

Last year I was lucky enough to obtain a doctor degree in Chemistry at the University of Malta. This was made possible as I was awarded the MGSS Government scholarship scheme of 2014. Studying in the Maltese islands has proved to be extremely rewarding. I was exposed to variety of different chemical techniques including high end instrumentation which the chemistry department of the University offers. The use of the scholarship framework was very important, apart from providing funding to the student to pursue his specialisation studies, such framework empowers the student to take part in research studies and selective professionalism which ultimately increases the human resource of the Maltese islands. It is through such frameworks that professional personal is moulded whether it is arts or science, such personal are not only able to pursue a career in the Maltese islands but also pass down the knowledge gained to the future generations.

Taking my study as a case study, which involved the study of the Maltese olive oil using genetic and chemical profiling in order to determine its authenticity. Using the MGSS government scheme not only it was proved that through such methods discrimination was possible, but it was found that we can do it through a few different methods. A number of different publications in scientific peer reviewed journals have been published and are currently being reviewed together with a number of conferences has enabled not only my self to grow and network but ultimately put the name of the Maltese islands in the scientific community. Not forgetting the most direct implication of the study which the safeguard and the protection of the true Maltese products is enabling protection from fraudulent and counterfeit products.

To sum up, my PhD course helped me pursue my dream to become a real scientist giving me not only the skills and dexterity required but also a complete change in mental status and how to look and solve a problem. I will do my best to further increase my knowledge and pass it through my students and colleagues throughout my entire career because of grateful that I have been given this opportunity and I do not want such research to stop with me, but to leave on through academic journals and young scientist inspiration.