Surveys on PhD employment
by Barbara Pernici, Dean of the PhD School in 2011-2015, Polimi.

To get a more precise view of PhD employment in Italy, in the past two years a number of surveys have been conducted, at the National level the main ones being the surveys done by the National Census Bureau and by AlmaLaurea, published in 2015. Both analyses report a very high employment rate of PhDs, in particular in the STEM disciplines, where 95% of the PhDs holders have succeeded in finding a job within four years after having finished their PhD (97% after 6 years).

At the end of 2015, Politecnico di Milano, with the support of the Career Service (the pictures above come from it) and Servizio Studi, conducted a survey of PhD holders employment, focusing on employment after one or two years of PhD graduates from Politecnico.

In line with the National survey, employment is very high, and it reaches 92.3% after only 1-2 years.

The survey showed some differences in the type of employment chosen depending on the nationality of the PhD holders: Italians mostly work in companies (50.7%) and in Italy (73%), while international PhDs mostly work in academic or research institutions (81%) and abroad (74%).

A common question is whether a PhD is useful in a work environment, in particular outside academia. From the survey, 78% of the respondents consider the PhD essential or useful for their work (58% among those employed in companies).

As a side note, there is an increasing trend from companies to give value to PhD titles: at the 2016 Career day, the annual job fair for Politecnico graduates, approximately half of the companies were specifically looking for PhDs (it was one third in 2015).

Considering salary levels, compared to the salaries of Politecnico Master’s graduates a year after graduation, the PhDs earn on average 24% more in Italy, and 40% more abroad.

A summary of the analysis of the Politecnico di Milano employment data collected in 2015 can be found on the Career Service website, here. Moreover, a summary of the conclusions of the detailed analysis is provided in the presentation available at http://www.verbali.polimi.it/uploads/media/3.01 - Placement-PhD.pdf (if the link doesn’t work automatically, copy and paste the text, sorry!)
Calls and events

IBS Young Scientist Fellowship (YSF)
The Institute for Basic Science (IBS) was founded in 2011 by the Korean government to promote basic sciences in Korea. This year, the IBS introduces a new program called “Young Scientist Fellowship (YSF)” to play an active role in fostering next-generation basic science leaders. Few information about:

Eligibility: Candidates within 5 years of obtaining a PhD or under the age of 40 with a PhD

 Provision: KRW 150-300 million per year (approx 100-200 k€ per year)

Duration: 3 years, with possible extension of 2 years.

YSF fellows should be physically relocated to one of the IBS Centers (in Daejeon, Korea)

Deadline for applications: July 31st, 2016

Responsive Cities Symposium / Urbanism in the Experience Age
It is one of the main activities of the EU co-funded project Knowledge Alliance for Advanced Urbanism (KAAU), that promotes innovative education and training (courses, symposiums and an educational and training platform), based on the assumption that the increasing availability of data creates new opportunities for monitoring and management, but also for changing the way we describe, understand and design cities. The symposium is scheduled in Barcelona, 16-17 September 2016.

The deadline for Papers and projects submission is July, 15th 2016

PhD Design Final Exam
Defence of PhD Design theses by PhD candidates of the XXVIII cycle
8 July, from 9.30 to 13.00, Red room (4° floor Department Design-Via Durando 38, stair D)

MeccPhD Colloquia Doctoralia 2016-July Session
Final Exams of PhD Candidates in Mechanical Engineering-July Session
July 21st and July 26th, 2016

Seminars

The perspective of forensic engineering in the analysis of three structural failures due to seismic events
Prof. Maria Gabriella Mulas
The recent Italian seismic events (L’Aquila, 2009 and Po Plain, 2012) originated a number of structural collapses, with casualties. The speaker, will report her experience as legal authority appointed to investigate on the reasons for the collapse of three buildings, in a seminar that will summarize the main findings of the investigations and the activities performed to understand the collapse (document analysis, site survey, laboratory and numerical analyses) and to identify the causes and the related penal responsibilities of the failure.

6th July, 2016

Analysis and Design of Nonlinear Systems in the Frequency Domain with Applications in Engineering Structures Fault Diagnosis and Vibration Control
Prof. Zi-Qiang Lang, University of Sheffield
The analysis and design of linear systems in the frequency domain are the basis of the theories and methods in control, communication, and signal analysis and processing, which have been widely applied in various scientific studies and engineering applications

July 22nd, 2016, 2:00 pm Sala Consiglio Department of Mechanical Engineering
Starting courses – PhD School

INTERACTIVE VIRTUAL PROTOTYPING – METHODS AND TOOLS
Prof. Monica Bordegoni
Virtual Prototyping (VP) allows us to simulate a product or a system looks like, how it works, how users use it. The course informs students about VP theoretical issues, methods, techniques, technologies and practices, applied to contexts, as design, engineering, architecture, medicine.

11th July, 2016

Starting courses – Doctoral Programmes

PhD in Structural, Seismic and Geotechnical Engineering

TEXTILE REINFORCED CONCRETE DESIGN: MATERIAL AND STRUCTURAL BEHAVIOR
Prof. Marco di Prisco
The main topic of the course is textile reinforced concrete, a new, cement based material, that attracted the interest of structural designers, looking for light design solutions and advanced retrofitting techniques, and of an international community researchers, to study its mechanical properties as well as its durability and sustainability. The Summer School brings together a mix of national and international scholars expert in these topics: Joaquim A.O. Barros (UniMinho), Gianmarco de Felice (UniRoma3) and Viktor Mechtcherine (TUDresden).

1st July – 6th July, 2016

ADVANCED STRUCTURAL DYNAMICS
Proff. F.Perotti, L.Martinelli, V.Racic.
The course will deal with the effect of vibrations on structures, its measurements, analysis, modelling and mitigation, in buildings as well as in civil engineering applications.

7th (Prof. Perotti), 12th (Prof. Racic), 14th (Prof. Racic) July, 2016

PhD in Architecture, Built Environment and Construction Engineering

CULTURAL HERITAGE AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT SURVEYING, MODELLING AND MONITORING
Prof. Raffaella Brumana (DABC-Polimi) and Mario Santana Quintero (CarletonUni-CA)
The course aims to boost the knowledge of the PhD students about actual tools, the best practices and cutting edge research activity, in the world.

From 19th to 22nd July, 2016

From the web

Beyond the PhD
It is a website which reports the profiles of several PhD holders (mainly in Humanities), and describes how they developed their careers both within and outside Academia.

The detailed Programme of each course is available from the Programmes’ Courses page, or here: . For more information, i.e. about starting date and classrooms, please check the “notes” field in the Course Details (follow the icon) or send an email message to the responsible for the Course. Candidates from PoliMi PhD School must include the Course in their study plan. Others must contact the responsible for the course.

To submit information about seminar, events, and other news for publication in forthcoming newsletters, please download and fill in the following format, and E-mail it to: phd-newsletter@polimi.it