



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ  
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

**NEWSUOC**  
*e - Newsletter*

Periodical Edition of the University of Crete - Issue 6 - July - September 2023 - [www.uoc.gr/](http://www.uoc.gr/)

# UoC WELCOMES NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



**NEW**



New International Program in Medicine



University Library

## NEWSUOC

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The English Newsletter is partly based  
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*more info*



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*Dear international students,*



It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the University of Crete, an Academic Institution with 46 years of history. A University that is distinguished in Greece and internationally and is evolving and developing, offering knowledge and services to the global society.

Our aim is to provide a multi-faceted and high-quality education, ensuring that you will acquire knowledge and skills that will broaden your horizons and lead to a successful international career. Our mission is to shape well-rounded young scientists with a sense of responsibility, broad-mindedness, academic principles and social and environmental sensitivities.

University life is a period full of opportunities for learning, growth and self-discovery. We are here to support and

guide you on this journey, offering you our knowledge and expertise.

Crete is a place of tradition, history and unsurpassed natural beauty, renowned for its hospitality, which will offer you an exciting experience of a lifetime.

Undoubtedly, you will face challenges, but don't forget that every challenge is an opportunity for evolution. With commitment, dedication and effort, you can achieve your goals and reach high.

Our international officers and all the university staff involved in your studies and your stay here are committed to support you in whatever you need and make you feel at home, even if you are far from home.

On behalf of the academic community of the University of Crete, I welcome you and wish you a creative academic year and an enjoyable student life in Crete.

Prof. George M. Kontakis

Rector of the University of Crete





### Education:

UoC ranked

**201-250**



### Clinical & Health:

UoC ranked

**251-300**



### Life Sciences:

UoC ranked

**301-400**



### Psychology:

UoC ranked

**301-400**



### Computer Science:

UoC ranked

**301-400**

## UOC AT A GLANCE

Gallos Campus (Rethymnon)

Voutes Campus (Heraklion)

## UoC Rankings

*Study at the best...*

The University of Crete is ranked 94th in the 2023 «THE—Young University Rankings» and first among the Greek Universities that participate. The Times Higher Education Young University Rankings list the world's best universities that are 50 years old or younger using 13 performance indicators for teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook. This is the twelfth and last year that UoC participates and despite the increased number of universities assessed this year, the University of Crete is ranked among the 100 best new institutions worldwide.

2023 THE Impact Ranking	UoC rank	Institutions ranked
SDG3: Good Health and Wellbeing	301-400	1218
SDG4: Quality Education	61	1304
SDG5: Gender Equality	201-300	1081
SDG9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	201-300	873
SDG10: Reduced Inequalities	101-200	901
SDG11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	201-300	860
SDG13: Climate Action	301-400	735
SDG14: Life Below Water	301-400	504
SDG15: Life on land	301-400	586
SDG17: Partnership for the Goals	401-600	1625



# Welcome events for International & Erasmus students

The University of Crete welcomed approximately 200 international students in the winter semester 2023 who started their studies (undergraduate, postgraduate, PhD, Erasmus) in the two campuses of the institution. Welcome events were organized on Friday the 22nd of September in Voutes Campus, Heraklion, and on Monday the 25th of September in Gallos Campus, Rethymnon!

## Voutes Campus

The University of Crete proudly hosted a successful welcome event for its international students on Friday, September 22, 2023. The gathering took place at Nikos Petridis Amphitheater of the Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics. During the event, **Prof. Georgios M. Kontakis**, Rector of the University of Crete, and **Prof. Georgios Kossioris**, Vice Rector for Academic Affairs, Lifelong Learning, International Relations & Outlook, addressed new students and made special reference to the importance of international collaborations and diversity in the University community, expressing their commitment to internationalization and

academic excellence. The event proceeded with detailed presentations by esteemed academic members, colleagues and ESN students about the departments, services and facilities of the University of Crete and concluded with a reception. Students also had the opportunity to enjoy a campus tour by the members of the Erasmus Students Network and meet the members of the **UoC astronomy group**, who installed a telescope and invited them to observe the sun via special filters!

The University of Crete extends its warmest welcome to all international students and looks forward to a fruitful academic year ahead.





# erasmus students

Erasmus students in Voutes Campus were first welcomed at the offices of the International & Public Relations Department in Heraklion where they had the opportunity to meet each other, the international officers and **Nora the Erasmus dog**, who was recently rescued and is temporarily hosted in our offices until she finds her forever home!

Erasmus students received their **Erasmus souvenirs** & important information about the services provided by the International & Public Relations Department, their Erasmus studies and stay in the University of Crete & Heraklion, and finally they were guided to the main event at N. Petridis Amphitheatre of the UoC Department of Mathematics & Applied Mathematics, organized by the UoC Welcome Office, where they joined other international students of the UoC Postgraduate and Graduate programs offered in English and PhD students.

We would like to thank the [UoC Welcome Office](#), the Info Point of the Municipality of Heraklion for the folders they provided to Erasmus students, including tourist information about Heraklion and the island of Crete, the Erasmus Student Network (ESN) in Heraklion, the UoC astronomy group, the UoC authorities, students, staff and everyone else who contributed to this beautiful welcome event!





# Gallos Campus

The Orientation Day of the incoming Erasmus+ students for the winter semester 2023/2024 was held on Monday 25th September 2023 at Gallos University Campus in Rethymnon.

The Department of International Relations of the University of Crete in Rethymnon welcomed approximately 60 students from various higher education institutions abroad, who will study at the Schools of Philosophy, Social Sciences and Education of our University during the current winter semester.

The aim of this event was to facilitate the smooth adaptation of Erasmus students to the university and local community.

The Vice-Rector of Finance and Infrastructure, **Prof. K. Spanoudakis** and the General Director of Administrative and Financial Services, **E. Kapsalaki** attended the event and welcomed the Erasmus students.

The members of the Department of International Relations in Rethymnon provided students with useful information regarding studying and living in Rethymnon city and offered a campus tour to the students.

The event was supported by members of the ESN Network, as well as representatives of the voluntary student groups «CARING AND ACTING» and UoC SDG Student Hub, who provided useful tips to the students on everyday life issues and their inclusion in the student community.







The newly established Welcome Office operates as an autonomous and independent unit under the authority of the Vice Rector responsible for international relations and outreach of the University of Crete.

The unit is responsible for supporting foreign students enrolled in foreign language study programs at the undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral levels at the University of Crete, as well as facilitating their communication with other public institutions regarding matters related to their stay and settlement in the host country.

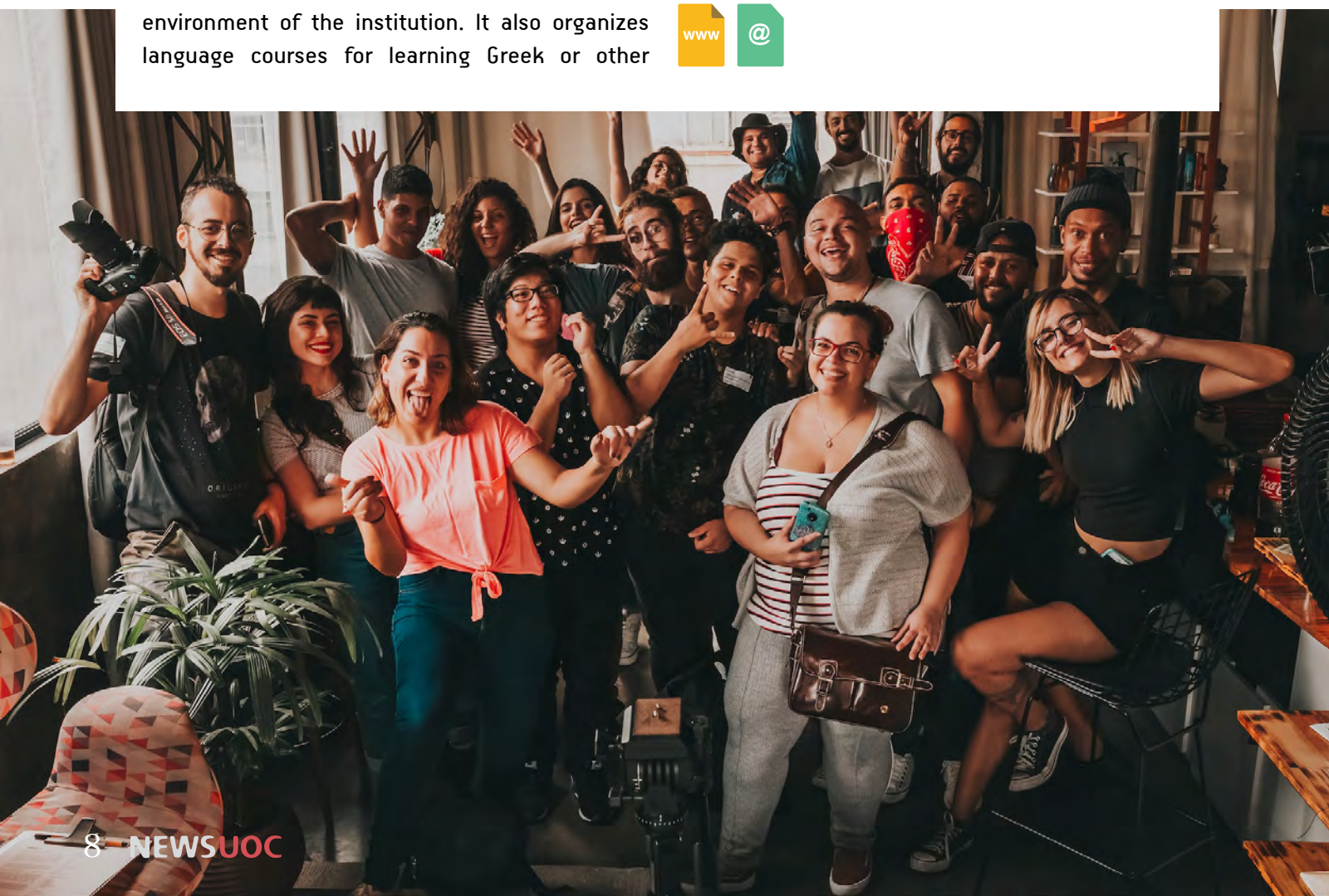
Furthermore, the unit is responsible for organizing welcoming and integration activities for foreign students within the educational and research environment of the institution. It also organizes language courses for learning Greek or other

foreign languages in collaboration with the relevant units of the institution, supports the international promotion of the institution's activities aimed at attracting foreign students and enhances the international reputation of the institution.

Finally, the unit provides similar services to foreign visiting professors and researchers from countries within or outside the European Union who visit the University of Crete to engage in teaching or research work.

As a department, the unit is based in Voutes Campus (Heraklion) and operates an office Gallos Campus (Rethymnon).

*more info*





**NEW**

# International Bachelor Program in Medicine

The new International English-taught program in Medicine is ready to welcome its very first students in the academic year 2023-2024!

Committed to Internationalization & diversity, the International Program in Medicine aims at educating students to become thoughtful and skillful members of the international medical community, offering a variety of intellectually stimulating and professionally challenging courses to provide state of the art medical education.

The UoC Medical School has always aspired to become a modern teaching and research center committed to excellence in education and training of students, physicians and biomedical scholars. Since its inception, it has established a great number of activities and interventions in education, research, and health care and has collaborated with scientific and social sectors in Greece and abroad.

The School has achieved international recognition, as evidenced by the participation of several of its faculty members in the executive boards, administrative committees, and councils of European or World scientific associations and professional organizations. Faculty members are active members of Editorial Boards of scientific journals as well as

decision-making bodies of funding institutions. Several Divisions of the School and individual faculty members have longstanding collaborations with the World Health Organization and the Commission of the European Union. In the years ahead the Medical School of the University of Crete aspires to maintain its position in the centers of excellence in Biomedical Sciences.

Students of the new International Program in Medicine will not only receive high quality training in medicine, but they will also have the opportunity to participate in cutting-edge research at the laboratories of the Medical School of the University of Crete and at the collaborating Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology at the Foundation for Research and Technology, located adjacent to the University Campus.

Please read the [interview of Prof. Christos Tsatsanis](https://studyinggreece.edu.gr/bachelors-degree-professor-christos-tsatsanis/) coordinator of the undergraduate International Program in Medicine, in the Study in Greece website and learn more details about the unique features of the program: <https://studyinggreece.edu.gr/bachelors-degree-professor-christos-tsatsanis/>

*more info*

www

.pdf



# SHORT PROGRAMME

## Digital Humanities at the University of Crete

A short programme in Digital Humanities will run at the UoC from academic year 2023-2024. It is organized by the Department of Philology, in the framework of the project "TALOS-Artificial Intelligence for Humanities and Social Sciences" (TALOS-AI4SSH).

The programme aims at training BA students in the constantly developing field of DH, as well as at raising their awareness on the ethics of technology, and is addressed to all enrolled undergraduate students of the University of Crete at their 3rd semester and above, regardless of School/Faculty and Department, as well as to all domestic/national and foreign Erasmus students.

The programme offers a wide range of courses in a variety of interdisciplinary fields such as: Digital Classics, Digital Literature Studies, Digital Archaeology, Computational Linguistics, Education technology and Ethics of Technology. Courses are held in physical presence, hybridly (physical presence with simultaneous online presentation) and/or at a distance.

The Programme will admit 100 students in the academic year 2023-2024

There are no attendance fees for UoC students (domestic or Erasmus)

### Contact/Information

Students interested in the short programme are requested to fill in the following form:  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeFwQPjJUCBgRliqLfA0MG4cXJiaWzahzFRxMrUf-SWmR-CA/viewform>



Information about the short programme will be announced on the TALOS website:

<https://talos-ai4ssh.uoc.gr/training>



For further information please contact here: : [talos.contact@uoc.gr](mailto:talos.contact@uoc.gr)



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ  
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE



Funded by  
the European Union

## SHORT PROGRAMME

### Digital Humanities at the University of Crete



For more information about the short programme, please visit the TALOS website:  
<https://talos-ai4ssh.uoc.gr/training/>



*more info*





The fifth  
CSR-School  
is here!



## Co-organized by CSR HELLAS, University of Crete, Alba Graduate Business School - The American College of Greece

Sustainability is a major challenge for business, education and training. Adaptation to the new European standards also brought the need to develop new skills and the creation of new jobs. Businesses and universities benefit by investing in collaboration to develop new skills in corporate sustainability issues, as reflected in a series of surveys from global organizations (OECD, ILO, etc.) in combination with the needs that form the ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) criteria. A central role in the new skills that must be acquired in the process of transition and adoption of sustainability standards, are the interdisciplinary approach and social skills (soft skills), where the ability to develop partnerships has a dominant position.

Realizing this need, **CSR HELLAS** in collaboration with the University of Crete and the Alba Graduate Business School - The American College of Greece, along with the support of the Office of Public Affairs - The American College of Greece, initiated the CSR-School 5 years ago. It is an internationally pioneering integrated training program on ESG and sustainability issues aimed at professionals in the field, as well as postgraduate students, who seek to deepen their knowledge, to be informed about current developments, to learn and be inspired by the good practices of leading companies.

This year, the CSR-School is implemented for the fifth consecutive year, having trained over 140 business executives both from Greece and abroad and having completed over 175 hours of training. Executives from more than 70 companies have believed in and invested in the initiative.

The program combines theoretical knowledge and practical applications in important interdisciplinary areas linked to sustainability, while at the same time contributes to the development of trainees' skills, providing practical tools, analysis of good business practices and case studies as well as significant opportunities for interaction and exchange of knowledge and experience between trainees from companies of different sizes and sectors.

This year's topics are: Sustainability Strategy; Climate Risks & Environmental Management; Sustainable Supply Chain Management; Responsible Human Capital Management; Sustainable Finance & Impact Investing; Materiality Analysis & Stakeholder Management; Governance & Accountability; Responsibility-driven Marketing & Communication.

Following the successful completion of training and tests, trainees receive a Certificate of Completion, equivalent to 10 ECTS or 6 US Credit Points, with the support of the University of Crete.

CSR School 2023 takes place from **November 13 to December 11, 2023** in English, in a hybrid mode, on the premises of the American College of Greece, with the possibility of remote connection in case this is required.



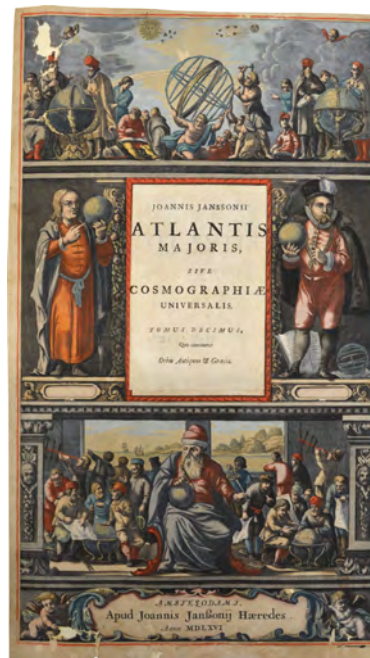
# The University of Crete Library

In a world where communication is constantly evolving and the transmission of information needs to reach both local and remote users in a faster and more efficient way, the Library of the University of Crete, with its modern and well-equipped facilities in Rethymnon and Heraklion, is the intellectual custodian of the Institution, by collecting, organizing and providing every printed and electronic resource to the academic community. Thanks to the automatization of its services and the digitization of much of its material, it has evolved since the end of the 20th century into an important source of information beyond its spatial limits.

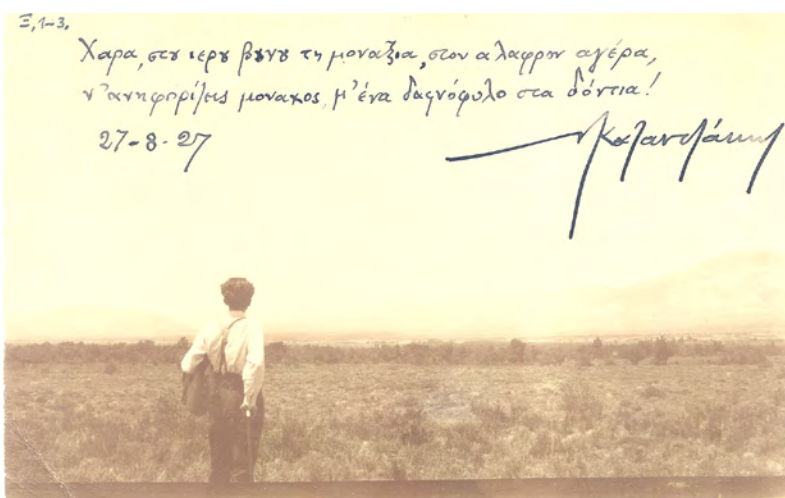
The Library offers **484,121** volumes of monographs and **110,059** volumes of periodicals, according to the 2022 statistics, to its **21,125** registered users and to visitors who come to study on the spot, while enjoying either the endless blue views from its building in Gallos, or the charm of the Voutes Library.



The mobile libraries of its Closed Collections, which constitute its treasury, hold rare, printed material from the beginnings of Greek and foreign publishing and other publications of historical, literary or bibliophilic interest. The majority of them come from the private collections of important Greek and foreign bibliophiles, purchased through the efforts of the Institution's professors who were familiar with the world of rare books. It also houses libraries and archives of writers, politicians, professors and researchers of the University of Crete and other Higher Educational Institutions in Greece and abroad, as well as local scholars, which come mainly from donations because of the high esteem in which the Institution and its Library are held. Among the rare heirlooms managed by the Institution, are the collection of manuscripts of Byzantine codices, which was provided on loan by the Rethymnon Bar Association along with its historical Library, as well as the "exotic" scroll collection of the Laboratory of Papyrology and Epigraphy of the Department of Philology.







In addition to the Closed Collections, the preservation laboratory, applying internationally recognized preservation protocols, preserves the Library's treasures from the deterioration of time and mends the daily maintenance problems of the open access collection.

The Library's electronic catalogue, one of the richest in the country, is the central source of information for locating the printed, archival and audiovisual material of interest to the user and its position in the Library's vast universe. If not, the interlibrary loan department will cater to the user's request by locating the material in other Greek or foreign libraries.

Outside of the printed sources of information, the Library, funded by the Institution's regular budget, provides its members with access to databases and electronic journals, and as a member of the Association of Greek Academic Libraries, provides further enriching electronic resources. Specialized staff in Rethymnon and Heraklion, dedicated to informing and familiarizing the academic community with the electronic resources, have committed themselves to providing guidance and supporting it. The equal access to services for people with disabilities was taken into consideration, as the facilities are equipped for the visually impaired and the premises are also accessible to people with mobility problems.

A major investment was made back in 1998 with the use of digital technology and the digital reproduction of its treasures. Soon after, in 2006, with the help of the Information Society programs, the **Digital Library of Modern Greek Studies "Anemi"** was created, which is internationally renowned, as it offers **16.400 bibliographic records** of rare books, journals and archival material, corresponding to 2.277.000 digitized pages. It is the cultural inventory of the

Library and other institutions and individuals, such as the Library of the Literary Association of Adrianople and the Library of the Rethymnon Bar Association, which is presented in its entirety and independently as a valuable testimony to their cultural identity. The **Electronic Bibliography of the Cretan Revolution 1866-1869** is also located here, documenting and offering the Greek and foreign bibliography of the period in its digitized form.

Another digital repository, the **E-locus institutional repository**, provides digital versions of the doctoral and postgraduate theses of its students and other material.

Following the direction of Open Science, the Library indexes and digitally provides, through the use of open-source software [ojs], the articles of the Foundation's scientific yearbooks, as well as the journals Sports and Social Sciences and the important journal Theatre (1961-1981) published by the journalist Costas Nitsos.

In order to enhance the cultural life of the two campuses, the Library offers the use of the rich audiovisual material from its donations, while organizing exhibitions, presentations and conferences in collaboration with lecturers and postgraduate students. It is no coincidence that the schools of Crete have integrated the Library into their cultural agenda for years, while it remains a challenge to attract the interest of the broader local community.



# Civitas Rethymnae

A grand meeting of UoC alumni (1977 –1998)

July 26-30, Rethymnon

The University of Crete was pleased and honored to host the meeting of the alumni network "Civitas Rethymnae" between July 26-30 in Rethymnon. The alumni network "Civitas Rethymnae" comprises of UoC graduates of the first 20 years after the foundation of the institution (1977 – 1998). The University of Crete supported by all means the desire of its former students to meet at the place where they studied and graduated and provided a hospitable environment for them to remember, discuss and raise concerns about the present and future of the University of Crete, to recollect their student years, their later choices, the academic & administrative staff that supported them.

The main event took place on 29 July 2023 at Gallos Campus and opened with the addresses of Prof. Michael Pavlidis, Vice Rector for Research & Development, Prof. Konstantinos Spanoudakis, Vice Rector for Finance & Infrastructure and Prof. Dimitrios Mylonakis, Vice Rector for Planning, Administrative Affairs and Student Welfare.

The 5-day meeting included events at Gallos Campus and the old city of Rethymnon, presentations, exhibitions, music & dance

nights, excursions, open discussions and a football match!

The meeting was co-organized by the [UoC Career and Liaison Office](#), which covered the reception cost for approximately 500 participants, and was supported by the collective work of members of the network, UoC students, administrative and academic staff. We would like to thank the Organizing Committee and the members of the Civitas Rethymnae Network, the University Library for the amazing photo exhibition it organized for the meeting, the Municipality of Rethymnon, the Region of Crete and everyone who contributed to the successful outcome of this grand meeting!







“it is difficult to describe in words what we experienced during these five magical days in our beloved Rethymnon. Hundreds of people from all over Greece and abroad who shared their student years at the University of Crete were reunited at this unprecedented event, full of emotions”.

The first meeting took place on July 26 at sunset, at the ring road of the scenic Fortezza fortress, and later on in “Metropolis” bar, which is connected to the memories of many UoC graduates as an all-time classic hangout and reaffirmed the ability of old UoC classmates, united through the Civitas Rethymnae network, to quickly develop intergenerational ties based on their common experience during the first 20 years of the University of Crete.

On July 27 members of the Civitas network enjoyed an informative tour at the archaeological site of Eleftherna by archaeologist Victoria Kountouri, organized by the Director of the Acropolis Museum, Dr. Nikos Stampolidis, and witnessed the important and timeless contribution of the University of Crete and the Department of Archaeology to the archaeological/cultural heritage of Rethymnon and Crete.

The two discussion events that took place on July 28 & 29 with the participation of hundreds of old classmates, professors and beloved employees of University of Crete, showed that nostalgia & the revival of memory does not necessarily lead to idealizations, but instead it can be linked to awareness-raising about the past, present and future of the University and the city of Rethymnon.

The two music nights in Gallos Campus turned into unforgettable celebrations of reunion, old friendships that revived, as well as an opportunity for new friendships. Through dancing and singing we

celebrated all aspects of the cultural experience that is part of the student experience. Old classmates, musicians and artists who participated pro bono created an authentic atmosphere of student fellowship that all participants enjoyed.

The football match between old students and players of Gerani Sports Club on July 28 became a tribute of the strong athletic student presence and its ties to the city of Rethymnon.

Finally, in the amazing closing night at “Xenia” (a university space linked to the timeless struggles of the student movement in Rethymnon) we discussed the history of the space and the creative artistic forces that flourished within its walls.

The emotions, memories, reflections and the discussions that all participants brought to this meeting will not be lost and we hope that they will become the seed for great things to grow in the University of Crete.

As for the hundreds of heartwarming exhortations we receive to organize more reunions, we believe that these will arise effortlessly in the future from the continuation and development of the creative bonds and possibilities that this meeting unleashed.

This is the legacy and our promise for the future that we have all enthusiastically and humbly embraced during these five days.

# UoC Summer Schools 2023

UoC Summer Schools offer the opportunity to delve into an intensive & stimulating educational experience on selected subjects combined with inspiring activities, such as the exploration of the Minoan and modern Cretan civilization, while enjoying the spectacular scenery of Crete.

Read about the Summer Schools organized by the University of Crete in 2023 and stay tuned for Summer Schools 2024!

<https://summer-schools.uoc.gr/>

## Summer School

### "The seeds of virtue in ancient Greece and China"

**Date:** July 12-17

**Location:** European Cultural Centre of Delphi, Delphi, Greece



Centre of Greek & Chinese Ancient Civilizations

The UoC summer school "**The seeds of virtue in ancient Greece and China**" took place in **Delphi** from **July 12 to 17**, with the participation of more than forty scholars from all over the world (USA, Singapore, Austria, Switzerland, Netherlands, Spain, Greece and China) specializing in philosophy, classics and sinology.

Inspired by the metaphor of the seeds of virtue, which is common in both traditions, **Marta Jimenez** (Complutense University of Madrid and Emory University), **Richard King** (University of Bern), **Hagop Sarkissian** (CUNY, Baruch College), **Bryan Van Norden** (Vassar College), **Matthew Walker** (Yale-NUS College), **Claudia Yau** (University of Houston), and **James Zainaldin** (Vanderbilt University) demonstrated how the comparative

study of the ancient Greek and Chinese civilization enhances not only the mutual understanding of the two traditions, but also philosophical research. The core program of the summer school was matched with a series of lectures on less technical topics, such as the reception of Eastern philosophy by the Modern Philosophical Tradition (Pantelis Golitsis, University of Thessaloniki), the ways in which the modern states of Greece and China connect with and understand their past (in the case of China, Jing Hu, University of Pennsylvania, gave a lecture on romanization of Chinese language; in the case of Greece, Lina Dima, University of Thessaly, used the case of the European Cultural Centre of Delphi as an example of a productive dialogue between modern architecture and archaeological heritage); while





Stelios Virvidakis (University of Athens), discussed the problems that virtue ethics encounter in the time of globalization.

On July 15, the Ambassador of China to Greece, **Mr. Xiao Junzheng** visited the [European Cultural Centre of Delphi \(ECCD\)](#) and gave a speech to the participants of the summer school, thereby strengthening the ties of collaboration between Greece and China, and expressing China's support to the newly established Centre of Ancient Greek and Chinese Civilizations (KELKIP), which has been founded by four Greek Universities: University of Athens, University of Thessaloniki, University of Patras, and University of Crete.

The Summer School, which falls within the strategic planning of KELKIP, has been organized by the [UoC Philosophical Research and Translation Lab \(UCRC\)](#). The action is part of the project "Promotion

of the study of ancient Greek and Chinese culture» (principal investigator: Chloe Balla, University of Crete), which is implemented in the framework of the Operational Programme «Human Resources Development, Education and Lifelong Learning», co-financed by Greece and the European Union (European Social Fund - ESF).

The Summer School was organized by: Chloe Balla (University of Crete), Patricia Marechal (University of California, San Diego), Matthew Walker (Yale-NUS College), and Claudia Yau (University of Houston).

Please see the full program of the Summer School and more info about the activities of KELKIP and UCRC in the following links:

<https://summer-schools.uoc.gr/greece-and-china/>

<https://kelkip.uoa.gr/>

<https://keme.uoc.gr/index.php/el/>





## 1st Biophysics Summer School “Biological Physics: Soft Living Matter”

**Date:** August 5-11

**Location:** Xenia Student Cultural Center, Rethymnon



No less than 47 students from the USA and Europe and ten instructors from the USA, Denmark and Greece joined forces from the 5th to the 11th of August at the historic Xenia hotel in Rethymnon to learn, teach, and discuss a wide range of Biophysics topics. Among them were six University of Crete students.

The first Summer School on Biophysics “**Biological Physics: Soft Living Matter**” introduced senior undergraduate and early-stage graduate students predominantly from a physics and materials science background to a variety of systems of active forefront research. **Materials Science and Technology Assistant Prof. Emmanouela Filippidi**, whose role in organizing the School was instrumental, stated: “One of the goals of the Biophysics Summer School is to increase awareness of Biophysics among Greek university students by bringing them in contact with the international Biophysics community, on a topic that is not extensively covered by university classes.”

During seven intense days of lectures, demos, computational workshops, a poster session and sessions aimed at direct interaction with the instructors, students had the opportunity to

learn about systems ranging from molecules to networks of organisms, covering multiple length scales of biophysical research and showcasing the interdisciplinary nature of Biophysics, which brings together scientists from experiment, theory, and computation to answer the many open questions.

The 2023 Summer School offered four scholarships to students and wishes to acknowledge the financial support provided from Lehigh University, University of Pennsylvania’s (UPenn) Center for Soft and Living Matter, and the Max Planck Society’s Partner Group program.

**Local organizer:** Emmanouela Filippidi, Assistant Professor, UoC Department of Materials Science and Technology

**Co-organizers:** Dimitris Vavylonis, Professor, Dept. of Physics, Lehigh University, Eleni Katifori, Associate Professor, Dept. of Physics and Astronomy, UPenn, Alexandros Georgakilas, Professor, School of Applied Mathematical and Physical Sciences, National Technical University of Athens

**Website:** <https://biophysics.materials.uoc.gr>



## "Child and Sport Safety: Basic Cardiac and General Health Evaluation"

**Date:** July 12-15

**Location:** School of Medicine, Voutes Campus, Heraklion Crete



In contrast to well established recommendations for preparticipation screening for adult athletes, focusing mainly on cardiac screening, the preparticipation evaluation of children is challenging: not only the etiology and manifestation of pediatric heart disease differs from adults but further health issues which can affect their safe sport participation including neurology, pulmonology, endocrinology, orthopedic, ophthalmology, genetic etc health issues have to be detected. Furthermore, safe sport participation has to take into account the physical growth and psychosocial development stage children, supporting the joyful participation in a variety of recreational sports over competitive high intensity sports.

The summer school on "Child and Sport Safety: Basic Cardiac and General Health Evaluation" aims to present the principles of basic cardiac (including cardiac auscultation and pediatric electrocardiogram interpretation) as well as general health assessment during preparticipation screening for children participating in school and organized sports. It represented the very first to our knowledge educational activity in this specific field in Greece. The scientific program was under the auspices of School of Medicine, University of Crete, Hellenic Society of Pediatric Cardiology, while it was warmly welcomed by Secretary General of Sports-Ministry of Education and distinguished

representatives of Sports.

During the summer school the principles of basic cardiac including cardiac auscultation and pediatric electrocardiogram interpretation, through interactive-multimedia based small group workshops as well as the presentation of general health assessment during preparticipation screening for children participating in school and organized sports. The program included theory lectures covering cardiac and general

health issues related to safe sport participation in childhood along with age and disease specific recommendations by a total of 25 expert specialists of the corresponding medical and related scientific fields. 8 of them were invited speakers from other medical Faculties or abroad. Participants attended also interactive-multimedia based workshops with emphasis in pediatric cardiology evaluation (pediatric ECG and cardiac auscultation).

A total of **15 medical and health profession undergraduate and post-graduate students and physicians participated** and received 2 ECTS credits, following successful certification exams. Participants validated with high score their experience through completion of anonymized questionnaires at the end of the seminar, while all participant teachers expressed their wish to contribute to further teaching activities in the topic of child and sport safety, in an effort to develop national guidelines for safe sport participation in children with collaboration with state authorities.

Organizer: Ioannis Germanakis, Assoc. Professor of Pediatrics-Pediatric Cardiology, UoC School of Medicine. Scientific Committee: Prof. E. Galanakis, Prof. I. Germanakis, Prof. E. Paraskakis.

**Website:** <https://www.ioanniszaganas.gr/summerschools/4dfetalecg.html>

## Dementia for Medical Students: Improving knowledge/developing skills of pregraduate students to manage dementia

**Date:** July 10 - 20

**Location:** UoC School of Medicine, Voutes Campus, Heraklion Crete



The prevalence of dementia is increasing in our times, posing a burden for modern societies and their health systems. Current medical students, as the physicians of the future, will be called to cope with the increasing number of patients with dementia.

The summer school "Dementia for medical students" of the University of Crete aims to expose medical students to the challenges of early 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 are 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. Medical students are 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 attends afternoon courses by experts in the field of dementia.

The Summer School "Dementia for Medical Students" was first organized in 2022. This year, 5 medical students (from Austria, Belgium, and Greece) participated. Both years, the educational program described above was combined with a social program, including an educational excursion to Spinalonga, where students were introduced to the medical history of the island by a skilled guide. This Summer School program was highly successful as judged by the comments of participating students.

Organizer: Ioannis Zaganas, Assistant Professor of Neurology, UoC School of Medicine

**Website:** <https://www.ioanniszaganas.gr/summerschools/dementia.html>



## Summer School

### Applied Respiratory Physiology

**Date:** July 10-14

**Location:** UoC School of Medicine, Voutes Campus, Heraklion Crete



A summer school for 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, exercise and extreme environments, disease, and mechanical ventilation. The hands-on sessions allowed 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 learned the basic principles of setting and adjusting a mechanical ventilator to support a critically ill patient with respiratory failure. All courses were given by experts in adult respiratory and intensive care medicine.

Organizer: Katerina Vaporidi, Assoc. Professor in Intensive Care Medicine, UoC School of Medicine

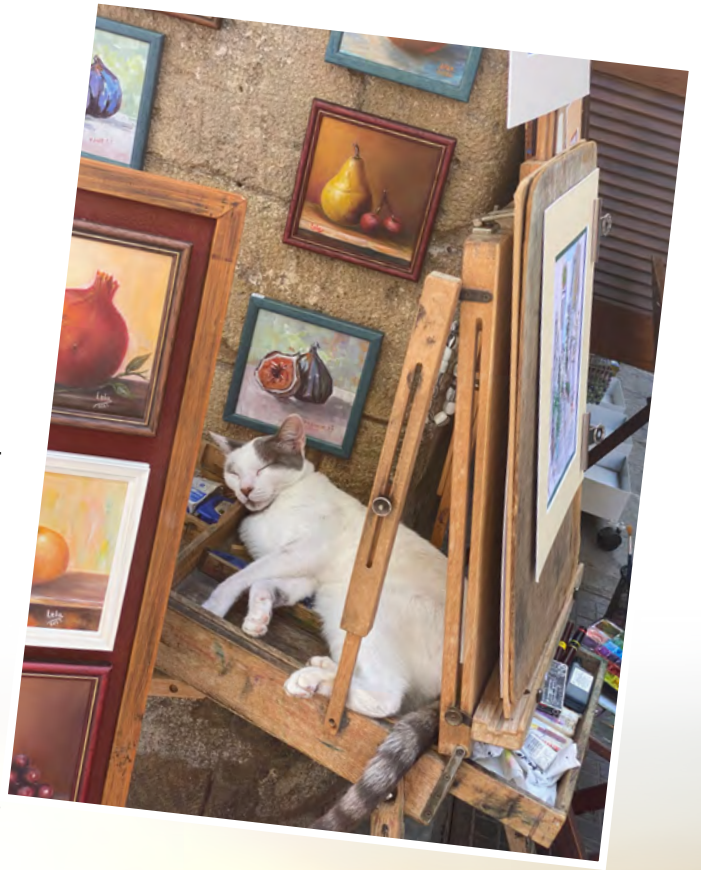
**Website:** <https://www.ioanniszaganas.gr/summerschools/respiratory.html>

## Erasmus student experience

"I really enjoyed my time in Crete. It is an island so beautiful that even when we took a 3-hour drive to the west we just kept saying that even if the destination wasn't as beautiful as we expected, the drive alone would have been worth the trip. But then the destination always was even more gorgeous than expected! The Greek people in and out of the University Hospital were all super friendly and we found it very easy to connect with locals and were often invited out for a drink.

My favorite place in all of Crete is Elaфонισσι, I would suggest going in the evening to see the sunset. Then it is less crowded, and you can really see the pink sand. And every Erasmus Student should go eat at Peskesi in Heraklion, it is the best food I had in Crete!"

-- Katharina Victoria Henners, erasmus student hosted by the UoC School of Medicine





# An Erasmus+ mission of the University of Crete at archaeological excavations in Cyprus

Three postgraduate archaeology students of the University of Crete had the opportunity to travel to Cyprus and participate in an excavation of the University of Cyprus between May 29 and June 17, 2023 (Fig.1). The excavation, led by the professor of the Department of History and of Archaeology of the University of Cyprus Maria Iacovou, started in 2006 in Palaepaphos, the seat of one of the richest and most important ancient kingdoms of Cyprus. The departments of History and Archaeology of the universities of Crete and Cyprus are linked with an Erasmus+ exchange agreement that supported the mobility of the students and their professor, Artemis Karnava, from the Department of History and Archaeology of the University of Crete, for the purpose of their practical training in the methods and practices of archaeological field research.

Ancient Palaepaphos is identified with the location of the modern village of Kouklia, approximately 20 km from today's Paphos in south-western Cyprus. The ancient urban site is known since the 19th century in the centre of the village, but it also extends to the

surrounding hills. The organized and open to the public archaeological site of the Sanctuary of Aphrodite and the Archaeological Museum of Kouklia can be visited today. The search for the location of the sanctuary of Paphian Aphrodite, famous in the ancient world because Paphos was considered the birthplace of this important deity, was the impetus for the first archaeological investigation in the area 135 years ago. The museum is housed in a medieval farmhouse of the Lusignan family, the Frankish rulers of Cyprus during the Middle Ages, and was known during the Ottoman period as "Tsifliki" (*Çiftlik*), since it was used as the seat of the local administration (Fig 2).

The excavation is carried out as part of the Palaepaphos Urban Landscape Project (PULP, 2006-2023). This research program has focused from the beginning on the area around Kouklia and on the investigation of the ancient topography and landscape during the Archaic and Classical times, i.e. the greater part of the 1st mill. BC. Three nearby hills, "Marcello", "Hadjiabdullah" and the outcrop of "Laona", have been investigated in turn (Fig. 3). This year's excavation season focused



Fig1\_Students in action at the excavation site



Fig4 ortification wall of the Archaic and Classical period



on the investigation of Laona, which has emerged through geophysical and archaeological investigations to be a human-made mound and is traversed by a well-preserved and impressive in size fortification wall of the Archaic and Classical period made partly by stone and partly by mudbricks (Fig.4).

The University of Cyprus mission, consisting of 15 undergraduate, postgraduate and graduate students of the institution, was assisted by two postdoctoral researchers from the University of Siena, Italy (*Università per Stranieri di Siena*), who were accompanied by their professor and co-director of the excavation Jacobo Tabolli. The research team makes use of a renovated building next to the archaeological site of Kouklia, where the training in recording the finds takes place (ceramics, organic remains such as seeds, charcoal and bones, etc.), as well as afternoon lectures.

Additionally, courses were given on the spot and with the relevant material at hand, such as the typology and dating of Cypriot pottery by Anna Georgiadou, the excavation's pottery expert, and the history and research of the inscriptions in the Cypriot syllabary by Artemis Karnava, who specializes in Cypriot epigraphy. All the participants found accommodation in village houses, in one of which we had lunch cooked in the kitchens of the Kouklia primary school, offered by the local community to the excavation team.

This Erasmus+ expedition was a unique opportunity for students to participate in an international, archaeological research program outside the borders of the country, to get in touch with an international team of researchers and to gain first-hand experience in the field in a country with a different excavation and archaeological tradition than that of archaeology in Greece. Last but not least, we should stress the warm welcome that the universities of Cyprus and Siena reserved for our students, and the inevitable bonding and spirit of camaraderie that developed among all participants, something which is known in excavations to last for a lifetime.

*Fig3 Three nearby hills, "Marcello", "Hadjiabdullah" and the outcrop of "Laona", have been investigated*



*Fig2 Prof. Artemis Karnava and her students in front of the Archaeological Museum of Kouklia*



# University of Crete in the first 10 Days of **INGENIUM**

**INGENIUM European University** kicked off with its first big event "10 Days of INGENIUM" in June 13-23, 2023. Ten days of events, workshops and presentations of innovative ideas brought together students, academics, and staff of the 10 INGENIUM European Universities.

**Karlsruhe University of Applied Sciences (HKA)** in Germany hosted the first **Junior Summer School on Language, Culture and Diversity** in June 13 – 17 with the participation of students from each partner university, supported by mentors.

The students from the University of Crete had the opportunity to present their perspective, talk about their University and work in multicultural groups. **Maria Pouloupoulou**, Specialized Educational Staff at the UoC School of Philosophy, participated as mentor on behalf of the UoC, assisting students to explore aspects of Language, Culture and Diversity.

The "10 Days of INGENIUM" events included meetings of the INGENIUM Working Group for the Inclusive University where **Aikaterini Dalakoura**, Associate Professor in History of Education and Gender History & President of the Gender Equality Committee of the UoC, presented the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion aspects in the UoC. At the end of the event, INGENIUM students and members planted a tree to celebrate the beginning of this fruitful alliance.





**Maria Pouloupoulou, Specialized Educational Staff, School of Philosophy, UoC:** *"Through those events I had the chance to understand not only the characteristics of foreign students but the characteristics of UoC students as well. Lots of inspiration for upcoming Erasmus programs."*

**Dalakoura Katerina, Associate Professor in History of Education and Gender History, President of the Gender Equality Committee of UoC:** *"Ten European universities towards the common goal of equality, respect for diversity, and inclusion; and a wonderful team to work on it within INGENIUM and beyond. An excellent experience - delighted participating in it!"*

### UoC Students Participants in Junior Summer School on Language, Culture and Diversity

**Tsampouras Kostas, Student, History and Archeology Department, UoC:** *"The 10 days of INGENIUM was a great experience because we had the opportunity to experience what EU is."*

**Pantelidaki Georgia, Student, History and Archeology Department, UoC:** *"They say you can learn something new from every person you meet. That's what I did."*

**Tsintilakaki Georgia Ioanna, Student, History and Archeology Department, UoC:** *"Diversity 101"*

The 10 Days of INGENIUM events continued in Italy at the [Università degli Studi "Gabriele d'Annunzio" Chieti - Pescara](#) in June 19 – 23, 2023. In the first **Senior Summer School on Health, Well-being and Technology**, faculties, researchers, and students, Master and PhD, from different backgrounds exchanged knowledge, ideas, and best practices. UoC students had the chance to attend to keynote speeches, technical presentations, workshops, and panel discussions on a wide range of topics related to Health, Well-being and Technology, while they took the opportunity to network and collaborate with peers from all the partner Institutions.





During the 10 Days of INGENIUM in the Università degli Studi "Gabriele d'Annunzio" Chieti - Pescara, the first Staff Academy was held where every Alliance university has selected one innovative pedagogical methodology to share and showcase. A total of 10 cases were presented, recorded and streamed, allowing a large number of staff members to learn about innovative teaching and learning methodologies. Staff Academy workshops provided new insights, introduced skills to the participants, hands-on learning and interaction with colleagues from diverse backgrounds. **Kallia Katsampoxaki-Hodgetts**, Instructor of English for Specific/Academic Purposes, presented the workshop "Constructively aligning lesson design and assessment in order to meet inclusive education learning outcomes" and together with **Stelios Tzagkarakis**, Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Political Science, attended the Innovation Committee meetings on behalf of the UoC.

**Kallia Katsampoxaki-Hodgetts, Instructor of English for Specific/Academic Purposes, UoC:** *"Herein, Inclusive student-centered pedagogies (I-SCP) in higher education are defined as the proactive and intentional teaching and learning activities, course design, curricula and assessment which foster equity during carefully designed learner-centered opportunities for student engagement, self-awareness, self-regulation, and learner autonomy for all stakeholders in higher education."*

**Dr. Stylianos Ioannis Tzagkarakis, Adjunct Lecturer at the Department of Political Science, UoC:** *"The visit to Pescara for the 10 Days of Ingenium gave me the opportunity to live a unique experience, during which I participated in the Staff Academy and attended several interesting lectures. At the Staff Academy I gained some very useful knowledge and experience regarding alternative teaching formats, as some workshops were really very innovative. At the same time, I participated in the Innovation Committee workshop where we exchanged views and good practices with fellow participants through interactive and participatory activities. Overall, the experience was unique, with learning, networking and exchange of views and innovative practices."*

## UoC Students Participants in Senior Summer School on Health, well-being and technology

**Vretzou Myrto Biochemist - Biotechnologist, Master student in MSc Protein Biotechnology of UoC:** *"It was a pleasure and a joy to see this new initiative of our universities take form and start to grow before our eyes. I'm sure we'll get to see it become even stronger; can't wait to hear about the next milestones INGENIUM hits!"*



**Panagou Georgia, PhD Student in Chemistry, UoC:** *"Participating in 10DaysofINGENIUM has been an enlightening experience, that not only broadened my horizons but also underscored the immense value of interdisciplinary and cross-cultural collaboration in the realm of academia."*

**Achladianakis Minas, Master student in Applied and Computational Mathematics, UoC:** *"My recent participation in the summer school has been an incredibly transformative experience, encompassing a wide range of lessons and personal growth. Engaging with a diverse group of individuals within a team, allowed me to cultivate new perspectives, honing my ability to actively listen and understand different points of view. Through collaborative efforts, I established meaningful connections with professionals in my field and in related disciplines, fostering potential future cooperation. Overall, this summer school experience has provided me with a solid foundation to pursue further academic endeavors and I eagerly anticipate the positive outcomes that will arise from the connections and insights I gained."*

**Elisavet Kapetanou, Master student in MSc Program: Biomedical Engineering, UoC:** *"The 10 Days of INGENIUM event brought together the academic community of 10 universities, laying the groundwork for forging partnerships between the alliance members and fostering intercultural competence and understanding."*

## 3M Thesis Competition in Heraklion

The final evaluation phase of the “My Thesis in 3 Minutes - 3 Minute Thesis” competition was completed on July 11, organized for the third time in Greece by the University of Crete at the Cultural and Conference Center of Heraklion. Ten PhD candidates of the University of Crete who received the highest score during the first phase (a total of 23 students participated) competed in the final phase and presented in 3 minutes the purpose and the importance of their research to the general public.



The winner of the 1st prize and the audience award was Mr. Nikolaos Arapitsas, PhD candidate of the UoC Department of Biology, who presented his PhD thesis on “Investigation of the transcriptional and epigenetic footprint of the interaction between endophytic microbes and the host plant”. The winner of the 2nd prize was Mr. Haris Livas, PhD candidate of the UoC Department of Chemistry, who presented his PhD thesis on “Use and development of Machine Learning methods for the study of molecule storage in nanomaterials”.

Congratulations to the winners and to all PhD candidates that participated in the competition!



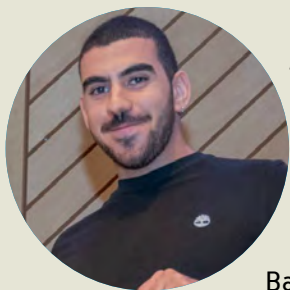
## Nikolaos Arapitsas



"I obtained a Bachelor's degree in Biology and a Master's degree in Molecular Biology – Biomedicine from the Department of Biology at the University of Crete. I am currently a PhD candidate in the "Laboratory of Microbiology & Molecular Host - Microbe Interactions" in the Department of Biology at the University of Crete. In my PhD thesis I seek to decode the "molecular dialogs" taking place during plant colonization by beneficial microbes (bacteria and yeasts) and uncover their molecular footprint to the host. My research will unravel the molecular basis behind the ability of certain beneficial endophytic microbes to enhance the resistance of their host plants against pathogens and fuel the development of novel and sustainable agricultural applications that will reduce the environmental impact of human on the planet as a result of the intensive agriculture and use of pesticides. I would like to deeply thank my Professor Panagiotis F. Sarris and my supervisor Dr. Christos Christakis for their valuable support and mentoring, in the demanding, yet exciting path of my PhD thesis.

My participation in the 3M Thesis Competition was a unique experience for me. I consider it very important to transmit scientific knowledge in a simple way, so that all members of society can be informed about new scientific facts. The competition gave me the opportunity to communicate the ideas and results of my doctoral thesis to the general public. In addition, limiting the presentation time to three minutes helped me focus on the main concepts of my research, so that my findings and their importance for society could be more easily understood. Events like this are very important for the fruitful interaction between PhD students from different research fields and the public, as they foster interdisciplinarity and make new scientific knowledge more accessible and understandable to all people. I would like to congratulate all those who participated in the competition, as all presentations were excellent".

## Charis Livas



"My participation in the competition was memorable and very beneficial for my work. During the preparation, I practiced my presentation skills and the help and support I received from the organizers was invaluable. I am delighted by my success in the university competition. This achievement underscores the significance of my research focus, and I am excited to delve into it further. My academic journey has taken me through a diverse path: from completing my Bachelor's degree in Physics, followed by my Master's in the Chemistry Department, to my current pursuit of a Ph.D., still in the Chemistry Department. I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to my advisor, Professor Georgios Froudakis, for his constant guidance and invaluable mentorship. I am also grateful to Mr. Manolis Tillianakis for his valuable assistance and support. My research revolves around a critical endeavor. I am tackling the challenge of hydrogen storage—a crucial aspect of our efforts to utilize hydrogen as a clean fuel. Hydrogen has the potential to revolutionize clean energy, and my research aims to address the storage issues hindering its widespread application. This pursuit is more than a passion; it's a commitment to contribute to a sustainable future. I am enthusiastic about the progress made so far and excited for what lies ahead in this crucial area of scientific exploration. I encourage all members of the University of Crete to attend and actively participate in this event!"

# Distinctions



## Education Leaders Awards 2023

Gold Award for the School of Medicine & the [Centre of Training and Lifelong Learning \(KEDIVIM\)](#) of the University of Crete in the category "Horizontal Skills Development" for the Distance Training Program **"General Practitioners in the Role of Health Coaches in Chronic Respiratory Diseases"**.

Associate Professor of General Practice & Public Health Mrs. [Ioanna Tsiligianni](#), Scientific Coordinator of the Program, PhD Candidate Katerina Boulougari and all those who contributed in the implementation of the Program, dedicated this award to the GPs from all over Greece & Cyprus who participated in the training and thanked them for their commitment to try an alternative way of communicating with their patients, based on the development of soft skills & emotional intelligence.

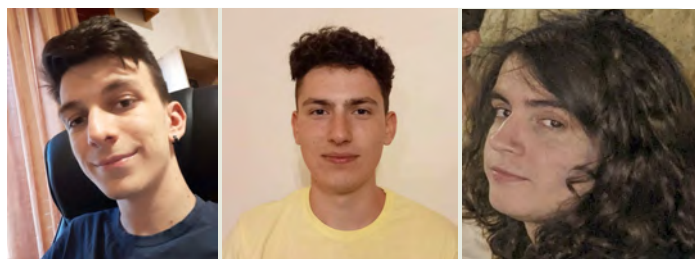
The Education Leaders Awards 2023 were held on Monday 03 July 2023 at the Conference Centre of the University of West Attica, aiming to promote and reward groundbreaking educational activities and educators that make a difference in the new digital era.



## Cisco Announces Acquisition of Code BGP

Cisco ThousandEyes has acquired the spin-off Code BGP, co-founded by Xenofontas Dimitropoulos, Associate Professor at the University of Crete, Department of Computer Science. BGP is an essential technology that enables the Internet to function and Cisco ThousandEyes has always been committed to providing customers the most extensive and authoritative view of the Internet and digital experiences across any network. Code BGP resulted from another fruitful alliance between UoC and FORTH and consists of renowned BGP experts who will enable Cisco ThousandEyes to expand its BGP monitoring capabilities and global, authoritative view of Internet health.

Please read more here: <https://www.thousandeyes.com/blog/cisco-announces-acquisition-of-codebgp>



## UoC students & graduates join the National Team at the European Cyber Security Challenge 2023 (ECSC23)

An [important distinction](#) for 3 students of the UoC Computer Science Department (CSD), who were selected to join the Greek National Cyber Security Team and will participate at the European Cyber Security Challenge 2023 (ECSC23) in Norway! Congratulations to the CSD undergraduate students Theodoros Kokkinelis & Orfeas Chatzipanagotis and CSD graduate Iasonas Konstantinos Manthos!



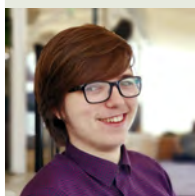


**Professor Elektra Gizeli,  
Member of the European  
Molecular Biology Organization  
(EMBO)**

The Professor of the Department of Biology of the University of Crete, Ms. Elektra Gizeli has been elected member of the European Molecular Biology Organization, EMBO. This international distinction reflects her innovative research work in Molecular Biology, confirming once again, her high level of research and scientific academic work. It is a recognition of scientific excellence that has honored the Department of Biology and the University of Crete.

Congratulations!

**Best Technical Paper Award to  
Drosakis Drosakis, graduate  
of the Department of Comput-  
er Science**



Congratulations to Drosakis Drosakis, graduate of the Department of Computer Science of the University of Crete, who received the Best

Technical Paper Award for his scientific paper presented at the [PETRA 2023](#) conference:

D. Drosakis and A. Argyros, "3D Hand Shape and Pose Estimation based on 2D Hand Keypoints", In International Conference on Pervasive Technologies Related to Assistive Environments (PETRA 2023), ACM, Corfu, Greece, July 5-7, 2023.

The presented research in the article was the thesis of Drosakis Drosakis

**Double distinction for Prof. Nektarios  
Tavernarakis**



Double distinction for Nektarios Tavernarakis, Professor at the Medical School of the University of Crete and Chairman of the Board of Directors at the Foundation for Research and Technology

Hellas (FORTH), who was recently elected Member of the European Academy of Sciences (EurASc) and the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. These distinctions consist an important recognition of the scientific quality and the highly competitive research conducted at the University of Crete and FORTH.

The nomination of Prof. Tavernarakis to the European Academy of Sciences (EurASc), was enthusiastically supported by all members of the full General Board, following a stringent evaluation process. EurASc Membership is bestowed to the best European scientists with a vision that transcends national borders and aims to strengthen science in Europe and scientific cooperation among member states. Among the objectives of the Academy is to use the expertise of its members to support European research, groundbreaking technologies and social progress. Its Members are leading scientists who have been recognized for their seminal contributions to pioneering research and technology. The official induction ceremony for Prof. Tavernarakis will be held in October 2023, in Madrid.

In addition to his Membership to the European Academy of Sciences, Prof. Nektarios Tavernarakis was recently elected member of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina in an official ceremony which took place this month in Halle, Germany. Membership to the German National Academy of Sciences is bestowed to distinguished scientists with important academic achievements. Its members are leading scientists, who are internationally recognized for their scientific work and distinguished for their high-quality, innovative research. The Academy has around 1,600 Members, 187 of whom have been awarded the Nobel Prize. Nektarios Tavernarakis is the second Greek scientist to be elected a member of the German Academy and the first in the field of Biomedical Sciences.

Nektarios Tavernarakis is also a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO), the European Academy of Sciences and Arts (EASA), Academia Europaea, and the Academy of Athens.

Congratulations!



### 30/6 Meeting with representatives of UK Universities



A meeting between the Rectorate & staff of the International & Public Relations Department of the University of Crete and political Counsellor of the British Embassy, Ms Jamie Turner, and Country Director of the British Council in Greece & Cyprus, Ms. Anastasia Andritsou, took place in June 30, aiming to strengthen existing collaborations between the University of Crete and UK Universities and to explore new opportunities. In the presence of the Rector of the University of Crete, Prof. G. Kontakis, the international profile of our institution was presented by the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, Lifelong Learning, International Relations & Outlook, Prof. George Kossioris while the Directorate of International Relations presented UoC collaborations with UK Universities, UoC study programs offered in English and the UoC Welcome Office.

### 1/7-1/9 The first MOOC on University Education and Teaching Methodology in Higher Education

The first MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) on «University Education and Teaching Methodology in Higher Education» of the University of Crete is launched. The MOOC follows international standards and features reflective activities and discussions to create a learning community and a sense of belonging, opportunities for peer-coaching and interactive feedback from other teachers. The first MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) on University Education and Teaching Methodology in Higher Education adheres to

international standards, and not just a repository of videos or texts. It features activities and discussions, with the aim of creating a learning community and opportunities for peer-coaching.

On the occasion of the MOOC and many other important actions of the [UoC Center for Teaching and Training – TotT](#) for the development of University Education we invite you to our International Conference on 15-17 September 2023.

### 4-10/7 The University of Crete at the Cretan Food Festival

The University of Crete participates in the Cretan Food Festival, organised by the Municipality of Rethymnon, the Regional Unit of Rethymnon and the Rethymnon Chamber of Commerce, at the Municipal Garden of the city. The event presents some of the 15 electronic and printed publications of the University of Crete and, in combination with virtual and augmented reality technologies, the Shepherd's Life and the intangible cultural heritage in the communities of Psiloritis (Mount Idi). The program includes the presentation of IDAology research project, implemented in the UoC under the coordination of the Institute of Computer Science of the Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas.

### 5/7 8th Research Seminar of the Joint Seminar Series in Translational and Clinical Medicine

The 8th Research Seminar of the Joint Seminar Series in Translational and Clinical Medicine, co-organized by the UoC School of Medicine, the Foundation for Research and Technology (FORTH) and the UoC Research Centre (UCRC), is presented by Associate Professor of Orthopaedics Theodoros Tosounidis and is titled: ["Osteoporosis and osteosarcopenia – clinical challenges in hip fragility fractures"](#).



## 21/7 Visit of the Hellenic Chinese Culture Association (HCCA) and of China's National Publications Import & Export (Group) Co., Ltd. (CNPIEC) associated members at the University of Crete

Representatives of the Hellenic Chinese Culture Association (HCCA) and the China National Publications Import & Export (Group) Co., Ltd. (CNPIEC) visited the University of Crete on Friday 21, 2023. The delegation was welcomed by the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, Lifelong Learning, International Relations & Outlook Prof. G. Kossioris, as well as representatives of UoC departments at Voutes Campus, Heraklion. The UoC was honored with the presence of the Regional Vice Governor for Tourism and e-Government of the Region of Crete, Dr. K. Kotsoglou in the meeting. The topics discussed concerned the new initiatives and innovative actions of the UoC as well as educational partnerships in progress between the University of Crete and Chinese Universities. The rich cultural heritage Greece and China share sets the ground for new collaborations and the development of joint activities during the next academic year.





ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ  
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**NEWSUOC**  
*e - Newsletter*

