The <u>2nd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE of the JOURNAL SCUOLA DEMOCRATICA</u> "*REINVENTING EDUCATION*" will be hosted online June 3 through 5 2021, by <u>Scuola Democratica, Centro Interuniversitario per la Ricerca Didattica</u> (University of Cagliari and University of Sassari), <u>II Mulino</u>. The challenges posed by the contemporary world have long required a rethinking of educational concepts, policies, and practices. The question about education 'for what' as well as 'how' and 'for whom' has become unavoidable and yet it largely remained elusive due to a tenacious attachment to the ideas and routines of the past which are now far off the radical transformations required of educational systems. Scenarios, reflections, and practices fostering the possibility of change towards the reinvention of the educational field as a driver of more general and global changes are centerstage topics at the Conference and will have a multidisciplinary approach from experts from different disciplinary communities, including sociology, pedagogy, psychology, economics, architecture, political science, etc. We hope with this opportunity to confirm the participation obtained at the first edition of the conference. Organizers, promoters and partners of the Conference wish to invite educators, teachers, researchers, scholars, academics, scientists, professionals, experts and policy makers to join the conversation and bring the disciplines towards a more integrated set of alliances by:

- promoting a trans and inter disciplinary discussion on urgent topics;
- fostering debates among experts and professionals;
- diffusing research findings all over international scientific networks and practitioners' mainstreams;
- launching further strategies and networking alliances on local, national and international scale;
- providing a new space for debate and evidence to educational policies.

We invite you to submit ABSTRACT/PAPER for your presentation at the **Panel session**:

E.13 FACULTY DEVELOPMENT, SCHOLARSHIP AND PROFESSIONALISM IN TEACHING: CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Convenors

Ettore Felisatti (University of Padua); Loredana Perla (University of Bari); Viviana Vinci (Mediterranea University of Reggio Calabria) Keywords

Faculty development; professionalism; teachers' training; higher education; scholarship

The issue of faculty development (FD) gained a renewed attention both at institutional and theoretical level (Felisatti, Serbati 2017; Lotti, Lampugnani, 2020; Perla, Vinci 2021a, 2021b). As argued by O'Sullivan and Irby (2011) FD "is one mechanism for improving the instructional competencies of teachers and the institutional policies required to promote academic excellence" (p. 421). Sorcinelli (2007) identified a constellation of issues that coalesced around three primary challenges and forces of change: the changing professoriate (facing a growing array of changing roles and responsibilities that will require them to engage in ongoing professional growth: expanding faculty roles, finding balance, needs of new faculty), the changing nature of the student body (increasing multiculturalism and diversity, the challenges of the underprepared student), the changing nature of teaching, learning, and scholarship (emphasizing learner-centered teaching, integrating technology into teaching and learning, emphasizing assessment of student learning outcomes, expanding definitions of scholarship, building interdisciplinary collaborations). As Steinert (2010) pointed out, FD activities can move along two dimensions: from individual (independent) experiences to group (collective) learning, and from informal approaches to more formal ones.

Each higher education institution should develop adequate strategies to enhance teaching and to improve the quality of learning promoting pedagogical innovation, including the use of digital technologies.

The main aim of the Panel Proposal is to illustrate the current trends in FD and to facilitate the exchange of experiences and experiments between those involved in the development of the teaching skills of university teachers.

More specifically, the Panel Proposal focused on all the relevant topics for higher education:

- heuristic and interpretative approaches used in the field of faculty development;
- models, tools and practices to evaluate the impact of faculty development actions;
- professional standards and university teacher's skills;
- evolution of academic teaching practices in the context of competency-based education;
- models and tools for initial training and professional development of the university teacher;
- methods and tools useful for acting in the classroom of the university teacher;
- devices useful for improving the quality of university teaching at a systemic and management level;
- teaching Learning Center: pedagogical and organizational aspects;
- didactic and evaluation changes caused by the pandemic in University
- middle management of faculty development;
- long-term courses for faculty development and faculty development programs;
- actions and strategies, undertaken to facilitate the start of a faculty development process within a

university;

- online learning systems, virtual learning environments for improving the performances of the universities and distance learning methods.

The Panel offers the opportunity to exchange multidisciplinary knowledge and experiences from different disciplinary communities (including: pedagogy, didactics, sociology, psychology, economics, architecture, political science, etc.) on faculty and staff Development models and tools with all the actors and stake-holders involved at various levels, in the quality and innovation of university teaching (policy makers - such as ministerial representatives, institutes for the assessment of the quality of the university system, scientific and professional associations, local groups and teachers engaged in the enhancement of university teaching and in the innovation of Higher Education systems).

References

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HOW TO SUBMIT

ABSTRACTS/PAPERS should be submitted by **April 4, 2021** (<u>check Conference Dates and Deadlines</u>). ABSTRACTS/PAPERS should be submitted via the <u>pre-conference tool</u>.

Please <u>do not submit your ABSTRACT/PAPER by e-mailing it to the Convenor(s)</u> of the Panel session you chose. Convenor(s) will receive submitted ABSTRACTS/PAPERS automatically from the <u>pre-conference</u> tool and they are going to reject <u>ABSTRACT/PAPER</u> submitted to their e-mail addresses.

Language for ABSTRACTS/PAPERS is English.

You can submit an ABSTRACT or in case you prefer a PAPER. <u>Be careful: **DO NOT SUBMIT BOTH AB-STRACT AND PAPER**. EITHER YOU SUBMIT THE FORMER OR THE LATTER.</u>

<u>ABSTRACT/PAPER</u> should include:

1. Title (limited to 20 words in UPPER CASE)

2. Author's name and surname, institution, and email address

3. Five keywords

4. ABSTRACT's text (limited to 500 words). In case you decide for the PAPER, text will be 3.500 words min. 5.000 words max. In the submission text, please write: ABSTRACT or PAPER after the title. Example: FAMILY BACKGROUNDS AND STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS. A CASE STUDY (PAPER)

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ABSTRACTS/PAPERS may not be edited/uploaded after final submission.

Before you submit, please make sure the following requirements are met: - ABSTRACT/PAPER must be allocated to a specific Panel session. Therefore, you must select the proper Panel when submitting. For a complete listing of Panel sessions please <u>click here</u>.



- If possible, write your ABSTRACT/PAPER highlighting methods, outcomes, references. Word count is affected by inclusion of references.

- Convenors and the Scientific Committee will review all submitted ABSTRACTS/PAPERS. Notification regarding acceptance and scheduling will be sent to the submitting author via the **pre-conference tool**.

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