

6/5/19

KSU STATEMENT ON MCAST PRE-WARRANT QUALIFICATION COURSE

KSU is actively following the recent updates on the MCAST Pre-Warrant Qualification Course. The Council agrees and supports UESA's position that should this course be recognised as a sufficient top-up for past MCAST engineering graduates, a fundamental discrepancy with University of Malta graduates will remain, when considering that:

- a University of Malta B.Eng(Hons.) degrees is of 240 ECTS MQF Level 6;
- past MCAST B.Eng(Hons.) degrees were of 120 ECTS MQF Level 5 and 120 ECTS MQF Level. As was revealed today the ongoing Pre-Warrant Qualification Course is of 30 ECTS at MQF Level 6.

Currently the University of Malta degree is, by law, the benchmark of what constitutes an engineering degree and when considering the ECTS arithmetic, the MCAST solution for past graduates **does not satisfy this standard.**

Additionally, it is of great concern that this format goes against the agreed-on principles following talks between KSU, UESA, the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Capital Projects and the Engineering Board in September 2018.

KSU fully supports UESA and engineering students at the University of Malta in demanding for a fair and transparent process that ensures that all prospective engineers are *in possession of such degree of the University of Malta or an equivalent academic qualification* as stipulated in the Engineering Profession Act.

Whilst hoping for an amicable solution that satisfies the demands of all those concerned in this issue, we urge the relevant authorities to initiate a wide consultation with all relevant stakeholders. KSU remains committed to collaborating with UESA **in pursuing all necessary steps to safeguard the interests of University of Malta students and graduates.**