

## MCAST CIRCULAR 211/2021

### Principal's Message to Staff Members for the New Academic Year

1 October 2021

Dear Staff Members,

I am delighted to welcome you back on campus for the academic year 2021-2022. Our in-person lectures are planned according to the guidelines issued by the health authorities. We will continue to build on the important lessons learnt over the past nineteen months. Above all, I am proud of our community and how it adapted and shone in challenging times.

Twenty years since the College first opened its doors, we now look forward to our students being back at our vibrant campus - working together to create a dynamic learning environment and unique learning experiences. We have seen how technology can help us offer flexible and innovative learning solutions. However, it is now essential to harness the power of real-life experiences, whether in lecture rooms, workshops, the workplace or at informal meetings. The return to campus for those who have been away brings challenges, and I encourage you to seek support as we continue to prioritise the health and safety of our community.

In our recent [MCASTlink twentieth-year edition](#), we looked back on our institution's intense professional activity, positive initiatives, growth and development in many areas. The College and its staff have positively impacted the careers and lives of over 40,000 graduates and 32,400 part-time learners. In September, we celebrated the success of [2020 graduates](#) and ensured that the efforts and success of 2,350 students were acknowledged.

Our theme **Designed to Shape your Future** reminds us that we have much to look forward to. The MCAST Board of Governors and Management have drawn up the strategy for the next five years (2022-2027), and I take this opportunity to thank all those who contributed to this document. As a team, we are taking significant steps to ensure quality teaching and learning relevant to the world of employment. MCAST is committed to equipping students with the best training and life skills that guarantee their success.

The Opening Ceremony of the new academic year will take place on 6 October at 9.30 am and will be live-streamed [on social media](#). Freshers' Days will be held from 11 to 19 October, and we're excited to be hosting various activities and organisations on campus.

I am grateful to staff and students who have chosen MCAST as their place to work and learn. I invite you to join me in greeting the new academic year with gratitude towards our community and enthusiasm for the coming year.

Professor Joachim James Calleja  
Principal/CEO

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