



Welcome 欢迎光临 Bienvenue

Bienvenidos  Willkommen

Добро пожаловать Hoş geldiniz

Benvenuto Welkom Dobrodošli

歡迎光臨 Selamat datang ようこそ

Bonvenuto Witamy أهلاً وسهلاً

Aloha  Selamat datang ברוך הבא

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**PHD WELCOME DAY 2019**

Friday 8 November 2019 - De Donato Conference Room  
Campis Leonardo, Building #3

14.00 Registration

15.00 **Welcome**

*Donatella Sciuto* — Executive Vice-Rector

15.15 **The Politecnico di Milano and PhD School**

*Paolo Biscari* — Dean, PhD School

15.40 **PhD Services**

*Claudio Duran* — Head, PhD Service

16.00 **PhD Placement Program**

*Stefania Battaglia* - Career Service

16.15 **PhD Candidates' representatives**

PhD representatives at PhD School Council and at C.U.G

16.30 **Q & A**

16.45 **Refreshments**

This month we welcome at Politecnico di Milano more than 300 new candidates. More than one-fourth of them come from abroad, with more than 20 different nationalities and 4 continents represented in this year's entries.

We are glad and honored to welcome all of you!!

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## THE WELCOME

The Dean, *Paolo Biscari*

Dear PhD Candidates,

Welcome to the PhD careers at Politecnico di Milano, the path leading to the highest academic degree we award. Thank you for having chosen Italy and our Institution to develop your doctoral career, we will be all committed to drive and facilitate your approach to Research and Innovation.

In these very first days at Politecnico di Milano you will probably be occupied in taking confidence with your new status, the offices, the labs, your year-mates. You will soon meet your Coordinatori, the Heads of your PhD programmes. They will be key persons in leading your PhD careers along with your supervisors, which some of you may already know and some will start choosing soon.

In order personally meet you I am glad to invite all the new candidates (including those who started their careers earlier this year) to participate to the Welcome Day, to be held in the Leonardo Campus next Friday afternoon, November 8th (refreshments follow!). Please check the programme on [our website](#). At the Welcome Day, you will have the opportunity to meet also the vice-Rector Prof. Donatella Sciuto, the Head of the PhD Administration, Dr. Claudio Duran, the Career Service and your representatives in the PhD School Council.

With my very best wishes, I look forward meeting you on Friday!

PS You will receive this newsletter few times a year, to alert you about courses (an anticipation in the last page!), seminars, calls and other events. Not everything happens in Politecnico but, we hope, the most important things about and for your PhD life. At least, take a look at it.

And if you have things that you think might be worth to be published, well, let us know!

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## RUNNING TOGETHER

Why, often, joining forces can be the secret to success ...  
by *Enrico De Angelis*

I wished to interview *Jen Heemstra*, for this October Newsletter. She is a Chemistry professor, very active in her field (biomolecules, nucleic acid, molecular recognition and self-assembly) but also as a trainer and *mentor* in research (see [@jenheemstra](#) tweets, her [blog](#), her articles in [Chemical & Engineering News](#), [C&EN](#) and the [page of her Lab](#) at Emory University, in Atlanta, US). I like her and what I like more is her taking care of the human side of *life-in-a-lab*, research-life, in general, and the life of early stage researcher in particular, her effort in understanding how to train and supervise researchers in the most respectful and effective way.

Unfortunately, her answer was negative: «*This month is really crazy* – she was moving her research laboratory – ... *I won't have time to talk by phone*»; so she allowed me to use her work and these few notes report her thoughts from a post she published in [C&EN](#) titled “[Should postdocs compete or cooperate?](#)”, that mostly impressed me.

Should researchers cooperate or compete? We should do both, she says. And her answer comes from her long-distance runner's experience.

If you are a long-distance runner and you want to take part of a race in a nice city like Boston (one of the most prestigious and exclusive races, in the US) you must be a qualified marathoner, with a good time. As well as you are preparing your PhD Thesis and publications, to compete for a job in a close future, Jen is preparing her qualification for the Boston Marathon race and she is doing it in a group of others who will be her competitors, to enter the race and then to run it.

So, “*compete cooperatively*” for your life after the PhD, suggests Jen Heemstra: join others to prepare racing together as we are doing, i.e in “*pace groups*”, helping to stay on track and encouraging one another along the way: «*working together can help everyone in our small pace group to achieve our goal – and to have more fun in the process!*».

When I read it, I thought it was worth to report it to every PhD Candidate, here [@polimi](#): some more collaboration, among all us, bottom-up, could be the change we need, with nice side-effects, moreover!

***In particular for the new candidates!!***



Some pictures of Jen Heemstra, stolen from her profile and tweets. The official one and some less official others. If you like her as I do, watch the video of her recent lecture at the *Beckman Institute for Adv. Science and Technology*, Illinois Univ., that has a really *weird* title: [Why Success is More Likely When You're Willing to Fail!](#)



Starting of the Grand Bara Desert race in 2011, in Djibouti, from [here](#).



## CALLS AND EVENTS



### 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 2019-2020](#) and [Otto borse per ricerca post-dottorale da svolgersi presso università milanesi 2019-2020](#).

Deadline: Nov.14th, 2019 (you must apply digital and by mail too!!)



### ENI AWARD 2020 - YOUNG RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR

The *Young Researcher of the Year Award 2020* is a prize for PhD students who have obtained or will receive their degree at an Italian university in 2018 or 2019. The applications submitted must be related to the energy and environmental sectors. Participation is allowed only to researchers born in 1987 or later.

WARNING: register before Friday 8 Nov 2019, 17.00 CET and apply before Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019, 17.00 CET

See the Call [here](#) for further information



### COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY - POST-DOC FELLOWSHIPS 2020–2021

The Italian Academy invites applications for projects in the humanities, sciences, and social sciences. Additional consideration is given to proposals relevant to the Academy's ongoing initiatives, especially the International Observatory for Cultural Heritage and the Humanities and Neuroscience Project. The Academy also offers four Weinberg Fellowships on architectural history and preservation; one Bodini Fellowship on transitions from globalism to nationalism and populism; one Bodini Fellowship on developmental and adolescent psychiatry; and one Burke Fellowship on common challenges faced by Italy and Japan in the conservation and preservation of cultural heritage. The Academy welcomes candidates from all countries, at the post-doctoral or faculty level. Fellows receive a stipend, travel allowance, health benefits, and an office in the Academy on the Columbia campus.

Deadline: 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019





## SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

### AN INTRODUCTION ON FUNCTIONAL SAFETY

**Prof. Loredana Cristaldi**

Functional Safety (FuSa) aims at avoiding the occurrence of failures that may lead to deaths, environmental damages, and economical damage. This seminar deals mainly with classical methodologies used in the functional safety practice (FMECA, Fault Tree Analysis), and with the quantification of the risk. A brief introduction to Safety Certification in the Civil Avionic Sector will be given (SAE ARP 4754, SAE ARP 4761, DO 178, and DO 254).

7 November 2019



## OTHER NEWS

### DEIB COLLOQUIA DOCTORALIA 2019

On November 15th, 2019 in “Emilio Gatti” Conference Room of the Dipartimento di Elettronica, Informazione e Bioingegneria, the PhD Program in Information Technology organizes the annual event “Colloquia Doctoralia”. The event offers the last year doctorate students of the PhD program in Information Technology the opportunity to present their research as posters and to verify the scientific and technological interest and the possible impact on the industrial world. During the event, the Reference Committee will choose the three best posters and the prizes will be awarded to the PhD students who have completed the PhD program in 2019

November 15<sup>th</sup> 2019



### DIMITRIS N. CHORAFAS FOUNDATION AWARD

This Foundation was established (1992) by Dimitris N. Chorafas, an international scholar in Economics, Business, Science and Information Technology, but also a long-time international financial advisor to some of the most prestigious global companies. He was used to say that “the most expensive thing in life is low quality” and to point out the importance in education and research. His foundation annually awards prizes for scientific achievements in *Computers and Communications Technology* from 26 University partners, from 15 different countries all over the world, Polimi included (see [here](#)).

The 2019 Chorafas Foundation Awards have been given to the following PhD-IT graduates:

**Alberto Bernardini:** *Advances in wave digital modeling of linear and nonlinear systems*

**Dmytro Cherniak:** *Digitally-intensive frequency modulators for mm-Wave FMCW radars*

**THE PHD SCHOOL COURSES**

Here you have our [huge](#) list of PhD School courses available to every PhD Candidate.

The web link takes you to their syllabus

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES**

- **Epistemology of Scientific and Technological Research**  
*Chiodo Simona, Campioli Andrea, Zanelli Alessandra*
- **Exploring Public Debates on Academic Topics through Data Driven Approaches**  
*Mauri Michele, Colombo Gabriele*
- **Research Skills**  
*Sciuto Donatella*
- **Scientific Reasoning: Philosophy, Logic and Applications**  
*Valente Giovanni, Chiffi Daniele*
- **Strategic Decision Making**  
*Ferretti Valentina*
- **The Process of Research**  
*Volonté Paolo Gaetano*

**COMMUNICATIONS AND INTERACTION SKILLS**

- **Advanced Interaction Skills For Academic Professionals**  
*Arnaboldi Michela, De Bruijn Johan Adam*
- **Communication Strategies that Score in Worldwide Academia**  
*Raimondi Manuela Teresa, Kilian Susanne Christine*
- **Disseminare la Ricerca**  
*Paganoni Anna Maria*
- **English for Academic Communication**  
*Biscari Paolo, Cristina Mariotti*
- **Professional Communication**  
*Di Blas Nicoletta*
- **Science, Technology, Society and Wikipedia**  
*Castiglioni Chiara, Raos Guido, Mabbett Andrew John*
- **Scientific Communication in English**  
*Biscari Paolo, Sluckin Timothy Jan*

**SUSTAINABILITY**

- **Approaches to Resilience: Social, Economic, ... of Contemporary Human Settlements**  
*Balducci Alessandro*
- **Resource Planning and Management within Sustainable Development**  
*Casagranti Renato, Castelletti Andrea Francesco, Colombo Emanuela, Morello Eugenio, Rulli Maria Cristina*
- **Risk, Resilience, And Sustainability In Science And Engineering**  
*De Michele Carlo*
- **Sustainability Metrics, Life Cycle Assessment and Environmental Footprint**  
*Dotelli Giovanni, Lavagna Monica, Melia' Paco Vasco Aldo, Rigamonti Lucia*
- **New Demographics. Science, Technology and Design Facing the Challenge of Ageing**  
*Ranci Ortigosa Costanzo*

**CULTURE AND ETHICS**

- **Ethical Aspects of Research on Dual-Use Products**  
*Masarati Pierangelo*
- **Ethics and Technology**  
*Tanca Letizia, Schiaffonati Viola, Tamburrini Guglielmo, Sabine Ammon*
- **Ethics in Research**  
*Aliverti Andrea, Hughes Jonathan*
- **Sulla Responsabilità della Tecnica**  
*Ossi Paolo Maria*
- **Technology & Society**  
*Crabu Stefano*
- **European Culture**  
*Chiodo Simona, Cardilli Lorenzo*

**MANAGEMENT AND OTHER TRANSFERRABLE SKILLS**

- **Project Management (In Action)**  
*Mancini Mauro*
- **Project Management Basics**  
*Beffani Armando, Fuggetta Alfonso, Grilli Colombo Sara*
- **User Centred Innovation**  
*Rizzo Francesca*
- **Industrial Skills**  
*Biscari Paolo*
- **Innovative Teaching Skills**  
*Magli Giulio*

