PhD MOMS @PoliMI
by Francesca Daprà (PhD-ABC)

Being a PhD mom? Stresses and sacrifices (but also many joys, of course). In any case, you are no more a *PhD Candidate* with a daughter, but a *mother* (this will be your first work) attending a PhD.

A PhD mom does not have the same number of <u>working hours</u> as any other Candidate: you can't work when your daughter wants to play, to be fed or to be changed.
Nor she has the same number of <u>sleep hours</u>: your main job is your child and she or he will make you feel much more tired than your peers.
Moreover, as every absence from home requires sacrifices for her family, PhD moms must <u>carefully plan</u> everything (may be, also to give up with some important conferences) but also to learn how to <u>take advantage of every moment</u>: to open your laptop in the most unexpected moments, to keep your brain switched on your thesis when your hands are occupied and even to find sources of inspiration in the nights, after you have been woke up. The needs and presence of my daughter, for example, had the, non-negligible, side effect of making me punctual and increase my productivity at office!

In any case, if every PhD Candidate must be strongly *determined* and *passionate* in her or his research-work, motherhood requires you to be even more strongly *determined* and *passionate*.
But the literature about *PhD motherhood* is vast (just google for the two keywords and you will find whole blogs dedicated) and I wanted just to let you know that for us, "special mothers", Politecnico provides something that is extraordinarily good and efficient and a real support to continue the doctoral path with serenity.

My 11-month-old girl started, last month, with the PoliMI's nursery. It is at ten minutes from our office in Leonardo (even less if you move fast) and, this year, it is <u>free of charge</u> for PhD Candidates' children.

As I am in the middle of my third year, I will probably take some more time than what was expected to deliver a thesis. I am writing it when my daughter sleeps and on the weekends, when grandparents are helping more, and since a month, also during every normal day: my daughter and I come at Polimi together, in the morning, we spend our day one step away from each other and we meet again, joyfully, in the middle of the afternoon.

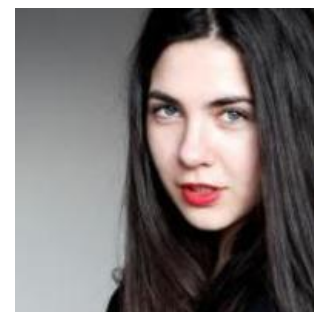So I am confident. I am, first of all, a mother but, hopefully soon, a graduate one!

PhD AWARDS

During the **12th International PhD Symposium in Civil Engineering**, organized in Prague (Czech Republic) last August by *fib* (the *International Federation for Structural Concrete* or *Fédération Internationale du Béton*), Nataša Kalaba, PhD Candidate in *Structural, Seismic and Geotechnical Engineering*, won the **Best Paper Award** for her article "A numerical insight on the behaviour of prestressed concrete members exposed to natural fires". The official note is given here.

The paper deals with a topic that recently gained a lot of attention in the Structural Fire Engineering community, mainly because of several unexpected collapses of reinforced concrete members.
The topic forms the backbone of Nataša's PhD thesis, to be defended in 2019.

CALLS AND EVENTS

SURVEY ON PhD SCHOOL COURSES

The PhD School is carrying up a survey to receive feedback about *PhD School courses*. The PhD candidates who attended the courses given from November 2017 to September 2018 are asked (but not obliged) to take part of the survey to improve our future educational offer.

Help us to help and take care of you and go here. Do it, please, before Sunday, October 7th, 2018.

CALL FOR PHD TUTORING SERVICES 2018/2019

A selection procedure (the text is available here) is open for the constitution of a list of tutors available to provide tutoring services. The applications can be submitted by students enrolled in a PhD programme at the Politecnico di Milano and must be sent *only* through the **"Application Form" > "Selection procedures"**, available in the online services of Politecnico di Milano.

Deadline: 15 October 2018 at 12h00

FREE (no charge) ITALIAN LANGUAGE COURSES FOR PhD CANDIDATES

Politecnico offers Italian Language courses for PhD Candidates either in Leonardo or Bovisa campus. The registrations is scheduled **from the 15th of October till the 5th of November 2018**: a level test on line is required. Lessons start on the 14th and the 15th of November 2018. To register, go to www.polimi.it/onlineservices -> Mobility -> Language courses catalogue

Registrations and level test: From 15 October to 5 November

ENI AWARD 2019 - YOUNG RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

The *Young Researcher of the Year Award 2019* is a prize for PhD students who have obtained or will receive their degree at an Italian university in 2017 or 2018. The applications submitted must be related to the energy and environmental sectors. Participation is allowed only to researchers born in 1986 or later.

WARNING: *register before* Friday 9 Nov 2018, 17.00 CET and *apply before* Nov 23th 2018, 17.00 CET

See the Call here and here for further information.

FONDAZIONE FRATELLI CONFALONIERI SCHOLARSHIPS (PhD AND POST-DOC)

The Fondazione Fratelli Confalonieri opened the usual call for PhD and Post-Doc Scholarships: *Quattro borse per dottorandi di ricerca delle università milanesi* and *Otto borse per ricerca post-dottorale da svolgersi presso universita' milanesi 2018-2019*.

The deadline: Nov.14th, 2018 (you must apply digital and by mail too!!)

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

SOCIAL ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS (SES) DYNAMIC MODELING AND GIS INTERFACES

Bruno Meirelles de Oliveira - Biologist at São Paulo University
Multiscale Integrated Model of Ecosystem Services – MIMES is a SES modelling system from System Dynamics that embraces complexity attributes of the system (non-linearity, feedbacks, dynamism, etc) in an interdisciplinary and integrated model. This approach broke the academia limits and has been used by EPA, NOAA, Ocean Conservancy in several countries like United States, Egypt, Cambodia, New Zealand to help in decision making considering Ecosystem Services perspective

5 October 2018, 3.30pm - Room S1.6 (building 3), Piazza L. da Vinci 32

AN INTRODUCTION TO BAYESIAN DATA ANALYSIS WITH PYSTAN

Marianne Corvellec – Inst.for Globally Distributed Open Research and Education (IGDORE)
This seminar is intended to be a small contribution to the statistical literacy in the scientific field, introducing the Bayesian inference approach. The possibility to quantify the uncertainty and to better interpret the results are advantages of the Bayesian approach. A practical demonstration will be given on how to perform a statistical modelling and to make reliable predictions.

Deadline: 22 October 2018

DESIGNING SUSTAINABILITY FOR ALL - CALL FOR PAPERS

The LeNS World Distributed Conference 3-5 April 2019
is a unique worldwide event, distributed for the first time to 6 venues around the world, and in each of the six venues it will be possible to listen to presentations happening in the other ones.
The event organised by LeNS – the Learning Network on Sustainability – is more than a conference. It is a meeting point for those who want to learn and share about design for sustainability with a multicultural, open and copyleft echoes. LeNS vision is to foster a new generation of designers (and design educators and researchers) capable to effectively face the challenge to envision, design and contribute to the transition towards a sustainable world for all.
The **Call for Papers** is targeted to a broad range of researchers, educators and practitioners interested in and/or working with sustainable design. Open access proceedings will be published with full papers of both oral presentations and posters. Get further information on dates, speakers, venues and submissions: www.lensconference3.org Read more about LeNS network: www.lens-international.org

Deadline for sending abstracts (up to 1500 characters): 31 October 2018

10TH OPTOELECTRONICS AND PHOTONICS WINTER SCHOOL - UNITN

NLP2019 – Nonlinear Photonics
The School is addressing specific topics of high importance within the international scientific community of Optoelectronics and Photonics. It aims in bringing together a large number of PhD students and young researchers from all parts of the world which across a one-week intense schedule follow a series of lectures on selected topics. The lectures are held by internationally recognized experts in the field. At the same, the students are encouraged to enjoy the beautiful location where the school is organized.

The School will take place in Andalo (Italy) from 20th till 26th of January, 2019.

This is the 10th edition of the Optoelectronics and Photonics Winter School series traditionally held in Trentino region every second year. This time, the Organizing Committee has chosen the topic of Nonlinear Photonics following the research activities of the organizing institutes and paving the way to the next EC Flagship on Quantum Technologies. More detailed information can be found on the school webpage:

Deadline for application: 17 December 2018

COLLOQUIA DOCTORALIA 2018

PHD in ARCHITECTURE, BUILT ENVIRONMENT and CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING

A Final Examination session of ABC Candidates is scheduled in the following days:

12 October 2018 - 10h30 - Aula Consiglio, Ed. 14 (I piano)

Ludovica Cappelletti, *La costruzione del monumento. Palazzo Te a Mantova.*

Sergio Pace, Politecnico di Torino, Giovanna D'Amia, Politecnico di Milano (DASTU), Roberto Dulio, Politecnico di Milano (DABC)

12 October 2018 - 14h30 - Aula Consiglio, Ed. 14 (I piano)

Elena Seghezzi, *A decision support framework for technology related choices in façade retrofit.*

Jan Růžička, Czech Technical University in Prague, Mariano González Cortina, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Giuliana Iannaccone, Politecnico di Milano (DABC)

22 October 2018 - 11h00 - Aula Consiglio, Ed. 14 (I piano)

Marta Dell'Ovo, *Decision Support System for the Location of Healthcare Facilities. SitHealth Evaluation Tool*

Marta Carla Bottero, Politecnico di Torino, Daniela D'Alessandro, Università La Sapienza, Stefano Capolongo, Politecnico di Milano (DABC)