and FORTH, which is developing dynamically and ensures the conditions for high-quality research and education in the field of Astrophysics and Space Physics at UoC. We wish him a successful new term!

First place in Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (H.F.R.I) scholarships



The announcement of the results of the 4th Call for Proposals of the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (H.F.R.I) for PhD candidates included many students of the University of Crete

and one of them received the highest ranking!

First in the ranking is the PhD candidate **Nikos Beteinis**, UoC Department of History and Archaeology with a topic from the university excavation at the Acropolis of Eleftherna: "The clay lamps from the Acropolis of Eleftherna (3rd century BC to mid-8th century AD)".

- Angelos Mesfout, UoC PhD candidate, was distinguished in the field of Humanities and Arts
- UoC PhD candidates Nikolaos-Marios Damianakis, Georgios Marinakis and Evgenia Korvesi were distinguished in the field of Social Sciences.
- UoC PhD candidates Isidoros Axiotis, Ionela Litso, Danaki-Maria Kotzampasi, Nikoleta Triantopoulou, Christos Katsioulas and Martha Tselika were distinguished in the field of Life Sciences.
- UoC PhD candidates Charalampos Livas, Thomai Lazou, Dimitrios Kaltsas, Irene Katsipoulaki, Georgia Panagou and Evaggelia Giannakaki were distinguished in the field of Physical Sciences.

Congratulations to all!

SCRATCH EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE

The Department of Early Childhood Education of the UoC is among the 91 educational organizations from 20 different countries selected to participate in the **Scratch Education Collaborative (SEC)** of the [Scratch Foundation](#) for the period 2022-2024, thanks to the efforts of the Department's postdoctoral fellow Mr. Stamatios Papadakis. The two-year program of the collaboration includes lectures, presentations and workshops for the development of creative learning resources for teachers, parents and children. Participants can participate either online or in person and work collectively in order to create and share learning resources.

The [Scratch Education Collaborative](#) is an initiative of the Scratch Foundation that supports and engages participating organizations from around the world in a two-year, collaborative cohort experience to strengthen their organization's commitment to, and implementation of, equitable creative computing. SEC participants engage in a series of collaborative

learning experiences that are co-developed and co-facilitated by Scratch and SEC partner organizations as they work to create a self-sustaining community of practice and establish models for equity-centered creative computing resources.

The University of Crete aims to take advantage of this unique experience to familiarize more and more children, parents and teachers with the tools of the Scratch educational platform and ScratchJr.



Honorary event for the award of the **Ennio Flaiano** International Prize

The University of Crete celebrated the award of the 49th International Prize of Italian Philology ENNIO FLAIANO (Italianistica - 'Luca Attanasio') to Prof. **Athanasia Drakouli** and a group of students of the advanced course of Italian language and Terminology, for the transcription and the commentary both in Italian and Greek of the 1558 religious drama of the Italian Renaissance by Luigi Grotto, Isac. The event was held under the auspices of the UoC's School of Philosophy on the **7th of December 2022** in Rethymnon. This important distinction was the result of an original educational action and the collective work of **105 students** under the guidance and supervision of Prof. Athanasia Drakouli.

In her address, Prof. Drakouli explained the challenges of the project and expressed her feelings of deep satisfaction for winning an international distinction with nominations from around the world in the fields of Literature, Theatre, Cinema, Television and Journalism. This important distinction is granted by the **Ennio Flaiano Cultural Organization** in collaboration

with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy, under the auspices of the President of the Italian Republic.

Dott. Francesco Neri, Director of the **Italian Educational Institute of Athens**, attended the event and stated that both the Italian Embassy and the Italian Educational Institute

of Athens feel proud that a Greek University has received this important international award. During the event, the students who participated in this important project received a copy of the award-winning book and attendees enjoyed the wonderful voice of the Erasmus student Irene Severi, performing a well-known Calabrian (Grecanino) song, accompanied by the UoC student Antonis Giakoumakis on the guitar.



Honorary Doctorate for Professor Demetri Psaltis from the Department of Physics of the UoC



From the left: Georgios Tsironis, Professor at the Department of Physics, Prof. Manolis Stratakis, Dean at the School of Sciences and Engineering, Georgios Kossioris, Vice-Rector, Prof. Demetri Psaltis, Prof. Georgios M. Kontakis, Rector of the UoC, and Prof. Alexandros Georgakillas, President of the Department of Physics, @Public Relations Dept.

The University of Crete awarded Demetri Psaltis, Professor in the École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) an Honorary Doctorate from the Department of Physics. The Rector of the University of Crete, George M. Kontakis announced the award on the 16th of December 2022 at Voutes Campus in Heraklion.

Prof. Psaltis addressed participants in the ceremony with a speech on "Optics and Machine Learning".



Prof. Demetri Psaltis is a distinguished researcher and Professor in Bioengineering and Director of the Optics Laboratory of the EPFL. He is one of the founders of the term and the field of optofluidics and known for his excellent work in holography, holographic data storage, and neural networks. He is an author of over 1.100 publications, contributed more than 20 book chapters, invented more than 50 patents, and currently has a h-index of 98. He is a fellow of IEEE, the Optical Society of America, the European Optical Society and the Society for Photo-optical Systems Engineering. Professor Psaltis has received numerous awards and honors including: the 1990 International Commission of Optics (ICO) Prize for contributions in Optical Information Processing, the 2002 NASA Space Act Award, the 2003 Humboldt Research Award for Senior U. S. Scientists, the 2003 Photorefractive Conference Best Application Conference Prize, the 2006 SPIE Dennis Gabor Award, the 2012 OSA – Emmett N. Leith Medal, the 2016 OSA – Joseph Fraunhofer Award/Robert M. Burley Prize.

Snapshots from the ceremony at Voutes Campus, Heraklion, @Public Relations Dept.

Honorary Doctorate for Professor **Elias Mossialos** from the School of Medicine of the UoC



Elias Mossialos receives an honorary doctorate from the UoC School of Medicine - Snapshot from the ceremony, @Public Relations Dept.



The University of Crete announced the award of an honorary doctorate for Elias Mossialos, Professor of Health Policy at the London School of Economics & the Imperial College London. The announcement of the honoree was made by the Rector of the UoC, Prof. Georgios M. Kontakis, and the Dean of the School of Medicine, Prof. Georgios Kochiadakis, on February 9 at Voutes Campus in Heraklion. Prof. Mossialos addressed the audience of the ceremony with a speech on "the health system after the pandemic: challenges and prospects".

Prof. Elias Mossialos is Brian Abel-Smith Professor of Health Policy within the Department of Social Policy at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), Deputy Head of the Department of Health Policy, and Director of LSE Health. He is also Professor of Health Policy and Management and Co-Director of the Centre for Health Policy at Imperial College London. He has more than 200 publications,

including books, book chapters and articles in peer-review journals in the fields of public policy, health policy and economics and political science. He is a Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health (FFPH) and Fellow of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of London and Edinburgh, and Honorary NHS Consultant in Public Health (South East London NHS Strategic Health Authority). In 2010, he was awarded the Andrija Stampar medal by the Association of Schools of Public Health in Europe (ASPHER) and the European Public Health Association (EUPHA), for contributions to European public health. He received the 2002 and 2007 Baxter Awards from the European Health Management Association for the best publication in health policy and management in Europe and a Commended Prize in the 2002 BMA Medical Book Competition.



Upcoming events

International Conference on Faculty Development "Developing Faculty members' Pedagogical Acuity" - University of Crete, Rethymnon

15-17 September 2023

The Teaching and Learning Centre "Training of the Trainers - TotT" of the University of Crete focuses on trends and high impact factors regarding the "Development of Faculty pedagogical Acuity" within a range of pedagogy-related themes given the profound changes that took place in the post-COVID era. Expertise will be shared not only in terms of new modes of learning but also new modes of faculty development and training for faculty members in order to successfully design inclusive and student-centred lessons in large amphitheatres. Share good academic development or teaching practices with colleagues around the world and put your University's Teaching and learning centre in our global reference map.

Find out more [here](#).



Erasmus+ Staff Week

Alongside the conference we are running an Erasmus staff week on Higher Education pedagogy which will enable teaching fellows and Faculty from other European Universities to receive funding and also attend the 1st International conference on Faculty Development at the University of Crete.

Find out more in this [link](#).

iMOTION
ERASMUS STAFF TRAINING

1st Mediterranean Conference on Porous Materials (MEDPore23)

The UoC Department of Chemistry is organizing the 1st Mediterranean Conference on Porous Materials (MEDPore23), which will be held in Crete in May 17-19, 2023 at Rithymna Beach Hotel.

The conference aims to bring together scientists involved in porous materials research ranging from metal-organic frameworks, covalent organic frameworks and zeolites to porous chalcogenides, carbons, polymers and organic molecules.

It is an excellent opportunity for scientists from all career stages to keep-up with cutting-edge research in the field of porous materials and their applications, present and discuss their research results, and network with the international community for new collaborations.

For more information, please visit this [link](#).





SUMMER SCHOOLS

Summer School at the European Cultural Center of Delphi:

"THE SEEDS OF VIRTUE IN ANCIENT GREECE AND CHINA"

The summer school "The Seeds of Virtue in Ancient Greece and China" is organized in the frame of the University of Crete's actions for the promotion of the study of ancient Greek and ancient Chinese philosophy in July 12-17, 2023 at the [European Cultural Center of Delphi](#).

Application Deadline: April 3, 2023

Location: European Cultural Centre of Delphi, Delphi, Greece

Dates: July 12-17, 2023

Please read more [here](#).

Contact person

The seeds of virtue in ancient Greece and China



12-17 JULY

Summer School on Applied Respiratory Physiology

Coordinating Department: Department of Intensive Care, Medical School, University of Crete (UoC)

The course is directed to medical students who have completed the 3rd year of their studies and have taken courses on respiratory physiology and pathophysiology. The aim of the course is to provide an in-depth understanding of respiratory physiology and its implications in health, in exercise and extreme environments, disease, and mechanical ventilation. The hands-on sessions will allow students to visualize and comprehend the basic physiology, and familiarize them with the use of cardiopulmonary exercise testing, polysomnography. Finally using a lung simulator the students will learn the basic principles of setting and adjusting a mechanical ventilator to support a critically ill patient with respiratory failure. All courses will be given by experts in adult respiratory and intensive care medicine.

Application deadline: April 30, 2023

Location: University of Crete, School of Medicine, and University Hospital of Heraklion, Intensive Care Unit

Dates: July 10 – 14, 2023

How to apply: Please send your application by [email](#) to Prof. Vaporidi

Summer School on Biophysics

Coordinating Department: Materials Science and Technology Department, School of Sciences and Engineering, University of Crete (UoC)

The first Summer School on Biophysics aims to introduce advanced undergraduates, Master's and PhD students with backgrounds in Physics, Biology, Materials Science, Mathematics, CS to the interdisciplinary field of Biophysics and expand the toolset and horizons of those already working on Biophysics. The school aims to show how Biophysics is using all the above sciences to advance, making it an exciting and scientifically inclusive field. Student-instructor interaction will be maximized via lectures on

theory and experiments, workshops on computational and experimental data analysis tools, and plenty of opportunities for discussions. The Biophysics Summer School is organized under the auspices of by the Materials Science and Technology Dept of the University of Crete (UoC), the School of Applied Mathematical and Physical Sciences of the National Technical University of Athens, and the Physics Dept., Lehigh University, PA, USA.

Location: Xenia hotel, Rethymnon Crete

Dates: 5-11 August 2023

How to apply: Please apply only [here](#)



Summer School "Dementia for medical students: Improving knowledge/ developing skills of undergraduate students to manage dementia"

Coordinating Department: Department of Neurology, Medical School, University of Crete (UoC)

The summer school "Dementia for medical students" aims to expose medical students to the challenges of detecting cognitive dysfunction and caring for patients with neurodegenerative disorders. This offers an opportunity to showcase the interdisciplinary approach employed in dementia care to optimize health outcomes. At the same time, students will be educated on the most recent developments in research for neurodegenerative disorders.

The structure of the program entails both clinical practice and hands-on laboratory experience and lectures by distinguished scientists running in parallel. A total of 16 medical students will be practicing in groups in the departments involved in this summer school (Neurology, Internal Medicine, Psychiatry, Radiology, Nuclear Medicine, Social Medicine) and the Laboratories of the University of Crete, Medical School (Neurogenetics/ Neurodegenerative Disorders, Pharmacology, Pathology). At the same time, the group will attend courses offered by experts in the field of dementia.

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Application deadline: March 31, 2023 (extended until April 30)

How to apply: Please send your application by email to Prof. [Ioannis Zaganas](#)

Location: School of Medicine, University of Crete

Dates: July 10- 20, 2023

Summer School on Astrostatistics

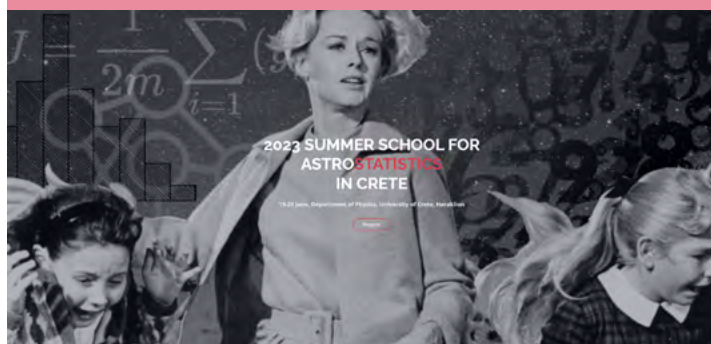
Coordinating Department: Department of Physics, School of Sciences and Engineering, University of Crete (UoC)

The goal of the Summer School for Astrostatistics is to guide advanced undergraduates, masters and graduate students, and early postdocs in the use of the most common statistical tools for the analysis of a wide variety of data. Each topic includes an introductory part followed by a workshop (hands-on analysis of astronomical data), and poses particular emphasis on the development of coding abilities which will serve as a quick reference for everyday work. Due to its very nature as a hands-on workshop, this event will require on site attendance. The Department will provide the computational facilities required by the classes: the attendees do not need to use their personal computers. While some background in Python is helpful, the school is designed for interested students regardless of their programming experience.

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Location: Department of Physics, University of Crete, Heraklion

Dates: 19-23 June, 2023

How to apply: Please apply only [here](#)





University News

9/1 5th Online meeting for the Teacher and Learning Centre/TotT



The [Teaching and Learning Centre of the University of Crete](#) and the Training of the Trainers Committee co-organize the 5th online meeting for the academic year 2022-23 titled: «Implementing active learning at the University through the Socrative platform». Presenter: George Koumoundouros, Professor of the Department of Biology. The Socrative platform promotes alternative teaching methods and the adoption of good educational practices. The aim of this meeting is to present the possibilities the platform offers through the example of a Biology course.

12/1 Lecture on «The moral and intellectual status of animals in Proplatonic philosophy» by Prof. Andreas Lebedev

The Joint Graduate Programme "Bioethics" of the Department of Philosophy and Social Studies of University of Crete, organizes an online lecture by Andreas Lebedev, Professor of Ancient Philosophy. The title of the lecture is «The moral and intellectual status of animals in Proplatonic philosophy».

16/1 Online Seminar: "Temperance and Epistemic Purity in Plato's Phaedo"

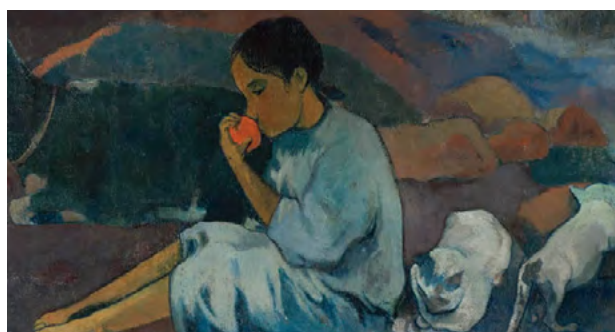
The Philosophical Research and Translation Lab, the Postgraduate Programme 'Philosophy: Science, Value and Society' of the Department of Philosophy and the [University of Crete Research Center \(UCRC\)](#), co-organize an online session as part of the seminars for Ancient Philosophy. Speaker: Patricia Marechal, Assistant Professor in the Philosophy Department, University of California, San Diego.

19-20/1 Info Days for the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2023-2024

The University of Crete hosts Info Days for the Horizon Europe Programme 2023-2024, on the 19th and 20th of January 2023 at Voutes Campus, Heraklion. The two-day event includes presentations by representatives of the EU's Directorate General for Research and Innovation and forum on research and innovation activities. The info Days are open to the Academic and Research Community of the University of Crete as well as to all Higher Education Institutions and Research Institutes of Crete.

19/1 Lecture on "Ecofeminism and non-human animals"

The Joint graduate Programme "Bioethics" of the UoC Department of Philosophy and Social Studies organizes an online lecture by Mr. Stavros Karageorgakis, Dr. in History and Philosophy of Science and Technology.



30/1 1st Webinar of the Seminars from Museum of Medicine and UCRC: "Empathy in Medicine then and now"

The [UoC Museum of Medicine](#) and the [University of Crete Research Center \(UCRC\)](#), organize the 1st Webinar for 2023: "Empathy in Medicine then and now". The themes and speakers are: • "The mania-melancholia dipole in medicine for the 1st and 2nd century", George Kazantzidis, Assistant Professor, Department of Philology, University of Patras • "Suffering bodies and repulsion: doctors, family and friends" Dimos

Spatharas, Associate Professor, Department of Philology, University of Crete • "Emotion in Narrative Medicine" Dr. Ioannis Boukovinas, Medical Oncologist.



31/1 Webinar: "Multidimensional Innovation Responses and Foreign Competition"

The [Knowledge Transfer Office](#) of UoC and [TIME-MBE Master program in Business Economics](#) (MBE) co-organize on Tuesday the 31th of January the 5th webinar for 2022-2023. Speaker: Carlos Ponce, Professor of the Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Chile.



2/2 Lecture by Prof. George Pavlakis

The Joint Graduate Programme "Bioethics" of the Department of Philosophy and Social Studies of University of Crete, organizes an online lecture by George Pavlakis, Chief of the Human Retrovirus Section of the Center for Cancer Research / National Cancer Institute, USA. The title of the lecture is "Environmental ethics in the era of pandemics and new medicine".



6/2 6th Online meeting of the Teaching and Learning Centre/TotT

The [Teaching and Learning Centre](#) of the University of Crete and the Training of the Trainers Committee co-organize the 6th online meeting for the academic year 2022-23 on Teaching Differentiation in Higher Education". Speaker: Eirini Spanaki, School of Sciences and Engineering, University of Crete.

8/2 The Region of Crete and the University of Crete cooperate for the monitoring of atmospheric pollution

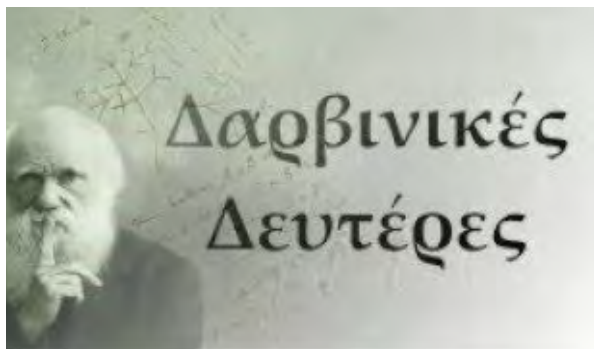
The Vice-Regional Head for Environmental Policy Nikos Xilouris together with members of the Department of Environment and Urban Planning of the Region of Crete and researchers from University of Crete (Kanakidou Maria, Professor at the Department of Chemistry and Nikos Kalivitis, researcher) initiated a new collaboration for the monitoring of air quality on the island. The Air Pollution Action Plan involves specialists from the Region of Crete, the University of Crete and the Technical University of Crete in the development of a monitoring platform of atmospheric pollution. The platform will provide real-time data for the quality of air for the island of Crete and will be accessible to the public. The aim of the action is to estimate the air quality index, an important public health parameter, for the cities of Heraklion and Chania.



8/2 1st Research Seminar of the Joint Seminar Series in Translational and Clinical Medicine

The 1st Research Seminar of the Joint Seminar Series in Translational and Clinical Medicine co-organized by the School of Medicine of UoC, the Foundation for Research and Technology (FORTH) and the UoC Research Centre (UCRC), is presented by Prof. Ioannis Mitroulis, IMBB-FORTH /DU-Thrace/ TU-Dresden and is titled: "Immune regulation of hematopoiesis in cancer".

13/2 Darwinian Monday-"The deterioration of credibility in medicine"



The series of Lectures "Darwinian Mondays" at the Natural History Museum of Crete present Dafnis Eugenios, Emeritus Professor of UoC's Medical School, on "The deterioration of credibility in Medicine: From penicillin to vaccines and from biomedicine to pseudoscience and medical politics". The discussion is coordinated by Eleftherios Zouros, Emeritus Professor, and Manolis Ladoukakis, Associate Professor of Evolutionary Biology at the University of Crete.

13/2 9th Meeting of the Series of Lectures "The University in Society"

The 9th meeting of the series of lectures titled "The University in Society" is organized by the School of Social Sciences of the University of Crete and the [UoC Research Center \(UCRC\)](#) in collaboration with the Regional Unit of Rethymno and the Municipality of Rethymno. Main speakers: Lionis Christos, Professor of General Practice and Primary Health Care at the School of Medicine UoC & Head of the Clinic of Social and Family Medicine at the School of Medicine, and

Tzanakis Manolis, Associate Professor in Sociology of Illness and Medical Institutions, Department of Sociology, UoC. The historian and author Haridimos Papadakis coordinates the meeting.

13-14/2 International Hybrid Workshop: «Health and Healing in Ancient Greece and China»



Κέντρο Αρχαίου Ελληνικού & Κινεζικού Πολιτισμού

The [Philosophical Research and Translation Lab of the Dept of Philosophy and Social Studies](#), in collaboration with the Centre for Bioethics, [UCRC](#) and the [Museum of Medicine](#) of the UoC School of Medicine organize the International Hybrid Workshop "Health and Healing in Ancient Greece and China". The workshop is part of the "Promotion of the study of ancient Greek and Chinese culture" Action of the Operational Programme "Human Resources Development, Education and Lifelong Learning", co-financed by Greece and the European Union.

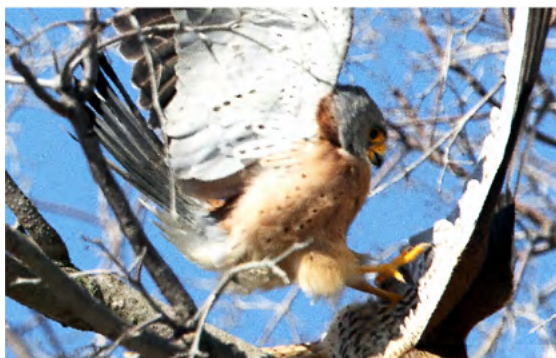
17/2 Academic symposia of the Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Philology

The Department of Philology of the University of Crete organizes the Academic Symposia of the Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Philology. Guest speaker: Fiona Antonelaki, lecturer at the University of Thessaly.

16/2 "Photographing a fragile world: Birds of Greece and Cyprus"

The [Natural History Museum of Crete \(NHMC\)](#) of the UoC and the [A.G.Leventis Foundation](#) co-organize the photographic exhibition "Photographing a Fragile World: Birds of Greece and Cyprus". The

exhibition opens with speeches by Nikos Poulakakis, Director of the Museum and Professor at the University of Crete, Stavros Xirouchakis and Michalis Promponas, Laboratory of Ecology and Environmental Management / Natural History Museum of Crete.



22/2 «Build & Launch Your Startup» Game

The first round of the “Build & Launch Your Startup” Game programme was completed successfully on Wednesday 22 February 2023. During the event, student teams had the chance to present their innovative business ideas for start-ups.

Professor Michalis Pavlidis, Vice Rector for Research and Development and the Project Director, Associate Professor Andreas Panagopoulos welcomed the attendees. Three startup founders shared their experience and commented on the students’ business ideas.



24/2 Online Friday Meetings, Division of Classical Studies

The Division of Classical Studies of the UoC's Department of Philology, organizes the **online Friday**

meetings of the spring semester 2023. The first meeting is hosted by Sofia Papaioannou, (National Kapodistrian University of Athens) on the subject *“Catalogues in the Metamorphoses of Ovid”*.

28/2 Webinar on «The Challenge of Design-based Approaches for Responsible Research and Innovation Governance»

The **UoC Knowledge Transfer Office** in collaboration with the Master's program in Business Economics **TIME-MBE**, organize the 6th online seminar for 2022-2023 titled **“The Challenge of Design-based Approaches for Responsible Research and Innovation”**. Speaker: **Niels van Dijk**, Professor in Vrije Universiteit Brussel.





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