

News

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Presentation of the UNESCO Chair in "Water Resources Management and Culture"

On March 11 in the Gondoniana Hall of Palazzo Gallenga in Perugia, it was held the opening ceremony for the establishment of the UNESCO Chair in "Water Resources Management and Culture" at the University of Foreigners of Perugia with the support of the H2CU Center. The opening ceremony has seen the participation of Blanca Jimenez Cisneros, Secretary, International Hydrological Programme (IHP), and Director of the Division of Water Sciences of the UNESCO, Prof. Lucio Ubertini, UNESCO Chair holder, with the presence of the internationally recognized communications expert Linda Lilienfeld, the creator of "Let's Talk About Water", along with students and professors. The UNESCO Chair aims to develop research, teaching and communication activities in the multidisciplinary theme of water, connecting the two aspects of "Science" and "Culture". The ultimate goal is to create a network of teachers, researchers and students, who, starting from Perugia, will involve the national territory as a bridge with other UNESCO Chairs in the world. The UNESCO chair has found its natural position at the University for Foreigners in Perugia, given its specific international and multidisciplinary leadership and the presence of the "World Water Assessment program WWAP UNESCO", hosted by University of Foreigners at Villa La Colombella. Thanks to Chiara Biscarini and Fernando Nardi



Pictures above Blanca Jimenez Cisneros and Lucio Ubertini

For more information: <http://www.unescowaterchair.org/unesco-and-water/sm-s3/>
Please visit also the [Perugia UNESCO Water Chair](#) page on Facebook



Group picture of the participants with Linda Lilienfeld and Lucio Ubertini

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H2CU Students' Corner "Structures Virtual Work Automated Optimization" Thanks to Alfonso Oliva



"My paper was recently published by ASCE and was presented at the ASCE Structures Congress 2014 in Boston. The paper, titled 'Tall Structures Virtual Work Automated Optimization' proposes an automated approach to structural optimization of high-rise buildings under lateral loads through a combination of the principles of virtual work, coding and interoperability between software." Senior Engineer and H2CU alumni Alfonso Oliva said. The software application has been adopted in the company and is expected to be available open source soon.

More info: <http://core.thorntontomasetti.com/alfonso-oliva-at-structures-congress-2014/>

H2CU Students' Corner "PopUps Interview to Carlotta Mummolo" Thanks to Carlotta Mummolo

Hi I am Carlotta Mummolo, from Bari, Italy. I am a Ph.D Student in Mechanical Engineering, working towards a joint doctoral thesis between the Polytechnic of Bari and the NYU School of Engineering. I first joined H2CU on 2010 with an individual Double Degree program between the Polytechnic of Bari and NYU-Poly. Thanks to this program, one year later I earned the MS degrees in Mechanical Engineering from both universities and I matured my first research experience at the Applied Dynamics and Optimization Lab of NYU, in collaboration with the Applied Mechanics Group at Polytechnic of Bari. This extremely formative experience contributed to the establishment of a research collaboration between the universities, in addition to the existing joint academic program, and sparked my interest in a possible Ph.D career. Eventually, in 2012, I seized the unique opportunity to start a joint Ph.D program between NYU and Polytechnic of Bari and entered the doctoral schools of Mechanical Engineering at both universities. I am currently pursuing two doctoral degrees working on a thesis at the intersection of several disciplines, such as dynamics, optimization, and biomechanics. Aside from the accomplishments on paper, the valuable international experience, the personal and the professional growth, I most of all value the time spent in such good academic environments, where I found great mentors among both my professors and colleagues. Thank you!



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