

MAGAZINE FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY



## Academic Highlights

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### Academic Highlights

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#### UNIMARCONI HOSTS AN EVENING HONORING GUGLIELMO MARCONI'S LEGACY IN SCIENCE AND HUMANITY



Moderated by Dr. Maria Antonietta Spadorcia, Deputy Director of TG2, the evening featured a series of thoughtful discussions on the profound responsibility of science to serve the common good. Speakers emphasized Marconi's vision of ethical progress: a science that, while driven by curiosity and innovation, remains grounded in a commitment to the welfare of humanity.

The event was organized under the auspices of the Marconi 150 National Committee and offered a significant moment of reflection on how Marconi's work has not only advanced technology but has also inspired generations to pursue scientific endeavors that prioritize the collective good.

On October 29, Unimarconi proudly hosted a special evening celebrating the life and legacy of Guglielmo Marconi, the iconic inventor whose groundbreaking contributions to science and technology transformed communication worldwide. The event commemorated Marconi's extraordinary achievements not only as a pioneer of wireless communication but also as a symbol of ethical science committed to progress and the betterment of humanity..

The evening was particularly meaningful, as it marked Unimarconi's 20th anniversary and aligned with the 150th anniversary of Marconi's birth. This dual celebration served as a symbolic tribute to the shared ideals of innovation, discovery, and service to society that both Marconi and Unimarconi embody.

The ceremony began with institutional greetings from Unimarconi's President, Dr. Alessio Acomanni. The audience included illustrious guests and respected figures from the scientific and cultural worlds, including members of Marconi's own family, such as Princess Elettra Marconi, the daughter of the great inventor, and Prince Guglielmo Giovanelli Marcon.



#### NEW COLLABORATION TO LAUNCH ADVANCED MASTER'S PROGRAM IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE

A delegation from Guglielmo Marconi University visited London on the occasion of the award ceremony of the prestigious "Chartered Status" to the Chartered Institute of Export and International Trade (CIEIT), our partner.

The Chartered Institute of Export and International Trade is a leading global institution committed to promoting best practice in international trade. With over 90 years of experience, CIEIT plays a fundamental role in supporting industry operators, offering excellent training programs and certifications for global trade professionals.

During the ceremony, CIEIT received the recognition for its commitment to international trade excellence. The UK Economy Minister also took part in the event, underlining the importance of this achievement.

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Following the award ceremony, a conference was held at the Italian Embassy in London, moderated by Unimarconi's Professor Donatello Aspromonte. The event included a round table discussion where Arturo Lavalle. Director of the International Area at Unimarconi, and Marco Forgione, General Director of CIEIT, introduced an exciting new educational initiative: the Master's in International Trade and Export. This advanced degree, co-developed by Unimarconi and CIEIT, is designed to prepare students thoroughly for careers in international trade, with a focus on export strategies, global supply chain management, and compliance with international regulations.



This innovative program combines theoretical foundations with hands-on applications, integrating the latest research and trends in global trade.

The partnership with CIEIT enhances Unimarconi's educational offerings by giving students unique opportunities to build internationally recognized skills, network with global experts, and deepen their understanding of the international trade landscape.

### **Spotlight on Research**

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### COMPUTATIONAL THINKING: HOW TO DEFINE AND DEVELOP IT IN PRIMARY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

On October 14, 2024, a webinar was held on the topic of computational thinking in primary and early childhood education, an area of growing interest within the educational landscape. Organized by the University "Guglielmo Marconi" and included as part of the Doctorate in Human Sciences' training activities, the event provided an interdisciplinary exploration of how to define, develop, and integrate computational thinking in the early stages of education.

The importance of teaching computational thinking to young students has grown exponentially in recent years, not only due to the widespread introduction of coding and educational robotics activities in schools, but also due to the increase in scientific studies focused on this topic. Computational thinking, in fact, is not merely a series of technical skills, but a problem-solving approach applicable in many aspects of daily life, teaching children to break down problems into manageable parts and approach them strategically and logically.

The various methodologies for teaching computational thinking reflect differing theoretical approaches. During the webinar, it emerged that Seymour Papert's constructionist approach, dating back to the 1980s, remains a key foundation for activities like those proposed by the Scratch community, which are focused on children's individual discovery and creativity through manipulation and experimentation. On the other hand, Jeannette Wing's definition describes computational thinking as a set of logical and algorithmic processes applicable to problem-solving in a way that can be executed by a computer, reflecting more technically oriented approaches centered on problem-solving.



A central theme of the discussion was the pedagogical question: why introduce computational thinking so early in children's education? Speakers emphasized that computational thinking, in an educational context for young children, should play a more formative than technical role, aimed at developing skills such as critical thinking, collaboration, and creativity, essential for navigating a rapidly changing world. For teachers and educators, the aim is to prepare flexible, creative minds rather than to merely teach technical skills.

The webinar offered a comprehensive view of computational thinking for children and teachers in primary and early childhood education, proposing an inclusive educational vision that goes beyond mere digital literacy to embrace the development of cognitive and social skills.

### Glance at the Future

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UNIMARCONI EXPERTS AT THE 2ND CONFERENCE ASIA-EUROPE ON APPLIED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



On September 9 Rome became a hub of intellectual exchange as the 2nd Conference Asia-Europe on Applied Information Technology 2024 and convened experts from across Asia and Europe to discuss cutting-edge developments in the field. Among the highlights were two keynote speeches from Unimarconi's professors, Romeo Giuliano and Francesca Fallucchi, who offered fresh insights into the evolving landscapes of connectivity and educational biases.

Professor Romeo Giuliano delivered an engaging keynote speech titled, "Advances in 3GPP towards 6G: New Services and Technologies", in which he discussed the pivotal role of the 3rd Generation Partnership Project framework, which has been instrumental in establishing global standards for mobile networks, including 5G.

Following Professor Giuliano's address, Professor Francesca Fallucchi took the stage with her keynote titled, "Using Distributional Models for Studying the Influence of School Textbooks in Children's Bias."

This prestigious event, held in the heart of Italy, brought together top academics, industry leaders, and researchers to explore advancements shaping the future of applied information technology.

#### LEADERS OF THE FUTURE: A TRANSFORMATIVE WORKSHOP ON LEADERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

From September 19 to 21, 2024, Guglielmo Marconi University hosted an intensive workshop titled Leaders of the Future. This comprehensive program spanned three days of immersive leadership training, complemented by an insightful corporate visit. Throughout the workshop, participants were introduced to a range of practical tools and strategies designed to foster both personal and professional development.

The hands-on sessions provided students with valuable skills, including effective communication, decision-making, and team management. These new abilities will not only enhance their leadership potential but also prepare them to navigate complex challenges in their future careers.

The corporate visit offered an inside look at industry-leading practices, further enriching the participants' understanding



of real-world leadership dynamics. We are confident that the knowledge and experiences gained during this workshop will inspire them to lead with confidence, integrity, and purpose as they step into their roles as tomorrow's leaders.

#### DIG-2-INC ADVANCES IN THIRD MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

On September 16-17, 2023, the management team of the Erasmus+ KA2 project, "Inclusive Digital Learning" (Dig-2-Inc), gathered for their third official meeting at Burgas Free University in Bulgaria. This meeting marked an important milestone as the team wrapped up the second year of the project and began planning for its final year. The Dig-2-Inc project aims to foster inclusive digital education for students from low socio-economic backgrounds, bridging gaps in accessibility and empowering students with a digital learning culture that prioritizes inclusivity.

The second phase of the project, titled The Champions of Inclusion. focused on sharing knowledge. building awareness of the challenges of low SES students, and raising interest for the upcoming series of workshops, during which the universities staff members were instructed to the concrete methods for inclusion in digital learning and teaching. This promoted understanding of the importance of academic skills development in the digital environment for the success of students, reducing latency and drop out of education. It also helped to build personal interest to improve conditions of vulnerable learners and to participate in further professional development programs to develop teaching and learning methods in the digital environment.

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During the third phase of the project, a teacher training course was developed, aiming to improve the teachers' competences in using modern online solutions for creating high quality inclusive digital educational contents. Its final goal was to provide tools to modernize courses and didactical approach through the use of Technology Enhanced Learning. In particular, the use of TEL will be used to permit a most effective inclusion of low-SES students giving them new tools to simplify their learning path.

The Dig-2-Inc project stands as a valuable initiative within Erasmus+, paving the way for a more inclusive digital education landscape. As the team moves into the final year, their work continues to set a standard for supporting marginalized students and fostering inclusivity in digital learning spaces across Europe.



**GMU Magazine** has been released with the contribution of all academic staff and partners around the world, if you wish to contribute higlighting any important news in accordance with the line of the release, please do not haesitate to contact us sending an email to d.chesheva@unimarconi.it