

# ABOUT THE OUC

## ABOUT THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS 2015 EDITION

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# THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS

Using technology to enhance the educational process and adapting teaching to new educational methodologies and strategies with the support of a variety of communication tools, the Open University of Cyprus (OUC) reflects on the socio-economic and technological advances of our era, providing high quality distance education, thus significantly contributing to the cultural wellbeing of the society.

The Open University of Cyprus is a **public Higher Education Institution**, operating under the effective control of the Ministry of Education and Culture, as it was established under University law 234(I)/2002 in 2002. The OUC is the second (in order of establishment) public University in Cyprus and **the only one devoted entirely to open and distance tertiary education**. It offers **interdisciplinary, career-oriented undergraduate and postgraduate (at master and doctoral level) programmes of study**, pushing students boundaries further, encouraging their creating thinking and enabling them to discover much more than the mere knowledge they need to prosper and succeed in today's competitive environment.

At the OUC, there is no "one size fits all" approach to higher education, allowing students to follow a broad intellectual path, irrespective of age, time, location or life circumstances and achieve their personal and professional goals. The OUC is **a University committed to endorse equal opportunities for all**, aiming to make an impact on society through science, knowledge, research and innovation, contributing on diverse interdisciplinary scientific areas. It also enhances the mobility of its students and staff, as well as it promotes effective cooperation and inter-relationship with other universities, offering joint or double degrees, accomplishing its vision to become an inspiring educational institution. Through its distance learning academic programmes, lifelong learning opportunities, social activities, and research, the OUC fully supports and contributes to the State's objective to transform Cyprus to a regional educational and research center.

# VISION AND MISSION

The OUC is committed to opening up education to all, strives for an outstanding teaching and learning experience and unrivalled links with the business world. The OUC aims to establish itself as a leading distance education University, with international presence and recognition, mainly in the broader area of southeastern Europe and the Mediterranean. A Higher Education Institution, which offers diverse high quality programmes of study in 'classical' and contemporary scientific fields in both Greek and English, attracting students from across the world.

The mission of OUC is to continue providing to its students the opportunity for lifelong learning and for obtaining new knowledge and skills needed to start or progress with their professional careers, without having to engage into typical student work routines. The University aims to combine its international agenda and flexible structure, using both as a tool for establishing Cyprus a regional centre for education, scientific research and innovation. Towards that direction, OUC works to expand its network of collaborators and establish strong partnerships with other universities and research institutions in the broader region and beyond, promoting cooperation and exchange of good practices and upgrading its technological e-Learning infrastructure.

The OUC sets its goal to be established as a flagship institution promoting open and distance learning, embodying the Hellenistic culture. It envisions its role as an inspiring educational institution, offering a stimulating environment for students, staff and alumni, with a special interest to promote culture and cooperation with neighboring countries and beyond.

open access to higher education

quality academic programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate (Master and PhD) levels

distance teaching and learning methods, enabling individualized study

research, dissemination and transfer of knowledge within and across disciplines

social responsibility, ethics, efficiency

# WHY CHOOSE THE OUC



For the opportunity to study in a **European public University**, which is devoted to open and distance education.

For its **affordable, high quality**, distance learning undergraduate and postgraduate (Master and PhD) programmes, which meet the needs of the industry and enables our students to fulfill their personal and professional aspirations.

For its **flexibility**, which allows students to adjust their study programme to fit in with job, family and any other commitments.

For its **modern educational methodology**, its user-friendly eLearning Platform and the multi-format educational material used, which allow a seamless learning experience.

For the **academic support** provided by the OUC's academic personnel, along with online or face-to-face study group tutorials.

For the opportunity to **participate and interact** with fellow students, peers and professors through online networks and course forums.



## FLEXIBILITY

Characterized by flexibility in time, location and teaching techniques, the educational methodology of the OUC supports people's need for continuous enhancement of their qualifications, education and personal/professional advancement. The OUC offers its students the opportunity to combine their work and study commitments in a way that best suits them, through innovative teaching methods, allowing them to study online, using their PC or tablet, anywhere, at any time.

The OUC does not impose limits on how students may study. The originality of the open and distance learning method lies in the fact that people can study for a degree without having to put their career and personal life on hold. The time to complete their studies can take as long as 12 years for Bachelor degree programmes, 6 years for Master degree programmes and 8 years for PhD programmes. Students may also suspend their studies for financial, medical or any other personal reasons. Each degree offers a range of Thematic Units (i.e. modules) for students to choose the appropriate route in their field of interest.

## ACADEMIC SUPPORT

The OUC provides constant support, on a personal level, to each student who wishes to gain a competitive advantage and further enhance his/her future prospects.

Teaching and learning at the OUC is delivered:

- via lectures over the Internet, organized at specific times, by the University tutors.
- using printed educational material and specially designed digital material that students receive electronically.
- through the OUC's e-learning platform, which students use to:
  - find all relevant information on their programme of study and Thematic Units,
  - contact their tutors by using the synchronous and asynchronous technology provided in the e-learning platform (chat, video chat, forum),
  - exchange ideas with fellow students and tutors.

The academic personnel also provides the academic support, advice and help students may need to maximize their learning potentials and success, overcoming challenges they may face.

## CAREER-ORIENTED

The OUC engages and cooperates closely with various ministries, public and private organizations in Cyprus and beyond. These collaborations support the development of quality programmes of study by the OUC, providing to students advanced qualifications for their future career prospects. Moreover, the OUC is operating an Industry Liaison Office, which supports the efforts of limiting the gap between higher education and the business world through various initiatives, which provide opportunities to OUC students and graduates to increase their employability, competitiveness, development and progress.

## REPUTATION

Ever since its establishment, the OUC has experienced near-exponential growth in student numbers and it **is already the largest university in Cyprus in terms of postgraduate students.**

In the 2006-2007 academic year, OUC enrolled its first 162 students; now there are **approximately 5000 students enrolled in the 24 programmes offered for the 2015-2016 academic year** and 2626 people have already graduated with an OUC degree.



# EDUCATIONAL METHODOLOGY

Distance education differs from conventional classroom-based education, mainly because it allows **students** to **complete their studies without physically attending to scheduled lectures**. The OUC's programmes offer flexibility in the way they are delivered, and with the use of educational technology, students may access their course material, carry out assignments and receive instructions and feedback from their tutors and classmates, at their own time and place. Over the years, the OUC has made every effort to ensure that it is **multi-format**, in terms of its educational methods and materials, in order **to respond to the diversified needs of its students**.

The main educational tool is the OUC's **eLearning Platform – eClass** - that facilitates online teaching and learning, allowing the establishment of virtual classrooms, equipped with real-time and asynchronous collaboration tools.

The **eLearning Platform** is a comprehensive and constantly evolving e-learning system that supports the educational process at all its phases. Specifically, students can access their courses' educational material online, organize their study calendars, submit their coursework and receive feedback on their progress. Information is also given on the programmes' objectives, structure, curriculum, course and examination materials.

At the same time, the learning experience is complemented by face-to-face group meetings that are scheduled throughout the academic year, and while not mandatory, they play a key supporting role in educational processes. These **tutorials** are **organized with either physical presence, or virtual** using eClass, and are academically challenging and rigorous. Tutorials serve to support students to deal with issues of their course material in a constructive and critical way and constitute an important feedback mechanism, which allows students to maximize their learning potential. In addition, tutorials serve as a forum for questions and answers so that the students may benefit and share their knowledge and expertise with fellow students and tutors and fully understand the content of every Thematic Unit.

Student cohorts are created for every Thematic Unit (usually consisting of 30-35 students). Each student cohort has a tutor, a Faculty member or adjunct Faculty (part-time educational personnel), who supervises the group, answers to students' questions, grades their assignments and papers and monitors their overall progress providing the necessary feedback. In order to ensure the integrity of the examination processes, all students are required to attend in person for the final written examination, for each Thematic Unit. Final year written exams count to a large percentage for the students' overall grade.

# FACULTIES AND PROGRAMMES OF STUDY (2015-2016)

The Open University of Cyprus offers accredited degree programmes at both undergraduate and postgraduate level (Masters or PhD) to individuals who wish to have **flexibility, choice, individualized learning, accessibility** and **adaptability** in their studies. These five elements make the method of open and distance learning education particularly attractive.

Additionally, the OUC offers short training programmes – during the 2015-2016 academic year, online Social Media seminars - aiming at providing trainees hard and soft transferable skills.

## THERE ARE THREE FACULTIES AT OUC:

- FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
- FACULTY OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES
- FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT

	Bachelor	Master	Doctorate	ECTS credits <sup>1</sup>
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences				
Communications and new Journalism: • Communications • new Journalism		•	•	120
Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning		•	•	120
Cultural Policy and Development		•		120
Greek Language and Literature		•		120
Social Information Systems: • Analysis of Social Information Systems • Design of Social Information Systems		•	•	120
Studies in Hellenic Culture: • Literature • History - Archaeology - Art • Generic	•		•	240
Theatre Studies: • Reception of Ancient Drama • Theatre in Education • Acting and Directing		•		120
Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences				
Applied Health Informatics		•		90
Computer and Network Security		•	•	90
Environmental Conservation and Management: • Energy and Pollution • Terrestrial Ecosystem Management		•		100
Information and Communications Systems			•	
Sustainable Energy Systems <sup>2</sup> ( <i>in English</i> )		*		90
Wireless Communication Systems		•	•	120

\* Programmes of study offered in English.

<sup>1</sup> For Bachelor or Master level, respectively.

<sup>2</sup> Joint degree with Frederick University.

	Bachelor	Master	Doctorate	ECTS credits <sup>1</sup>
Faculty of Economics and Management				
Banking and Finance		●		120
Business Administration	●			240
Business Administration - MBA ( <i>offered in both Greek and English</i> )		●		120
Educational Studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational Leadership and Policy</li> <li>• Social Justice Education</li> <li>• Special Education</li> <li>• Continuing Education</li> <li>• Educational Technology and Communication</li> </ul>		●	●	120
Enterprise Risk Management <sup>3</sup> ( <i>in English</i> )		*		120
European Union Law: <sup>4</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• European Competition Law</li> <li>• European Business Law</li> </ul>		●		120
Healthcare Management		●	●	120
Health Policy and Planning		●	●	120
International Hospitality and Tourism Management <sup>5</sup> ( <i>in English</i> )		*		90
Management, Technology and Quality		●		90
Police Studies <sup>6</sup>	●			120

For more information on the contents and characteristics of each programme of study visit the University's website:

<http://www.ouc.ac.cy/web/guest/university/programme>

Any new programmes to be offered for the 2016-2017 academic year will be made available on the University's website.



\* Programmes of study offered in English.

<sup>3</sup> Joint degree with the Hellenic Open University.

<sup>4</sup> Joint degree with the European University of Cyprus.

<sup>5</sup> Joint degree with the Cyprus University of Technology.

<sup>6</sup> Offered exclusively for the Cyprus Police Academy graduates.

# ORGANISATION OF STUDIES

## DEGREES

The University awards undergraduate [Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BSc)] and postgraduate degrees [(Master of Arts (MA) or Master of Science (MSc))] to students who have successfully completed and fulfilled their degree requirements.

The OUC operates on a modular degree system and degrees are obtained through the accumulation of ECTS credits (i.e. the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System). The programmes of study are organized around the “Thematic Unit” (i.e. module). Thematic Units are either semester-long (10 or 15 ECTS, corresponding to 250-450 hours of student workload respectively) year-long (24-30 ECTS, corresponding to 600-900 hours of student workload) depending on the programme of study. For successful completion of undergraduate studies (**Bachelor degrees**), students must complete **240 ECTS** and for the successful completion of postgraduate studies (**Master degrees**), students must complete **90-120 ECTS**.

**The degrees awarded by the OUC are equivalent to any other accredited university worldwide**, regardless of the educational methodology used - conventional or not. The OUC degrees are also **recognized by the Hellenic National Academic Recognition Information Center- NARIC**.

## TEACHING LANGUAGE

The main language of instruction at the OUC is **Greek**. A limited number of Master degrees are also offered in the **English** language with additional English-language programmes currently under development.

## ADMISSIONS

Prospective students are invited to submit their **online applications** for the various programmes of study through the University’s website, selecting the relevant link “Applications” or through the University’s Student Portal at the following web link:

<http://portal.ouc.ac.cy/applicants.aspx>



Applications may be submitted within a specific period each year as announced at [www.ouc.ac.cy](http://www.ouc.ac.cy)

Each programme has its own minimum admission requirements and applicants that meet the admission criteria are randomly selected for enrollment to the respective programmes. For a Bachelor degree, a secondary education degree is the basic prerequisite. For a Master degree, applicants must hold, at least, a Bachelor degree from an accredited university. Master programmes may have other additional requirements (e.g. good knowledge of a foreign language) depending on the specific programme. The Open University of Cyprus also offers joint programmes with partner Universities that may have other, more specific requirements (i.e. good knowledge of a foreign language, advanced computer skills etc). Finally, for admissions to the Doctorate programmes candidates require to have completed a Master degree from an accredited university.

Students enroll in the programmes of study according to a cohort model. Student cohorts are organized for the various Thematic Units based on specific criteria in consideration with student preferences.

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR

ACADEMIC YEAR 2015-2016		
	Start Date	End Date
Academic Year	3rd week of September	31 July
Fall Semester	3rd week of September	15 January
Spring Semester	4th week of January	31 May
Completion of Student Academic Obligations		
Thematic Units Fall Semester	27 February	
Thematic Units Spring Semester	31 July	
Issuing of the Degrees		
Fall Semester	27 February	
Spring Semester	31 July	
Applications for Student Admission		
	February until April	
Final Examinations		
Fall Semester	2nd week of January	4th week of January
Spring Semester	3rd week of May	4th week of May
Graduation Ceremony		
	October/November	

# OUC LIBRARY

The OUC Library provides an open access to knowledge and is a gateway to a comprehensive collection of books, journals, and other related publications from printed databases. Moreover, through the Library's electronic resources, members of the OUC community have access to global electronic sources, such as international databases, e-journals, e-books, as well as digital collections and other resources. The OUC Library also provides access to the University's academic publications, student dissertations and thesis.

The subsystems and digital information services of the OUC Library:

- 89.065 e-Books
- 175 databases (via subscriptions)
- 32.198 e-Journals (via subscriptions)
- 2.800.000 theses from European and American Universities (via subscriptions)
- ~200.100 general interest free access electronic resources organized in 100 digital collections (via Library's website)
- The Library's website hosts 360 useful web links organized in alphabetic indexes, containing open access supportive informational and educational material.

For more information, please visit the Library's website:  
<http://www.ouc.ac.cy/web/guest/university/department/lib>

# RESEARCH / LABS

Research at the Open University of Cyprus is wide-ranging, interdisciplinary and includes both individual projects of its academic staff, as well as collaborative efforts which involve local and international universities, research centers and institutes. Under its internationalization strategy, the University continues to develop strong and effective partnerships with foreign research teams, which provide opportunities for international collaboration and active involvement in multidisciplinary projects covering emerging developments in various fields.

University research activities are funded by the University's state funded budget, or receive funding from various national, European and international organizations and programmes, such as the Erasmus+, Horizon 2020, and Interreg.

Research at the OUC is primarily conducted by its Faculty and is currently specialized in the following key areas of:

- educational sciences, literature and linguistics,
- arts, theatre, history and archeology,
- communications, journalism and social media,
- health sciences, health economics and applied statistics,
- business administration, management, banking,
- educational technology, e-Learning,
- environment, ecology and climate change,
- information and communication technologies, artificial intelligence, telecommunications.

The outcomes of research are reflected in the Curriculum Vitae of the academic staff of the University, their publications and the research oriented postgraduate programmes of the OUC.

To maximize research impact, the OUC currently has **four (4) independent research labs** supporting collaborative research and engaging faculty and students from across the University:

#### EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY LAB

The OUC Lab for Educational Technology conducts research and publishing in the areas of open and distance learning methodologies, internet safety, mobile and adaptive learning, human-machine interaction and ICT utilization in school education.

#### TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEMS RESEARCH LAB

The Telecommunication Systems Research Laboratory (TSRL) operation is to investigate state of the art research areas in wireless communications and to support teaching activities at OUC. Researchers of TSRL have extensive research expertise in the areas related to Radio Network Planning, Terrestrial and Satellite Communications, MIMO Communications, Image Processing for Telecom applications, Localization/Positioning, UWB Communications, RF/Antenna design and large scale Telecommunication network modeling.

#### COMPUTATIONAL COGNITION LAB

The research carried out at the Computational Cognition Lab seeks to understand cognitive processes often associated with individual or collective intelligence - such as learning, reasoning, sensing, communication, cooperation - and how these are employed by humans and/or other life-forms in everyday life. Emphasis is placed on the development of formal computational models for various aspects of cognitive processes and the analysis of the formal implications that such models have.

#### TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS MANAGEMENT LAB

The Terrestrial Ecosystems Management Lab is based on traditional approaches to ecosystem management coupled with landscape ecology principles: namely the importance given on spatial configuration and larger spatial extents of ecological processes. The TEM lab specializes in research on:

- Mediterranean Ecosystems with emphasis on islands and mountains
- Landscape based approach to nature conservation
- Spatial Analysis and modeling for species habitats and ecosystem services

# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The Open University of Cyprus is developing a holistic approach to internationalization by forging strategic international alliances with universities, research centers and other public and private institutions, participating in European and international educational and research programmes, promoting transnational delivery of degrees via open and distance learning and teaching, fostering an international dimension of curricula and increasing mobility of its students and staff.

#### The OUC's international partners:

- Kazan Federal University (Russia)
- Hellenic Open University (Greece)
- Saint Louis University (United States of America)
- University of Haifa (Israel)
- Mariupol State University (Ukraine)
- Moscow State University of Economics, Statistics and Informatics (Russia)
- Donau Universität Krems (Austria)
- Universidade Aberta (Portugal)
- Transilvania University of Braşov (Romania)
- Al Quds Open University (Palestinian Authority)

The OUC actively participates in university networks and international organizations. These international linkages are vital to the University to provide its staff and students not only mobility options but also the best possible educational and career opportunities. By participating in these networks the OUC also promotes policy positions relating to lifelong learning and the development of distance education and e-Learning.

#### The OUC is a member of several high profile European and international organizations and networks:

- **EADTU:** European Association of Distance Teaching Universities
- **EAEC:** European Association of Erasmus Coordinators
- **EDEN:** European Distance and e-Learning Network
- **EOC:** European Office of Cyprus
- **EUA:** European University Association (through its membership in the Cyprus Rectors' Conference)
- **EURASHE:** European Association of Institutions in Higher Education
- **EU<sup>2</sup>S<sup>2</sup>:** European Union Universities of Small States Association
- **HUMANE:** Heads of University Management and Administration Network in Europe
- **ICDE:** International Council for Open and Distance Education
- **RETI:** «Excellence Network Island Territories», ENIT / Reseaux d' Excellence des Territoires Insulaires

# MOBILITY OPPORTUNITIES

The OUC is a University committed to enhance the mobility of its students and staff, as well as, its inter-relationship with other national or international universities. OUC's International Relations, Development and Communication Service, is responsible for the development of international partnerships with other universities, research centers and organizations, and the enhancement of a continuous and active participation of the Open University of Cyprus in mobility programmes.

The OUC has gained experience through its active participation in various European programmes and mobility projects, i.e. the Leonardo da Vinci, Grundtvig and Erasmus, winning distinctions in 2014 from the Cypriot National Agency for European Programmes for (a) successfully completing a high quality Grundtvig project entitled "Mobility advising - a way to stimulate motivation for mobility among adult learners" and (b) for the significant increase on its student and staff mobility under the context of the Erasmus Programme. Moreover, in 2014, the OUC was awarded with the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education for its participation in the Erasmus+, 2014-2020.

With an active and growing participation in Erasmus+, which serves as an essential tool for its internationalization strategy, the OUC is aiming to strengthen cooperation with other universities and organizations that participate in the Programme. Erasmus+ is providing mobility opportunities and possibilities for OUC students, to gain new experiences, knowledge and skills in their field of interest or carry out work placements abroad. It is also supports its academic members to develop their teaching techniques and assist its staff members to acquire and share good practices. Furthermore, the programme is aiming to attract incoming foreign students and staff to study, teach or train at the OUC.



For more information on the mobility activities of the OUC,  
please follow the relevant link:  
<http://www.ouc.ac.cy/web/guest/university/diethneis/erasmusplus>

# ACADEMIA-INDUSTRY LIAISON OFFICE

Across the world, technological breakthroughs, ageing populations, urbanization, rising unemployment and the evolution of social structures are accelerating changes in the labor markets and in skill requirements. Upgrading skills and ensuring a better match between the supply of skills and labor market demands are critically important for Cyprus' future, growth and productivity, enhancing its capacity to respond to change, and foster fairness and social cohesion.

Higher education and enterprises need to join forces and develop innovating design and sustainable ways for increasing human capital, promoting entrepreneurship and supporting graduates in developing their transversal skills, such as their problem solving abilities, creative thinking and ingenuity. Embracing the idea to encourage a more structured, result-driven cooperation ventures with the business world, the Open University of Cyprus is operating an Academia – Industry Liaison Office. The main aim of this Office is to develop and establish mutually beneficial links and synergies between the OUC and the business sector, through research collaborations and partnership opportunities.

#### In a nutshell, the OUC Liaison Office:

- develops synergies between the University's academic and student community and the business world
- promotes the reciprocal transfer of knowledge, know-how and expertise
- disseminates the University's research results and promotes the exploitation of those results by Cypriot and regional businesses
- maximizes opportunities and employment potential of OUC's students and graduates through a work placement framework.



# FUTURE GOALS & CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

As a public institution, the Open University of Cyprus is acutely aware of its social responsibility and maintains open lines of communication with social partners and stakeholders. The OUC is a University that always seeks a transparent and fertile two-way dialogue with all those interested for studies in its academic programmes. To strengthen its capacity to offer high quality programmes that meet the needs of the labor market and which provide students the necessary skills and competences to enhance their employability, the OUC will continue to work closely with public and non-public institutions and organizations.

The OUC's future goals are:

- To continuously offer new programmes of study at both Bachelor and Master levels, not only in Greek but in English as well.
- To develop further its internationalization by increasing the range of English programmes of study and attract more foreign students.
- To expand its network of collaborations with other local and international organizations/institutions
- To offer new joint programmes of study with other public and private Cypriot and European universities
- To consolidate its coordinating role on distance education in Cyprus
- To expand towards distance cutting edge training programmes of short duration.

In order to improve the engagement with the labor market and the local community, the Open University of Cyprus develops initiatives and activities to reinforce its role in promoting lifelong learning to all citizens through CSR actions, such as :

- organisation of open lectures, seminars and workshops, with the participation of renowned speakers from various scientific fields
- continuously establishing new partnerships and engaging the OUC into international networks which will provide opportunities to its students and staff
- encouraging OUC's Faculty members to extend their participation in various national and international committees
- providing assistance to students coming from social vulnerable groups and supporting the reduction of social exclusion by providing university education and training to people with disabilities, whose access to knowledge is hindered by inherent or acquired disabilities.

With a focus on lifelong learning, the Open University of Cyprus is already considered a leader in the Cypriot higher education sector in terms of diversity, equity and access to education. The University's present circumstances are bright, even auspicious. And so is its future. Building on its proud origins as the country's only university dedicated to distance teaching, the OUC is growing quickly in academic stature and overall reputation.

# UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

## GOVERNING BOARD

- **Prof. Costas Christou** (Chairman)
- **Prof. Agis Papadopoulos** (Vice-chairman for Academic Affairs)
- **Charalambos Prountzos** (Vice-chairman for Finance and Administration)
- **Prof. Petros Pashiardis**
- **Prof. Stephanos Efthymiadis**
- **Prof. Yiannis Ioannou**
- **Assoc. Prof. Stavros Stavrou**
- **Assoc. Prof. Panayiotis Thanassas**
- **Despina Chapoupi**
- **Andreas Panayides**
- **Nicolas Yiasoumis**

## DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE:

**Christopher Christodoulides**

## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The overall mission of the Administrative Services of the Open University of Cyprus is to provide continuous and effective support, using all available systems and infrastructure for the teaching, research and social roles of the OUC. The aim of the OUC is to create an environment that attracts and retains highly qualified administrative personnel and provides the impetus for assuming responsibility and taking initiatives based on professional ethics. OUC's Administrative Services are organized and comprised of the following functions:

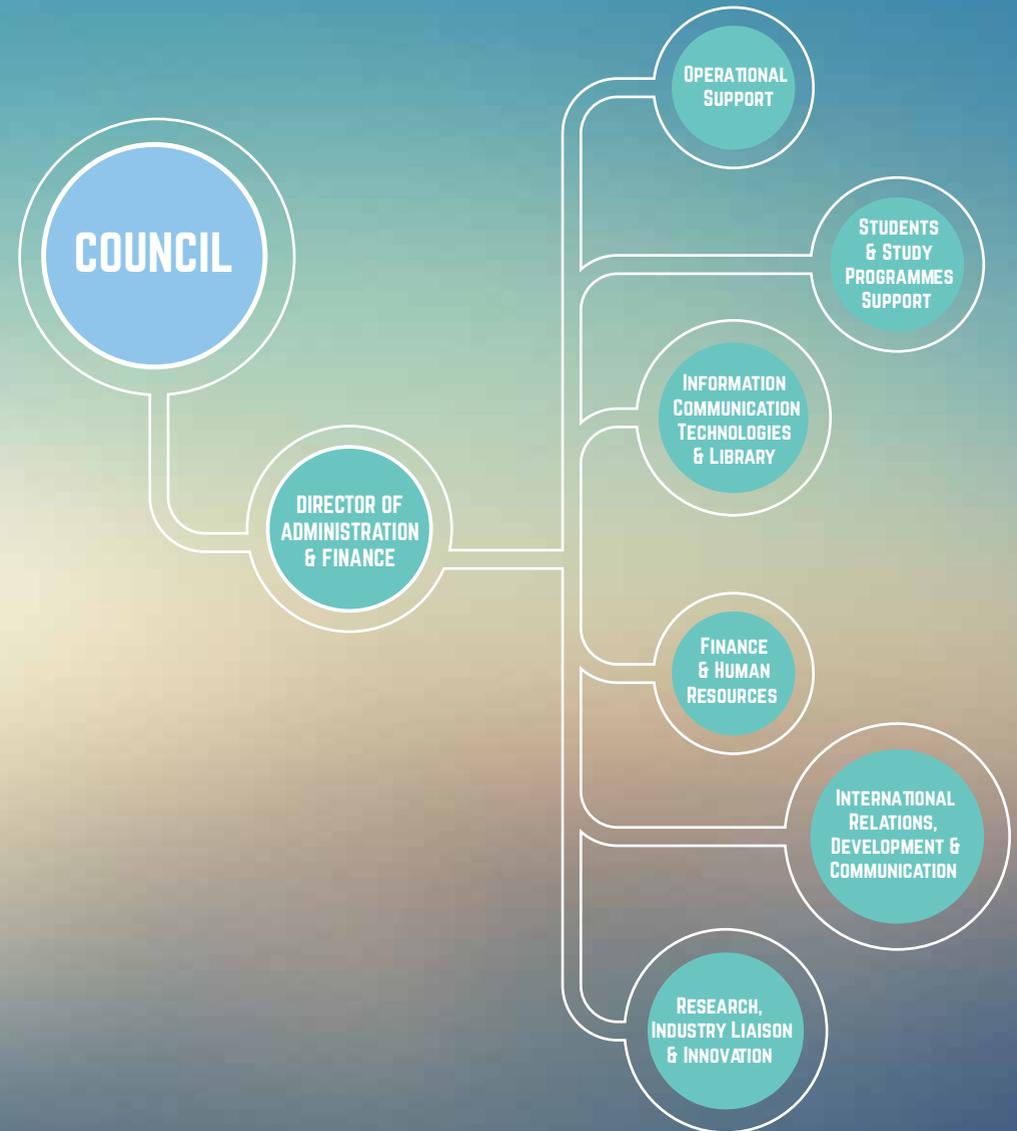
- Research, Industry Liaison and Innovation
- International Relations, Development and Communication
- Finance and Human Resources
- Information Communication Technologies and Library
- Students and Study Programmes Support
- Operational Support

## QUALITY ASSURANCE

Quality Assurance as defined at the OUC is a way of describing all systems, resources and information the University uses to maintain and improve standards and quality. This includes quality in teaching and student learning, research, administrative and financial schemes. To ensure a quality enriched learning and teaching experience for students and faculty, the OUC through its Quality Assurance Office monitors and **evaluates its Programmes of Study, procedures and practices, as well as the services that it provides for its students.**

The evaluation and quality assurance is performed **at two levels: University and for each Programme of Study and in two stages: internal and external evaluation.** Part of the external evaluation of the university is its assessment by accrediting agencies. Quality assurance goes hand-in-hand with commitment to the University's mission, to ensure that the quality of education and research is under continuous review and that the standards set are appropriate and are safeguarded.

## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES



# THE OUC IN NUMBERS

(2015-2016 ACADEMIC YEAR)

3

FACULTIES

20

FACULTY  
MEMBERS

312

PART TIME  
TUTORS

77

ADMINISTRATIVE  
PERSONEL

24

UNDERGRADUATE &  
POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES  
+7 PHD THEMATIC TOPICS



# OUC STUDENT PROFILE

(2015-2016 ACADEMIC YEAR)

37%

LIVE IN  
CYPRUS

1%

OF OUC STUDENTS ARE  
LOCATED IN THIRD  
COUNTRIES

62%

LIVE IN  
GREECE



● AVERAGE STUDENT AGE:

**35** YEARS  
OLD

**4.667**

STUDENTS ENROLLED FOR THE 2015-2016 ACADEMIC YEAR

**2.626**

GRADUATES

**€15.2**

MLN 2015 BUDGET

## STUDENTS' GENDER



**64%**  
ARE WOMEN



**36%**  
ARE MEN

**13**

CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

**55**

SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED RESEARCH PROJECTS (2006-2015)

**75**

LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

**11**

MEMBERSHIPS IN EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND NETWORKS

## 2015-2016 STUDENT ENROLMENT QUALIFICATION

**1.507**

BACHELOR DEGREE

**3.102**

MASTER DEGREE

**58**

PHD

## 2015-2016 STUDENT ENROLMENT BY FACULTY

**1.346**

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND  
SOCIAL SCIENCES

**2.859**

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND  
MANAGEMENT

**462**

FACULTY OF PURE AND APPLIED  
SCIENCES

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