

Proposal for a BETTY Summer School in Malta 2014

- The location and venue, and their facilities.

We propose to host it at the Old University in Valletta - they have already hosted a number of events this size there (Simon, the COST general meeting you attended was held there). There are a number of lecture/class rooms that can hold around 30-40 people. There is also the aula, which can hold around 100 attendees. Within the building itself there is space for coffee breaks as well as lunches. But attendees can also quickly slip out to one of the numerous little cafes surrounding the Old University.

I would house both lecturers and students at hotels and guest houses in Valletta, which is easily accessible from the airport by bus. The UoM Conference Unit was confident that we can find affordable accommodation for approx. 20-40 students. Lecturers may stay at 4/5 star hotels in/around Valletta. The big advantage of hosting everyone in Valletta is that they would have an easily accessible location for evening dinners and attractions. Everyone can also easily walk to the Summer School venue from their respective hotels.

Malta is served by the national airline, Airmalta, from a large number of major cities in Europe. It is also served by a whole host of other national airlines (British Airways, Lufthansa, Alitalia, AirFrance, SAS etc) as well as major low-cost airlines in Europe (Ryanair, Easyjet, Vueling, Norwegian, etc).

See here for more details <http://passengers.maltairport.com/en/view-airlines.htm>

- A description of the local organiser or local organising team and their relevant experience.

I will be the local organiser (Adrian Francalanza). I will be working with the Project Support Unit and the Conference Unit here at UoM, who have organised another COST summer school this year (and numerous other conferences, some of which fall under the COST programme). I will also have the help of a number of local students.

- An estimate of the cost, presented as a likely cost per participant per day for the local facilities including accommodation and catering.

BETTY Summer School proposal 30 June-4 July 2014,
(Assumed participants - 40/45 persons including lecturers)

		COST
Meeting Room - 5 days	1,000	
Coffee Breaks - 2 per day, 5 days	1,400	
Lunches - Eur 10 per day packed lunch	1,700	
Staff costs		2,150
Reception at Valletta Waterfront		700
Midweek event/dinner (optional)	1,050	

Total		8,000 (Euros)

Divided by 35 students		230 (each)

(Staff costs include staff overtime, Project Support fees and Conference Unit fees)

- Details of preferred or likely dates for the summer school, and an indication that the venue will be available for those dates.

Any time in June would be fine from this side. So far, the venue is available for June 2016.

- Ideas about the format of the summer school: number of courses, daily programme, extra-curricular activities etc.

I would go for 5 lecturers (presenting topics spanning over 4 sessions each). Each day would alternate between the different topics (possibly also depending on lecturer restrictions). Each day would have 4 sessions:

9.00 - Session 1
10.15 - coffee break

10.45 - Session 2
12.00 Lunch (packed lunch delivered at the venue)
13.00 -session 3
14.15 - coffee break
14.45 - session 4
16.00 - end

We budgeted to have reception on Sunday night which will act as an ice-breaker and a chance to address any preliminary queries participants might have. We also plan to have an optional extra-curricular event on Wednesday night. Probably it will involve crossing the grand harbour at night by boat and a pasta dinner at the Vittoriosa Waterfront. Valletta is also well connected to anywhere in the island. We can be spontaneous one afternoon and go to the beach after school. (bus tickets cost around 2 euros)

- Explain whether you are proposing to also organise the scientific programme, or whether you will need the BETTY Management Committee to form a scientific organising committee.

It would probably help to have a support person from BETTY to help me with the technical side of the school (contacting lecturers, drafting a set of relevant topics etc) but I am confident that I can also do that myself as well.