il Mulino

3-4-5 JUNE 2021

REINVENTING EDUCATION
second international conference

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CALL FOR ABSTRACTS/PAPERS

The **2ⁿᵈ INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE of the JOURNAL SCUOLA DEMOCRATICA "*REINVENTING EDUCATION*"** will be hosted online **June 3 through 5 2021**, by **Scuola Democratica, Centro Interuniversitario per la Ricerca Didattica** (University of Cagliari and University of Sassari), **Il Mulino**. 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**:

I.6 MENTORING IN STEM: INNOVATIVE EDUCATIONAL APPROACHES TO SUPPORT WOMEN PURSUING A STEM CAREER

<u>Convenors</u>
Nadia Malaspina (University of Milano-Bicocca); Silvia Penati (University of Milano-Bicocca)

<u>Keywords</u>
gender equality; gender stereotypes; STEM education; mentor-training programs; women in science

In the last decades many efforts have been made to promote role modelling and mentoring programs aimed at supporting undergraduate women interested in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) degrees and career pathways. Nevertheless, in many countries – Italy included – there is still a lack of strategic guidelines and well-structured training programs on how to apply best practices to encourage women to pursue a scientific career. Several factors impact women's participation in STEM fields, among which traditional gender ideologies, gender-based stereotypes, gender-stereotypic beliefs and unconscious biases (see for example Carli et al., 2016). Math and science are, still today, perceived as male domains. There is a widespread belief that science is for 'nerds', that the 'real' scientist is a male, that science is more suitable for men, that women and girls are not as good as men and boys at science because they possess fewer of the traits associated with successful scientists. Schools can play a key role in moving girls and young women into STEM careers. Specifically, STEM mentoring programs (and especially female mentors) can greatly contribute to the deconstruction of negative stereotypes about the ability of girls to succeed in STEM, increasing the degree to which female students identify themselves as scientists (Stoeger et al., 2013; Dennehy and Dasgupta, 2017). Thus, exposing teachers and the whole academic community to mentor-training programs can help close the gender gap in many STEM disciplines.

In the light of the above, this panel welcomes contributions aimed at answering the following questions:
- How to be a role model for women in undergraduate/graduate STEM education?
- How to be a female role model in STEM education?
- How to support young women (undergraduate and graduate students) to start a career in STEM through mentoring?
- How to increase the effectiveness of mentoring programs in promoting interest towards STEM and increasing women's self-confidence?
- How to establish effective STEM mentoring relationships and to prepare mentors to effectively support their mentees in pursuing a STEM education and/or career?

We especially welcome submission of papers discussing best practices and innovative approaches which will be used as a landmark to create mentoring guidelines and online training courses for the academic community of teachers and advisors.

References

Carli, L.L., Alawa L., Lee Y., Zhao B. & Kim E. (2016). Stereotypes about gender and science: women ≠ scientists. *Psychology of Women Quarterly*. 40(2), pp. 244-260. Doi: 10.1177/0361684315622645

Dennehy, T.C., & Dasgupta, N. (2017). Female peer mentors early in college increase women's positive academic experiences and retention in engineering. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, 114 (23), pp. 5964–5969. https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1613117114

Stoeger, H., Duan, X., Schirner, S., Greindl, T., & Ziegler, A. (2013). The effectiveness of a one-year online mentoring program for girls in STEM. *Computers & Education*, 69, pp. 408-418.

ABSTRACTS/PAPERS SUBMISSION

HOW TO SUBMIT

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

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

Language for ABSTRACTS/PAPERS is English.
You can submit an ABSTRACT or in case you prefer a PAPER. Be careful: **DO NOT SUBMIT BOTH ABSTRACT AND PAPER**. EITHER YOU SUBMIT THE FORMER OR THE LATTER.

ABSTRACT/PAPER 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)

The Conference formula is: **1 SUBMISSION = 1 FEE** (**check FEES webpage**)
It is possible to submit a maximum of 2 ABSTRACTS/PAPERS per person (double submission must concern 2 different Panel Sessions). Each ABSTRACT/PAPER is eligible if it is backed by an **APP FEE**.
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The submitting and presenting author must be listed as the first author in the **pre-conference tool**. Please note that the submitting author will receive all correspondence about the ABSTRACT/PAPER. Therefore, we recommend that the submitting author details that are entered are the same details as those of the presenting author.

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 **click here**.
- 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**.

Please note, if your ABSTRACT/PAPER is accepted, you will be permitted a maximum of 20 minutes for oral presentation.

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