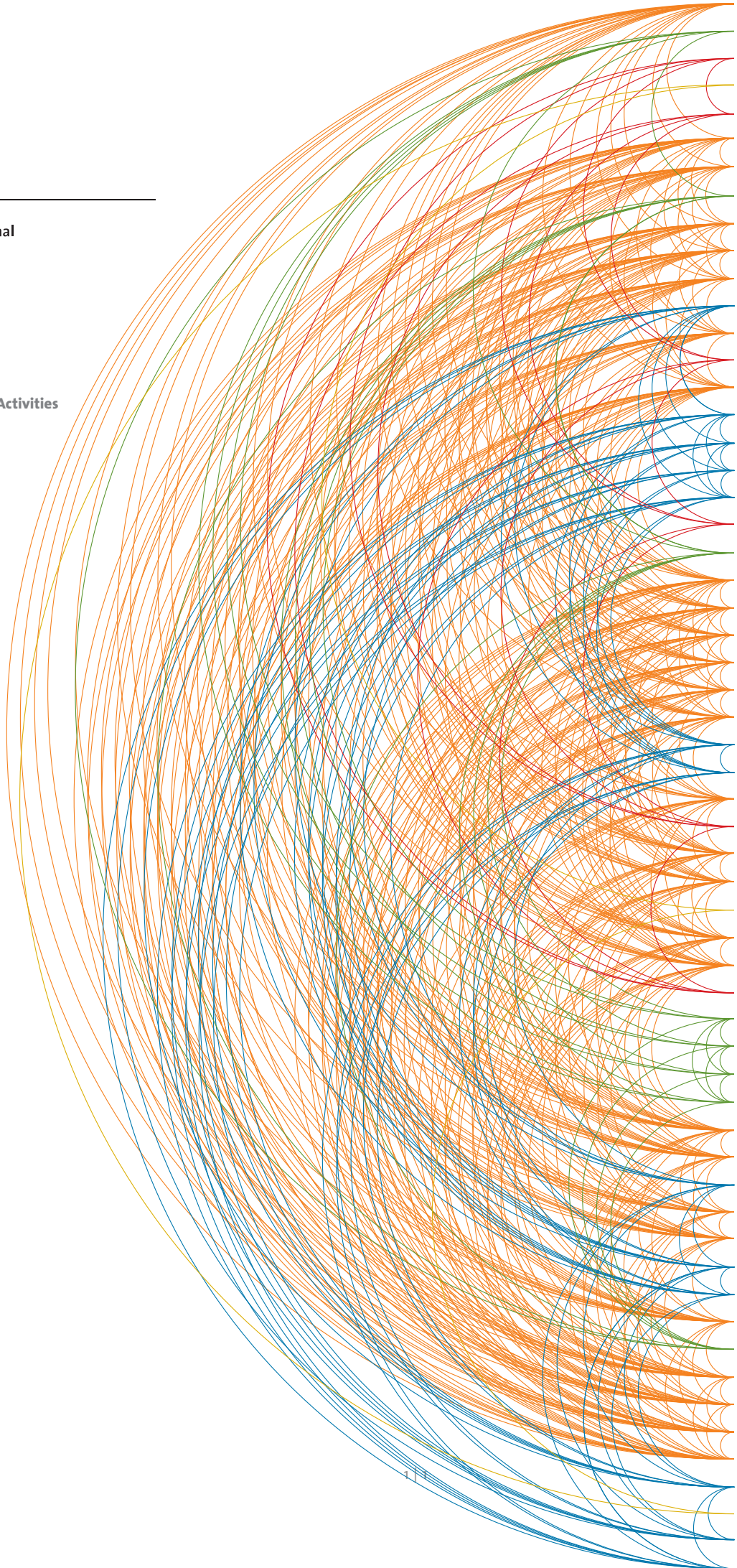




**VIU**

Venice  
International  
University

Report on Activities  
2006/2007



**Report on Activities  
2006/2007**

## Message from the President

I am very pleased to introduce this year's Annual Report. In 2006-2007 VIU continued its growth with several new projects and initiatives. I would like to sincerely thank all our partners for their contribution in developing and improving our programs and projects each year. Students appreciate and enjoy the multidisciplinary courses and the extra-curricular activities we offer, while our research centers continue promoting and developing programs of excellence in the study of the environment, innovation and Subsidiarity.

In 2007 VIU renewed its commitment to engage in the cultural life of the city of Venice by participating in the Venice Biennale, International Exhibition of Contemporary Art. The two exhibitions hosted by VIU within the framework of the official fringe events of the Venice Biennale were most successful and drew many visitors to visit our beautiful island.

*The Inner Soul Island: Isolation and Foolery* was an exhibition of works by the distinguished artist Vettor Pisani. We were most pleased to host this fine exhibition that was curated by Achille Bonito Oliva, who returned to VIU following his success with M. Pistoletto's Biennale project in 2005 *The Third Paradise*.

*Mobile Journey*, curated by Lorella Scacco was the second exhibition. We invited ten international artists to work with electronic engineers of Vodafone Research and Development and with VIU researchers to explore projects that combined art, innovation and research. For example, German artist Kalle Laar created a mobile phone connection which allowed visitors to listen to the sound of a melting glacier in the Alps, while Danish artist Peter Callesen attempted an "impossible journey" towards dry land in Venice using a self-built cardboard boat asserting how the potential of an ephemeral attempt can, in any event, represent the power of thought. This demonstrates how relevant contemporary art can be regarding the major challenges the world faces today.

The success of the two exhibitions held at VIU encourages us to renew our efforts to promote experimentation and creativity. At the same time, we are drawn to reflect on the themes that our university has set as priorities for research: the idiom of contemporary art is a stimulus to approach the environment, development and economics in an innovative manner.

In 2007 we have been able to elaborate a great variety of ideas and projects. I look forward with great enthusiasm to seeing them come to fruition in the coming years. Indeed, I am certain they will engender new and memorable initiatives which will set their mark on Venetian cultural life.

Umberto Vattani

### **Message from the Dean**

Last year has been a fruitful year for VIU and I am proud to introduce several new initiatives.

The newly established School of Humanities and Social Sciences offers a unique integrated multi-cultural, multi-disciplinary experience to students of VIU's member universities. The School builds on ten years of experience of the Joint Undergraduate Program, and the activities will be extended to include joint summer schools, intensive seminars and pre-doctoral research. The professors selected by the member universities to teach in the Semester Program bring with them a wealth of experience and expertise. It is an outstanding opportunity for students to study with academics from all over the world in an integrated multi-cultural environment while broadening their horizons, perhaps even beyond their chosen field of study.

We have also invested in an extra-curricular program that complements the traditional methods of learning: students take part in creative projects that allow them to discover original ways of conducting research while field trips and site visits allow students to explore the cultural life of Venice. The VIULECTURES series has been established to link academics from VIU with the cultural life of the city. The lectures create opportunities for debate and the exchange of ideas outside the four walls of the classroom. The first series in Fall 2006 focused on Venice, demonstrating VIU's commitment to deepening ties with the city. The second series in Spring 2007 focused on innovation, technology and economics. I am most grateful to all the speakers who have been involved in this project thus far.

VIU has recently signed a cooperation agreement with the Italian Institute for Foreign Trade (ICE). The agreement consolidates the ties between ICE and VIU which in 2006 resulted in the program in Business Internationalization Processes for graduate students with knowledge of oriental languages. VIU is the ideal institution for this program as we have developed competence in internationalization in the TeDIS Center. Historically Venice has bridged the Eastern and Western worlds; and its faculties of Economics and Oriental Languages have for more than a century represented the ties between the cultural and business communities.

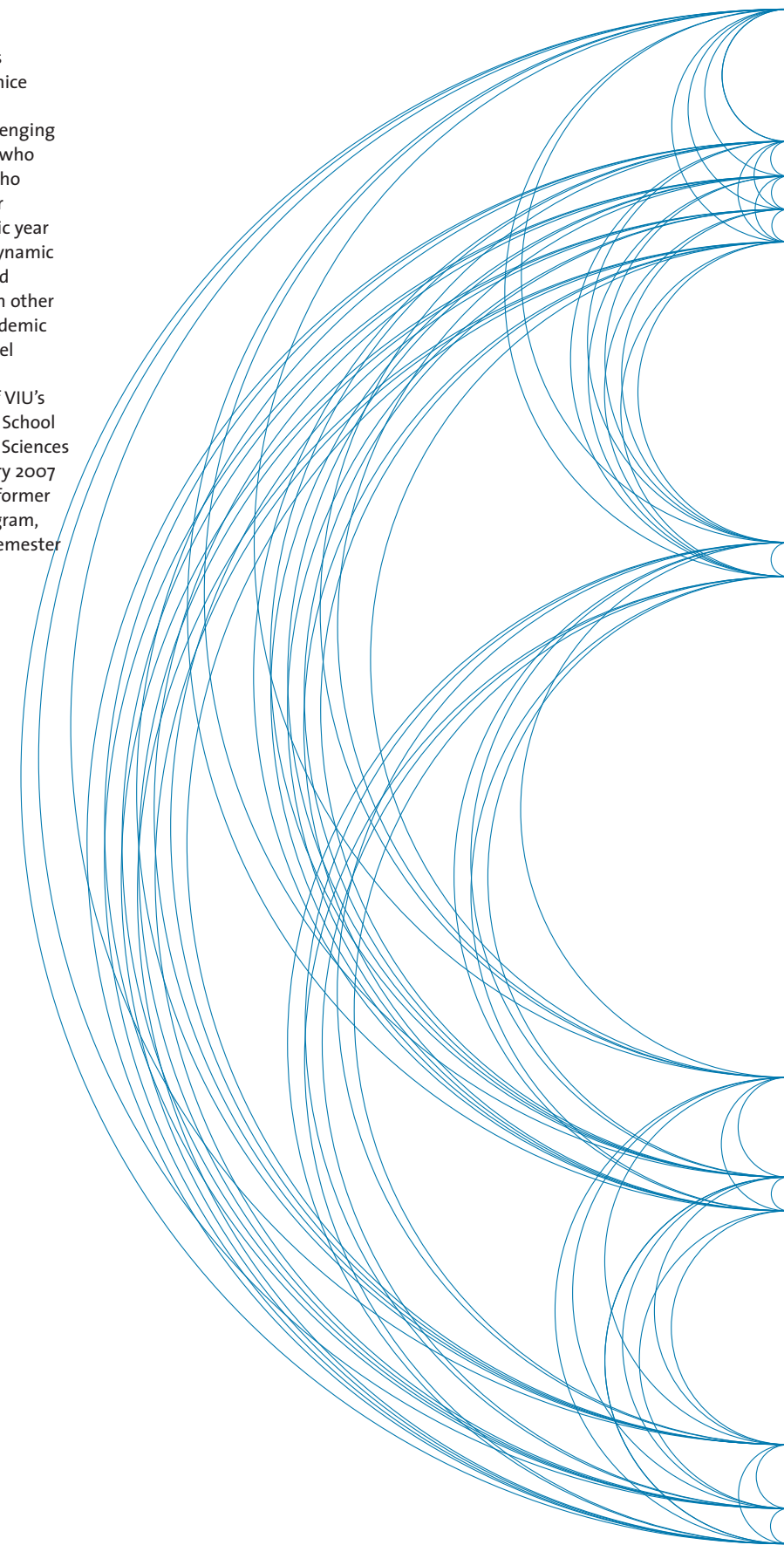
The TEN Center continues to strengthen its ties with China. A VIU-TEN delegation visited Beijing and Tianjin in October 2007 to attend the opening of the Advanced Training Program on Sustainable Development and Environmental Management and to establish the Tianjin Municipality's participation in TEN Center. The visit allowed TEN Center to explore together with its Chinese partners areas where there is scope for cooperation in promoting and developing new research initiatives and training programs on industrial innovation and sustainable development. Furthermore, TEN is developing with TeDIS center new perspectives of research which will lead to cooperation between the two centers on environmental and entrepreneurial studies. VIU continues to strive for excellence and the development of our existing programs and these new initiatives in the coming year will create valuable opportunities for learning and scholarship.

Stefano Micelli



## School of Humanities and Social Sciences

The School of Humanities and Social Sciences at Venice International University is an innovative and challenging opportunity for students who excel academically and who are interested in living for a semester or an academic year in an international and dynamic environment, learning and working with people from other cultures. The School's academic program offers a high-level integrated multi-cultural experience to students of VIU's member universities. The School of Humanities and Social Sciences was established in January 2007 as a development of the former Joint Undergraduate Program, which continues as the Semester Program.



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## The Semester Program

Every semester professors selected from the member universities teach courses in the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences. In the program students find a blend of cross-disciplinary and disciplinary courses. Many of these courses are on contemporary issues or adopting new approaches, comparing or studying cultures, dealing with issues on which VIU has Research Centers, such as Sustainability and Technological Innovation. These include courses on Venetian Art and Architecture, History of Ancient and Modern Venice, Italian Contemporary History and Culture and Italian for Foreigners.

**The program is Interdisciplinary:**

Today's globalized world needs flexible minds, able to move across disciplines, capable of tackling contemporary challenges with innovative humanistic approaches. Sample courses from previous semesters: Economics and Art; Power and Beauty; Justice and Development

**The program is Multicultural:**

Respect for diversity and mutual understanding are fostered through comparative and cultural studies. Group work in courses is encouraged to facilitate knowledge transfer among the different academic traditions.

**The program is set in Venice:**

Venice is a living pedestrian city with a rich merchant, political and literary history. It preserves its ancient urban form and an exceptional concentration of works of art and also many contemporary cultural opportunities. The city offers the possibility of experiencing the challenges of environmental and economic sustainability and provides resources for courses in art, architecture, theater, cinema, music, industrial districts and more.

*The School also organizes intensive seminars and summer schools.*



#### Fall 2006

Eighty-three students from eight countries participated in the Fall 2006 semester and attended the following courses.

##### **Italian for Foreigners - beginner and intermediate:**

Massimo Brunzin (coordinator), Venice International University

##### **Italian Contemporary History,**

Luca Pes, Venice International University

##### **History of Venice,**

Luca Pes, Venice International University

##### **Art and Architecture in Renaissance Venice,**

Eva Renzulli, Venice International University

##### **War and the End of Empire,**

Felicity Hand, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

##### **Homelands and Diasporas,**

Felicity Hand, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

##### **The Modern Classics,**

Yossi Yzraely, Tel Aviv University

##### **All the World is a Living Room – a study of Ibsen's Realism,**

Yossi Yzraely, Tel Aviv University

##### **Italian Culture and Society in the 1960's and 1970's,**

Michael Hardt, Duke University

##### **Venice and Globalization,**

Michael Hardt, Duke University

##### **Images of Japan,**

Gaye Rowley, Waseda University

##### **Venice in the Literary Imagination,**

Gaye Rowley, Waseda University

##### **Americanism, Americanization, Anti-Americanism: Transatlantic**

##### **Relations in the Age of Globalization,**

Berndt Ostendorf, Ludwig Maximilians Universität

##### **Conspiracy Nation: Conspiracy theories from the Illuminati to the X-Files,**

Berndt Ostendorf, Ludwig Maximilians Universität

##### **The Archeology and Architecture of Roman Italy,**

Daniela Cottica, Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia

##### **The Feminist Politics of Work. The Domestic Labor Debates,**

Kathi Weeks, Duke University

##### **Drawing from the Italian Masters,**

Stoney Conley, Boston College

##### **Painting Venice: How light and atmosphere create forms that propel visual ideas,**

Mary Armstrong, Boston College

##### **Determinism and free-will in ancient philosophical literature,**

Stefano Maso, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia



#### Spring 2007

Seventy-seven students from eleven countries participated in the Spring 2007 semester and attended the following courses.

##### **Italian for Foreigners,**

Massimo Brunzin (coordinator), Venice International University

##### **Italian Contemporary History,**

Luca Pes, Venice International University

##### **History of Venice,**

Luca Pes, Venice International University

##### **Exploring Palladio's Work,**

Paola Modesti, Venice International University

##### **Discovering the Mediterranean: Tourism and Literature in the XXth Century,**

Lluís Quintana Trias, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

##### **Social Climbing in a Changing World: Snobbism in European Literature,**

Lluís Quintana Trias, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

##### **Women and the Law,**

Pauline C. Reich, Waseda University

##### **Cybercrime and cybersecurity worldwide,**

Pauline C. Reich, Waseda University

##### **South Africa and America: Apartheid and Segregation,**

William H. Chafe, Duke University

##### **20th Century Leaders: Private Lives and Public Careers,**

William H. Chafe, Duke University

##### **Boccaccio's Decameron: A Guide to Living Well,**

Laurie Shepard, Boston College

##### **Dante's Divine Comedy in Translation,**

Laurie Shepard, Boston College

##### **Political Philosophy of the Enlightenment,**

Hans-Martin Schönherr-Mann, Ludwig Maximilians Universität

##### **Political Liberalism in the 20th Century,**

Hans-Martin Schönherr-Mann, Ludwig Maximilians Universität

##### **Dispute Resolution,**

Marco Li Calzi, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia

##### **Representing Renaissance Venice. From early modern to postmodern,**

Shaul Bassi, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia



At the end of each semester the faculty of the semester program awards prizes for Outstanding Academic Achievement:

##### Fall semester

**Prize for Outstanding Academic Achievement**

**Tali Okman, Tel Aviv University**

**Seth Sheldon, Duke University**

**Stacey Small, Boston College**

**Veronique Verhagen,**

**Tilburg University**

**Chelsea Williams, Duke University**

##### Spring semester

**Prize for Outstanding Academic Achievement**

**Inbal Goldberger,**

**Tel Aviv University**

**Maya Hetzroni, Tel Aviv University**

**Shohei Sato, Waseda University**

**Ruud Sneep, Tilburg University**

**Jennifer Tanaka, Duke University**

**Gwen van der Pas,**

**Tilburg University**

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## Intensive Seminars

A series of seminars coordinated by member university Ludwig Maximilians Universität were held over the course of the academic year. The seminars are open to students of the member universities.

### Fall 2006

#### **The Secular and the Religious**

Prof. Clemens Porschlegel, Prof. Barbara Vinken,  
Department of Theory of Literature and French, LMU

#### **Medieval European travelling literature**

Prof. Ernst Hellgardt, Prof. Carel ter Haar,  
Institute of German Philology, LMU

#### **Comparative Religious Education in Europe**

Prof. Gleissner, Institute of Musicology, LMU

#### **Eloquent Beyond All Words: Beethoven's Music and its Interpretation by Th. W. Adorno**

Prof. Günter Zöllner, Dr. Bernd Edelmann, Institute of Musicology, LMU

#### **Application of New Technologies to Evaluate the Vestibular, Ocular Motor, and Cerebellar Systems**

Prof. Dr. Michael Strupp, Prof. Dr. Thomas Brandt,  
Department of Neurology, LMU

#### **Venice and the Balkans in the Late Middle Ages**

Prof. Dr. Claudia Märkl, Department of History, LMU

Prof. Dr. Oliver J. Schmitt, Department of History, University of Vienna

#### **Rational Choice Theory in Sociology, Theoretical Contribution and Empirical Application**

Prof. Norman Braun, Department of Sociology, LMU



### Spring 2007

#### **Right-based Theories of Morals and Law, and Weak Paternalism**

Prof. Wilhelm Vossenkuhl, Prof. Ulrich Schroth,  
Department of Philosophy, LMU

#### **Taking Organizations Seriously: The Social Systems Perspective**

Prof. Boris Holzer, Department of Sociology, LMU

Prof. Stefan Kühl (UniBW Hamburg),

Prof. André Kieserling (University of Bielefeld)

#### **Strategies of Reuse: Spolia in Late Antiquity, Byzantium and Islam**

Prof. Franz Alto Bauer, Department of Art History, LMU,

Prof. Avinoam Shalem

#### **Music and Ritual – Music as Ritual**

Prof. Lorenz Welker, Institute of Musicology, LMU

#### **Schelling, Schopenhauer and the Tradition of Tranquillity**

Prof. Jörg Jantzen, Department of Philosophy, LMU

#### **Shakespeare and the World of Venice**

Prof. Tobias Döring, Department of English Studies, LMU

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## Duke in Venice Summer School

The Duke University Office of Study Abroad, in cooperation with Venice International University, offered a six-week, two-course program at VIU in the summer of 2006.

The program is designed to provide participants with the opportunity to study Venetian civilization, religion, culture, and art history, along with some of the ideas about art, politics, and religion that have been important in the shaping of modern thought. Sam Miglares, Professor at the Department of Religion at Duke, and Director of Community Engagement in the Office of Community Affairs directed the program. Maria Agnese Chiari Moretto Wiel also taught in the program. 14 students from Duke University attended.





## VIULIFE Creative Projects



Creativity and Technological innovation have until now been considered as two separate disciplines. Creativity is about the world of art, aesthetics and culture generated through unarticulated creative processes. Technological innovation is about the world of scientific discovery and knowledge based on strong methodological work. This separation has characterized our social and economic development model, and helped in generating wealth and welfare in the last century. The scenario is now rapidly changing. New challenges are emerging for our society. Environmental concerns regarding the suitability of production processes, ethical questions in scientific discovery, aesthetics and cultural meanings of goods are examples of the new issues we are called to address. Dealing with these challenges requires a wholly new approach that combines creativity and innovation. Venice International University as an international research and education center aims at fostering this new approach introducing extra curricular activities dedicated to creativity and innovation alongside its academic program. These activities are intended to enrich the students' training program exposing them to creative practice and to alternative ways of analysis and discovery. The objective is not to transform students into artists, but to let them experience art and creativity as a new perspective to interpret and make sense of the world. Students are asked to produce something original using techniques and forms of expression that are related to the world of art and creativity and refer to the use of digital technologies.

From this perspective, artistic creativity can be a first step towards new training methods, where theory is combined with practical creativity and the semantics of art, providing opportunities to engage and unify, through the discovery of new visions and ideas. VIU encourages contemporary art practice in order to pursue research based not only on numbers and statistics but also on human and artistic implications.



### Fall 2006

#### Venice: Impressions from Near and Far

The goal of this competition was to encourage students to analyze and reflect upon Venice and Globalization through images, shooting photographs which do not have to simply portray a situation, but have to create an intellectual process which can convey meaning and information about the deep links and relationships between Venice and Globalization.

The competition was an extracurricular project connected with the course *Venice and Globalization* taught by Michael Hardt in the Semester Program. The students took part in a seminar with photographer Stefano Graziani, and went on a number of field trips in Venice, Mestre and Marghera.

The title of the competition "Venice: Impressions from near and far" represented the fact that the students who participated in the competition were from all over the world. The Italian students have lived in Venice for years and know the city very well. Their view was contrasted by the (perhaps fresher) view of the relative newcomers from the U.S., Israel, Japan and Germany.

The students' final projects were exhibited at the end of semester ceremony and reception on December 14, 2006.



### Spring 2007

#### Only Planet: Innovating through Empathy

Art and creativity are cornerstones of Italian culture. This is seen in Italy's rich cultural heritage and also in the business sector where Italian companies are leaders in design and fashion. What is the background of these processes? Is it possible to have a cultural approach to creativity and innovation, keeping in mind that final users of products and new technologies are human beings? Can it be combined with technological research? With these questions in mind, VIU teamed up with Nokia in the project Only Planet: Innovating through Empathy. The aim was to ask VIU students from different cultural backgrounds to imagine future scenarios for mobile technologies, taking inspiration from Italian creativity and contemporary culture through visual narrations enabled by the latest generation of mobile devices. During the three months of the project, students were guided step-by-step in this creative process by Tina Gonsalves, a multimedia artist based in London, by Juha Hemanus, senior concept designer at Nokia and by VIU researchers. Students created short films using mobile phones to both shoot and edit. After the initial phase which pushed the students to rely on their instincts, the students began to discover their own styles. They quickly became more aesthetically aware and creatively confident to explore. The final projects were presented on June 1, 2007 at the end of semester ceremony and reception.

The winning group: Robert Hannig (LMU), Angela Kirschbaum (LMU), Filippo Minelli (Ca' Foscari), Sarah Bähre (luav exchange), Saki Miyoshi (Waseda).

## International Research Program

The International Research Program was launched in 2006 to facilitate the exchange of young graduate students in order to develop research projects in a broad range of topics, such as design and innovation, logistics, globalization and competitiveness, industrial districts, small and medium firms, environment, tourism and the use of new technologies (ICT) for spreading knowledge on cultural heritage. VIU has signed bilateral cooperation agreements with international Universities in order to offer graduate students the opportunity to carry out research projects in cooperation with these Universities, under the supervision of top experts in their field of research.

These research projects can be carried out either at one of these Universities or at VIU itself, on the island of San Servolo in Venice.



**Ludovico Centis** is a graduate of Università Iuav di Venezia. He graduated with a final dissertation on *Urban transformation of the Sumer area in Istanbul*, under the supervision of Professors Armando Barp and Bernardo Secchi.

Project: *Metropolis Management and Governance*

Location: Tongji University, Shanghai, China

Tutors: Professor Guo Qiang (Tongji University) and Professor Ezio Micelli (Università Iuav di Venezia)

**Valentina De Marchi** is a graduate of Università Ca' Foscari Venezia. She graduated with a final dissertation on: *New Organizational Forms of International Supply Networks: outlook for Italian SMEs*, under the supervision of Professor Stefano Micelli.

Project: *SMEs and the Global Challenge: Comparison Between Italian Industrial Districts and American Clusters*

Location: Duke University, Durham, NC, USA

Tutors: Professor Gary Gereffi (Duke University) and Dr. Eleonora Di Maria (VIU)

**Manuela Matzeu** is a graduate of Cagliari University.

She graduated with a final dissertation on *Japan. Environmental Policies. Culture or exigency?* under the supervision of Professor Giovanni Sistu (Cagliari University) and Professor Sean Golden (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona).

Project: *Made in Italy as perceived in the Chinese market*

Location: Tongji University, Shanghai, China

Tutors: Professor Guo Qiang (Tongji University) and Professor Sean Golden (UAB)

**Anna Moretti** is a graduate of Università Ca' Foscari Venezia.

She graduated with a final dissertation on *Organizational Models of Convention Bureaux – a Development Proposal for Vicenza as a Destination for Conventions and Conferences*, under the supervision of Professor Pio Grollo.

Project: *Tourism and New Technologies*

Location: Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Tarragona, Spain.

Tutor: Dr. Marco Bettiol (VIU).

**Wu Duan** is a Ph.D Student (Theory and History of Architecture) at Tongji University, Shanghai, China.

Project: *Navigating in Venice. Signage system research supporting the unfamiliar travellers*

Location: Venice International University, Venice (Italy).

Tutor: Dr. Marco Bettiol (VIU).

**Chengyu Wang** is a Ph.D Student (Theory and History of Architecture) at Tongji University, Shanghai, China.

Project: *Comparison of Design & Innovation Policies in Italian and Chinese Footwear Industry*

Location: Venice International University, Venice (Italy).

Tutor: Dr. Marco Bettiol (VIU).

**Lisha Ren** is a Ph.D Student (Theory and History of Architecture) at Tongji University, Shanghai, China.

Project: *Italian and Chinese Culture-based industrial districts in a comparative approach: Murano and Jingdezhen*

Location: Venice International University, Venice (Italy).

Tutor: Dr. Marco Bettiol (VIU).



An ongoing goal of VIU is to deepen the ties of VIU with the city of Venice. The VIULECTURES provide a platform for international and local professors to discuss key issues in current debate.

The first VIULECTURES series was given during the Fall 2006 semester.

**Venice and Globalization**

November 16, 2006

Michael Hardt, Duke University,  
with discussant

Stefano Micelli, Dean, Venice International University

The lecture addressed issues related to the metropolis and the development of local communities, with reflections on the clash of cultures caused by economic development.

Michael Hardt is professor of Literature and Romance Studies at Duke University. He is co-author with Antonio Negri of *Empire* and *Multitude: War and Democracy in the Age of Empire*. His research interests are twentieth century Italian literary theory, globalization and coloniality. He taught two courses in VIU's Joint Undergraduate Program: *Venice and Globalization* and *Italian Culture and Society in the 1960's and 1970's*.

**Sinking and Shrinking Cities: New Orleans & Venice**

December 7, 2006

Berndt Ostendorf, Ludwig Maximilians Universität  
with discussant

Corrado Clini, Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea

The lecture examined how the cities of Venice and New Orleans are caught in a dialectic between ecology and human intervention.

Berndt Ostendorf is professor of North American Cultural Studies at Ludwig Maximilians Universität. His recent research includes New Orleans culture and politics, evangelical fundamentalism and African American studies. During the Fall 2006 semester he taught two courses in VIU's Joint Undergraduate Program: *Conspiracy Nation: conspiracy theories from the Illuminati to the X-Files* and *Americanism, Americanization, Anti-Americanism: Transatlantic Relations in the Age of Globalization*



The second series of the VIULECTURES was held during the Spring 2007 semester:

**Design and Culture. Finnish Brand Design and Nokia**

May 10, 2007

Eero Miettinen, Head of Nokia Design  
with discussant

Marco Bettiol, TeDIS Researcher

Design is the crossroads between art and business. The lecture focused on the link between culture and innovation in designing new products, in particular the role of Finnish culture in Nokia design.

Eero Miettinen has been group design director of Nokia Design since 1999. He has a long experience in design: he has worked for several international companies spanning different industry sectors such as automobile, anaesthetics equipment, military equipment etc. He is also a visiting lecturer of industrial design at the University of Arts and Design in Helsinki. He has won several international design awards, in particular for his work on concept cars.

**Art, Technology and Economics as a Principle for Continuous Innovation**

May 24, 2007

Bernd Wiemann, Vodafone Group R&D Germany  
With discussant

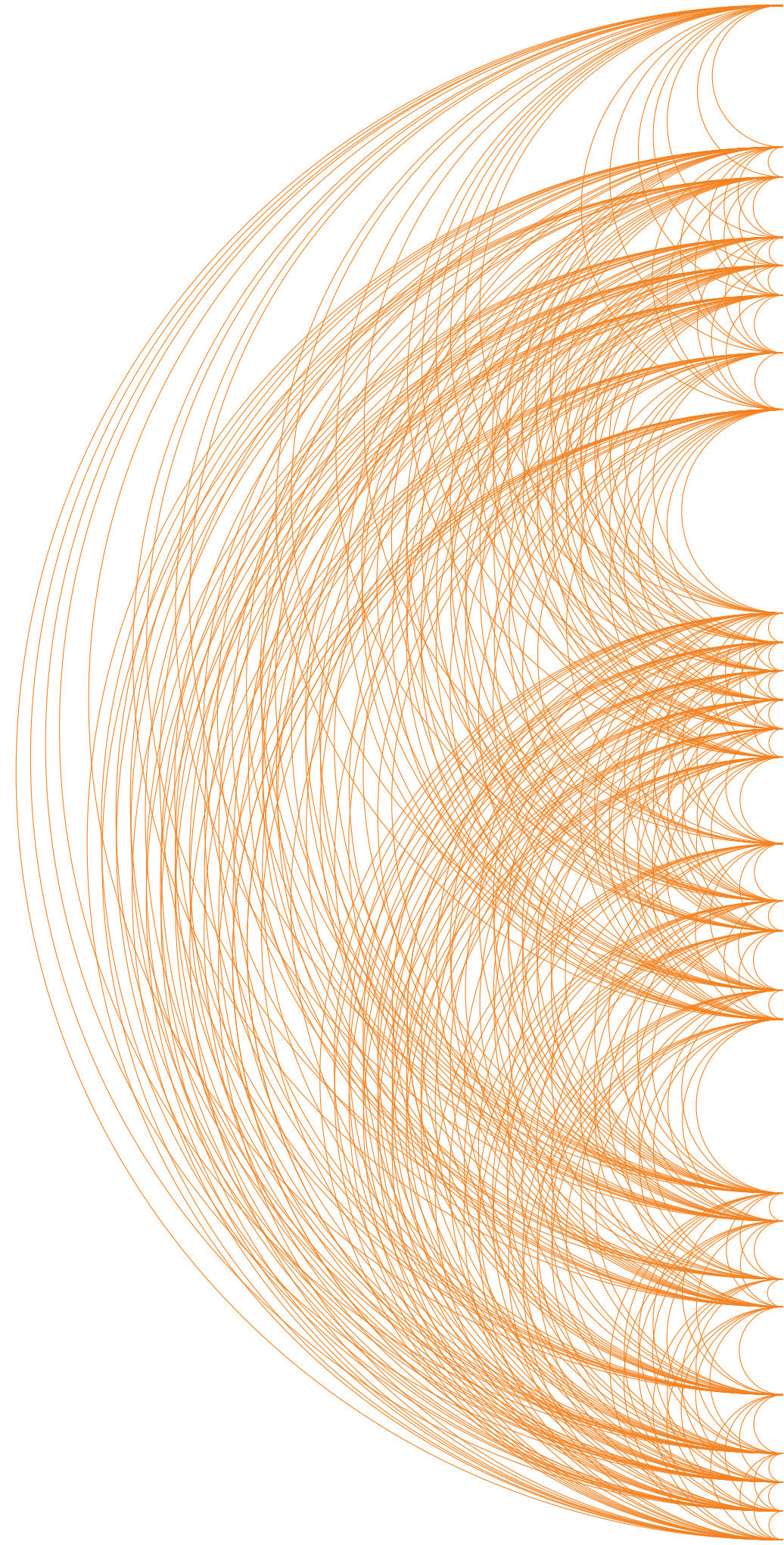
Stefano Micelli, Dean, Venice International University

Bernd Wiemann is managing director of Vodafone Group R&D Germany in Munich. He worked as a development engineer and marketing manager and was involved in founding and developing several businesses before becoming, in 1992, the founding managing director of Mannesmann Pilotentwicklung, which he has headed since and which became Vodafone Group R&D Germany in 2001.





**Research & Continuing Education**





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## TeDIS Center

### Innovation and Competitiveness in the Global Economy

Since 1999, year of its foundation, TeDIS has continued to grow and is now cooperating with several international institutions on research topics such as: industrial districts, ICT, globalization, design and logistics. TeDIS research activities as a whole, apply a basic common strategy to each research topic that focuses on the analysis of the impact of ICT's and on the study of the mechanism that develops innovation processes. In particular TeDIS has developed a joint research program on industrial districts and global value chains with the Duke Center on Globalization, Governance and Competitiveness directed by prof. Gary Gereffi and has continued to strengthen the cooperation with Banca Intesa in monitoring the Italian industrial districts development strategies in the global economy.

### Industrial districts and Internationalization

The goal of this study program is to describe and to analyze the internationalization trends of Italian SMEs and local manufacturing systems within the scenario of the global economy. It is based on innovative research methodologies that combine macro-economic analyses, surveys and case studies.

Industrial districts should not be considered networks of small firms operating in local contexts, in which the district value chain is opened only upstream (raw materials) and downstream (final markets). Instead, SMEs are now developing internationalization processes able to open the district system and transform district firms as part of global value chains. From this perspective, the research program is oriented to describe the strategies put in place by Italian district firms to increase their presence in the international markets as well as in terms of manufacturing activities (international division of labor), by focusing on the organizational forms adopted to coordinate internationally. The research has developed focused, specific measures and indicators at the firm and district level in order to evaluate the degree of internationalization of local manufacturing systems, beyond the multinational approach. Research programs have been carried out in cooperation with national institutions (such as Foromez) to explain the impacts of district internationalization on governance mechanisms and to outline new public policy making frameworks.

### TeDIS Survey

This was launched in 1999 to analyze the diffusion of innovation among SMEs in Industrial Districts and to evaluate the emerging trends of internationalization and innovation. TeDIS conducts specific research on the themes that emerge from the general Survey. Within the general framework of the TeDIS survey objectives and methodologies, in 2007 a research group from TeDIS and the Duke Center on Globalization, Governance and Competitiveness directed by Prof. Gary Gereffi carried out a survey on North Carolina furniture, apparel and textile industries. The aim of the survey was to investigate the process of internationalization of the sales and production capabilities of the North Carolina companies and to analyze the impact of internationalization on local activities and employment as well as company innovation strategies and the role of institutions in shaping the competitiveness of North Carolina firms.

**From February to May 2007, TeDIS Center junior researcher Valentina De Marchi, a graduate of Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, visited the Duke Center on Globalization, Governance & Competitiveness in the framework of VIU's International Research program. Under the guidance of Gary Gereffi she conducted research on SMEs and the Global Challenge: Comparison Between Italian Industrial Districts and American Clusters. Valentina is continuing her research in TeDIS Center under the supervision of Eleonora Di Maria.**

### ICT and innovation

A core TeDIS research area is the study of Industrial Districts and SMEs embedded in local manufacturing contexts and their evolution process in relation to Network Technologies. The objective of the research is to analyze the level of convergence between the district economic model of development and ICT opportunities.

The aim of the study is twofold:

- to better explain the evolution of district firms and the sustainability of the Italian industrial districts and related specialized industrial areas in the global competitive scenario;
- to better understand the conditions for promoting district manufacturing systems outside Italy, as successful models of economic development.

### Java Open Business (JOB)

is an innovative project developed by SUN Microsystems Italy in cooperation with TeDIS Center. Job aims at increasing the knowledge and the diffusion of open source software among Italian small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Java Open Business developed an online portal ([www.javaopenbusiness.it](http://www.javaopenbusiness.it)) that has several areas where SMEs can find specialized information and services related to the open source world.

Job is managed by an editorial team of TeDIS researchers. Constantly updated contents have been the main driver of the portal's growth in terms of users and authority in the industry. In addition, the editorial team has managed and moderated discussion areas and forums.

Java Open Business was launched in January 2005 and it has rapidly become one of the most authoritative information sources on open source technologies in Italy.

Between 2006 and 2007 JOB has seen a consistent increase in unique visitors, reaching 100,000 monthly visits and 650,000 pageviews. Job has also become one of the most relevant internet portals for the Italian open source community: between 2006 and 2007 subscriptions have almost doubled, reaching 1822 subscribed users. 435 are professional users – consortia, companies and consultants. The community-related activities in Job have originated 8 software development projects managed by community members.

The project has been communicated and marketed through a series of events in which the portal was presented to SME representatives, IT professionals, researchers and consultants. In addition to the presentation road show, Job's editorial team participated in the Italian Java conference in 2005 and 2006 and in several Linux symposia in Italy.

### Information Society

In 2006, the Veneto Region appointed TeDIS Center to carry out a study on the status of the Information Society in the Veneto Region and on the development scenario of ICT in public and private sectors.

The project will deliver a research document on the methodologies and objectives of regional ICT and a governance model which will establish the priorities for the development of the local service system for Veneto society and firms. The project will produce guidelines for the regional implementation of ICT for public offices, enterprises and citizens.

The final result of the project will be finalized in August 2008.

**In November 2006, TeDIS researchers participated in an international workshop on Global Value Chains at the Center on Globalization, Governance and Competitiveness at Duke University. This workshop started a joint research activity within which Duke and TeDIS researchers are tackling the issues of internationalization and innovation in mature industries.**

### Creativity, Design and Innovation

Creativity is a key element for sustaining the competitive advantages of firms in a global economy. New trends in consumption and markets are reshaping the competition towards a growing need for innovative products closer to the consumers' requests in terms of aesthetics and quality. From this point of view, creativity and design are the new drivers of innovate products and services, combining traditional R&D activities and aesthetics, style and communication values.

The theme of creativity, design and innovation is analyzed from two main perspectives:

**Territory and industrial Districts:** the research focuses on the conditions transforming the Italian industrial districts from manufacturing to creative clusters. The aim is to point out the key factors that can sustain and foster this transformation and that can help the territory to guarantee a competitive advantage to firms.

**Firms and networks of firms:** the research focuses on processes and strategies that firms put in place in order to innovate their products by investing in design and creativity. Innovation is the result of complex activities taking place inside single firms as well as in company networks. Because of this, the investigation is carried out at the two levels of analysis. The research aims at outlining how firms create value using design and creativity to sustain product innovation.

### Innovation for Culture and Tourism

Within the area of Creativity, Design and Innovation another field of research was launched in 2006: **Innovation for Culture and Tourism.**

The goal is to investigate how new technologies, such as mobile technologies and high-tech theaters, can be used to provide better tourist experiences in terms of physical (touristic itineraries, tourist information) as well as semantic access to cities and museums.

This research area is developed with the support of the Italian National Research Council (CNR)

### The Role of Art and Creativity in 21st Century Enterprises

On October 7, 2006, the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice in collaboration with VIU organized an international conference entitled The Role of Art and Creativity in 21st Century Enterprises. The objective of the conference was to point out the role of art and creativity as a driver of innovation in business within the context of a new relationship between business and cultural institutions. The conference was organized in two main sections: in the first, the issue was how art and creativity can become a source for innovation within business; in the second, the conference focused on a new interpretation of the museum as a meeting point for art and business. The conference was supported by UPA – Utenti Pubblicità Associati and Banca del Gottardo.

Culture for the Masses. The role of new technologies in managing visitor pressure on cultural destinations

On December 6, 2006, TeDIS organized an international workshop entitled *Culture for the Masses. The role of new technologies in managing visitor pressure on cultural destinations.*

The event addressed the definition of innovative business models related to the offering of new sets of services in the tourism industry and the governance and the definition of new policy strategies at a local level (city, province, region) as well at a national level (state, central government) for the management of tourism.

### DesignPeople

Research activities in the field of creativity, design and innovation have led to the development of DesignPeople, a professional community of designers, creative professionals and TeDIS researchers. The community is composed of 40 professionals who share their projects, experiences and insights on the DesignPeople blog ([www.designpeople.it](http://www.designpeople.it)). The blog was launched in 2006 and has reached a wide audience during 2007: it has almost 70 unique visitors every day, and more than 90 daily pageviews. The blogging activity is central for the community which promotes, organizes and manages events in several cities in the Veneto Region. Events are usually workshops centered on specific aspects of the creative process and of the design industry in which recognized professionals share their working experiences with designers and creative professionals in the Region.

### Logistics and Mobility

Logistics is another growing area of research focused on supply chain management in local contexts (industrial districts) and the global economy. The social and economic development of Italian and European countries (i.e. the CADSES area) relies on the ability of SMEs to face changes brought about by global, regional and local threats. In this scenario, logistics represent a strategic leverage to compete on a global scale since it can ensure the delocalization of production phases, higher service standards and closer relationships between businesses, customers and suppliers.

### Transport, Logistics and Supply Chain Management Unit (TLSU)

TeDIS with Università Iuav di Venezia has established a dedicated unit on Transport, Logistics and Supply Chain Management (TLSU). Its main goals are to develop analytical models of strategic decision-making processes regarding logistic systems and to develop normative models aiming at identifying innovative tools and solutions to improve supply chain competitiveness and logistic system performance (process innovation) at strategic, tactical and operational level.

### Research on Nanotechnologies

TeDIS is participating in a research project on the diffusion of nanosciences, nanotechnologies and their application in various industrial sectors on a global scale. The project will conduct comparative studies on the research and development of nanotechnologies, and also the application of these innovative discoveries downstream in traditional industrial sectors. The project is led by University of California Santa Barbara (Center for Nanotechnology in Society) in collaboration with Duke University's Global Value Chains initiative and North Carolina in the Global Economy Project.

### Nanotechnology and the emerging global knowledge economy: Challenges and opportunities, March 29-30, 2007

TeDIS researchers have conducted an analysis of the state of the art of technology transfer activities and innovative projects related to nanotechnologies in the Veneto Region, in collaboration with Veneto Nanotech. The results of the research were presented at the international conference entitled "Nanotechnology and the emerging global knowledge economy: Challenges and opportunities" at the Center on Globalization, Governance and Competitiveness at Duke University in March 29-30, 2007. The conference has started a joint research project among VIU, Duke University and Santa Barbara University aimed at identifying and analyzing the nanotechnology value chain on a global scale and at identifying its impact on mature industries. A second workshop for the presentation of preliminary results will be hosted by Duke University's Center on Globalization, Governance and Competitiveness in March 2008.

### Coordination for Competition – AIOLOG conference

On September 28, 2007 the third edition of a series of the annual AIOLOG (Italian Association for Logistics and Chain Supply Management) conference was held at VIU. It focused on the use of technologies for the improvement of logistic processes. This year the event titled *Coordination for Competition* was organized with the cooperation of the Italian Ministry for International Trade, Italian Institute for Foreign Trade and VIU's TeDIS Center which has received recognition from AIOLOG as a techno-scientific center of excellence for the development of applied research in logistics, particularly to support the internationalization processes of small and medium enterprises. VIU President, Umberto Vattani gave the opening speech at the conference.

### Business Internationalization Processes with knowledge of Oriental Languages

On May 4, 2007 at the Graduation ceremony of the course in Business Internationalization Processes with knowledge of Oriental Languages, VIU President, Umberto Vattani presented diplomas to 25 graduate students of the program organized in cooperation with ICE - Italian Institute for Foreign Trade and in collaboration with the Oriental Institute of Naples. Diplomas were also awarded to the participants of four other programs in International Business promoted by the Italian Institute for Foreign Trade. A recently signed cooperation agreement between VIU and ICE will result in the development of research activities that focus on logistics and art & design as a competitive leverage for Made in Italy products. The aim of the training activities is to develop the competencies necessary to sustain the development of Italian enterprise through the education of graduate students in international economics and commerce, economic and financial cooperation and trade.

### TEN Center

The Center for Thematic Environmental Networks (TEN) promotes education and advanced training programs on sustainable development and environmental management and develops research activities on the main areas of environmental protection, with specific focus on developing countries. The Center also hosts initiatives which provide a meeting platform for the competent authorities, researchers and those who are involved in environmental and sustainable development issues. Since 2003, TEN Center participates in the *Sino-Italian Cooperation Program for Environmental Protection* of the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea.

### Research and Training

The Training programs are devised for director generals and managers of public administrations, researchers and private sector experts from the People's Republic of China and Eastern European countries. The aim is to augment and improve the capabilities of policy-makers and to facilitate knowledge transfer in order to promote sustainable environmental, social and economic policies.

The Research Program focuses on various fields of Sustainable Development such as Ecological Industrial Development, Renewable Energy, Waste and Water Management, Air Quality and Vehicle Emission Control, Sustainable Urban Development and Eco-building. The knowledge acquired is largely used as a starting point for the preparation of the training programs

### Sino-Italian Environmental Management and Sustainable Development Advanced Training Program

In 2006-2007, the Science and Technology Commission of the Tianjin Municipality joined the Advanced Training Program. Furthermore, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the University of Siena, which provides its expertise and know-how on Environmental Law and allows the participants to visit the University in Siena. Chinese Public Bodies represented in the Sino-Italian Program:

- State Environmental Protection Administration of China (SEPA)
- Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)
- Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS)
- Beijing Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau (BMEPB)
- Shanghai Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau (SEPB)
- Tianjin Science and Technology Commission (TSTC)

The topics addressed during the Training sessions are chosen to meet the specific professional profiles of the participants who are selected by Chinese public bodies from departments concerned with resolving urgent environmental issues in the People's Republic of China. The participants attend sessions at VIU, at the Italian Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea in Rome, at Agroinnova-Centre of competence for the Innovation in the agro-environmental sector of the University of Turin and at the University of Siena. 920 Chinese participants attended programs at VIU in 2006-2007.

Specific fields of study are addressed in each training session:

- Capacity Building on Environmental Management and Sustainable Development
- Environmental Legislation and Enforcement
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Water Pollution Control
- Air Quality Control



The Environmental Training Community website is on-line at [www.etcprogram.org](http://www.etcprogram.org). The ETC Program website aims at strengthening the community of alumni that took part in the training courses since the launching of the Advanced Training Program in 2003. Complete information on the Training Program can be accessed by the public whereas the full database of trainees' and lecturers' contacts, lecturing material, photobooks, and other community tools are reserved for the alumni in a limited-access area, specifically designed for the Training Community users.

- Waste Management
- Energy Efficiency and Renewables
- Ecological Industrial Development
- Capacity Building on Clean Development Mechanism
- Sustainable Urban Development and Eco-Building
- Rural Development and Natural Resources

Site visits to public and private organizations and industrial plants are an important component of the program allowing participants to observe best practices in operation in Italy.

**Course for Sustainability: Strategies, Methodologies, Policies and Actions for Central and Eastern Europe**

The Course for Sustainability is run in cooperation with the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe which announces a competition and selects the participants among public bodies (civil servants) of the target countries responsible for the implementation of Sustainable Development. In 2006\_2007, 11 countries participated in the Course: Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, FYROM (Former Republic of Macedonia), Poland, Romania, Serbia, Montenegro, Slovenia and Turkey.

The program is a 4-week course open to 62 participants and comprised of five modules. Each participant attends the first and fifth modules, and chooses one other module based on the area of work and interest. The topics are selected to suit the needs of key policy makers in the region.

In 2006\_2007 the following issues were addressed:

- Sustainable Development: Introduction and Analysis
- Energy and Industry
- Sustainable Urban Settlements
- Rural Development and Natural Resources
- Sustainability in Practice

The participants attend the first module at the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (Budapest, Hungary) whereas all other modules are held at VIU.

Site visits to public and private organizations and industrial plants to observe best practices in operation in Italy are organized for each module.

**March 2007, Pilot project in Distance Learning**  
**Due to the high number of applications for the Advanced Training Program, VIU and CASS jointly implemented a pilot project on distance-learning on Environmental Management and Sustainable Development with the technical support of Monserrate. Italian lecturers teaching in Milan reached 120 trainees gathered in 3 classrooms located in different parts of China: Beijing, Changsha (Hunan Province) and Xining (Qinghai Province).**

**In the framework of TEN Center's three-year agreement with the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea, in 2006 the University of Tongji joined the PhD program in Analysis and Governance of Sustainable Development of the School for Advanced Studies in Venice Foundation. Students from Tongji come to VIU for three-months and take courses in the PhD program.**



**CLIMA: Euro-Asian research and training in climate change management. July 2006-2009.**

The goal of the project, chaired by TEN Center President Ignazio Musu as Scientific Coordinator and funded by the AsiaLink program of the European Union, is to prepare, through an integrated scientific and educational approach, a number of technical experts on Management of Climate Change issues, while fostering cooperation and creating a scientific network between European and Asian academic institutions. A curriculum for an online Master's Program is to be launched jointly by the seven partners after the project is created through the implementation of four specific Training Sessions. The 1st Training Session on *Global to National Governance on Climate Change* was held January 22 - February 3, 2007 at the Institute for Environmental Studies IVM of Vrije University, Amsterdam. The 2nd Training Session on *Sustainable Integrated Coastal Management & Risk Assessment* was held at the University of Karachi, Pakistan, April 23 - May 5, 2007. The third and fourth sessions will be on *Energy and Protection of Soil & Biodiversity* and *Integrated Water & Air Management*.

The project was evaluated by the EU Commission as "the only interdisciplinary European-Asian university network on climate change" with "the potential to be recognized as a major think-tank for global warming related topics".

**CLIMA Partners are:** Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy; École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, France; Renmin University, P.R. China; Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands; Tsinghua University, P.R. China; University of Karachi, Pakistan; University of Padua, Italy

**CLIMA Associates are:** Italian Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS); National Development and Reform Commission of the People's Republic of China (NDRC)





### Seminars

This series of seminars was organized and promoted with IMELS, the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea.

#### **October 20-22, 2006: Grand Challenges of Sustainability Science Workshop**

in cooperation with: Sustainability Science Program, Harvard University; American Association for the Advancement of Science; Initiative on Science and Technology for Sustainability

#### **June 4-5, 2007: European Dialogue on Energy & Climate Challenge**

in cooperation with Center for Clean Air Policy, Institut du Développement Durable et des Relations Internationales

#### **July 12-13, 2007: Jumelage Environnement Maroc-Italie**

final scientific committee workshop of the EU Medea program

#### **September 15, 2007: Forum Natura**

with the scientific support of E. Cadelio

### Newsletter

The Environmental Training Community Newsletter is a quarterly publication edited by TEN Center as a follow-up project of the Advanced Training Program.

In 2006\_2007 3 issues were published:

- On Focus: Sustainable Urban Development (September 2006)
- On Focus: Sustainable Agriculture (March 2007)
- On Focus: International Protocol Implementation (July 2007)



#### **2nd Joint Workshop Tsinghua University-Venice International University**

After the success of the 1st joint workshop on *Environmental Management and Sustainable Development* held in Beijing in October 2005, a second workshop was arranged in April 2007 at Venice International University. The workshop was the occasion for Tsinghua and VIU's selected lecturers to discuss common research issues on key environmental questions of both Italy and China. Tsinghua University has been a VIU member since 2005.

Vice President of CASS, Mr. Leng Rong visited VIU. In July 2007, the Executive Vice President of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Prof. Leng Rong, visited Venice International University to explore new possibilities of cooperation between the two institutions. Prof. Leng Rong was accompanied by the Director-General of International Cooperation Bureau of CASS, prof. Yang Yang, the Director of the Institute of European Studies, Prof. Ms. Zhou Hong, the Director of the Institute of Journalism of CASS and other outstanding representatives of this prestigious Chinese research institution.

### ICeSD

International Center  
for Subsidiarity and Development

ICeSD is a training and research center created in 2005 as a collaboration between the *Fondazione per la Sussidiarietà* and Venice International University.

The center's activities include: advanced training and research in the application of the principle of subsidiarity and the challenges it presents; in-depth study, evaluation and development of human capital; the development of exchange programs to train profit and non-profit operators with particular emphasis on Mediterranean and Eastern European Countries; the development and realization of exchange programs and tutoring aimed at the diffusion and support of international cooperation.

The creation of ICeSD in 2005 and the progressive integration of its activities with those already pursued by VIU aim to include varied research and educational approaches related to the current cultural and political debate. The changing state of thought about welfare and the need to overcome the traditional opposition between State and open market, create new possibilities for the collaboration between volunteer organizations and the more responsible initiatives of a civil society.

#### **Euro-Mediterranean School May 15 – July 28, 2006**

At the very basis of a training school such as the Euro-Mediterranean Training School lies the idea that investing in education is the first condition for establishing long-lasting relationships in the cultural, as well as the political and economic fields. Based upon this assumption, different forms of business and commercial partnerships can arise, in accordance with the short and medium range objectives of both private and public institutions involved.

The Euro-Mediterranean Training School was established in collaboration with the Chambers of Commerce of Milan, Naples and Venice, and the *Fondazione per la Sussidiarietà* with the support of Regione Lombardia, in cooperation with the Italian Institute for Foreign Trade, and under the patronage of the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The aim of this course is to train young graduates who intend to pursue managerial and entrepreneurial activities in the Mediterranean basin. Students study the following topics:

The economic, political and legal framework within which the exchanges between Italy in the European context and the countries concerned by the Neighbourhood Policy in Northern Africa and the Middle East take place.

The areas of business where it is possible to develop forms of cooperation among small and medium-sized enterprises located on all sides of the Mediterranean Sea.

The Italian Economic System and industrial districts (clusters). The financial instruments assisting business initiatives within the Mediterranean countries.

The ability to analyze and draw up a business plan.

The importance of sectors such as Tourism and Distribution and Logistics.

Cross-cultural trading dynamics and opportunities.

Twenty-nine students from Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Syria and Tunisia attended the school. Each student participated in an internship with a company or organization involved in business relationships within this area, in order to verify in practice the possibility of new trans-Mediterranean trade and business agreements.

At the end of the internship, as an assignment concluding the course,



each participant wrote a final report describing the practical and theoretical experience acquired during the entire program. Courses were taught by professors from Italian universities and qualified training organizations including: Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Università Orientale di Napoli, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Venice International University, Formaper.

#### International School of Subsidiarity (ISOS)

The 2007 edition of the International School of Subsidiarity (ISoS) was held at VIU, May 17 - 19, 2007 and focused on public utilities. Eighty national and local public administrators, business managers, finance professionals, policymakers, consultants and scholars attended the School.

It included the presentation of a number of business and policy cases by leading figures from across the world (regulators, local and national public administrators, managers, policymakers). The participants had the opportunity to learn about foremost international experiences in public utilities. In addition, the School hosted lectures by keynote scholars and a roundtable on perspectives for industry in Italy. Network utilities - energy, public transport, water, telecoms - are recognized to be a key driver for the development of individuals, society and economy, both at local and national level. What factors have the potential to lay the path to more substantial consumer choices, better quality of service, and enhanced investment in public utilities? Today in Europe many cities, regions, and countries are still hindered by the need for regulatory reform.

The School's sessions allowed participants to compare and discuss the solutions that had been adopted across industries and countries in several domains: regulatory authorities and public agencies, ownership and governance of utilities, infrastructure finance, network unbundling and benchmarking of quality performance indicators.

Lecturers included:

Keith Bastow, Arriva Plc (UK), Andrew Dunn, Office of Water (UK), Daniel R. Irvin, CEO Private Public Funds (USA), Sam Peltzman, Chicago University (USA), Michel Quidort, Veolia (F)



#### Atlantis Workshop

The Atlantis Workshop is a schedule of periodical meetings among experts, decision makers, scholars, about the present and the future of Venice, based on economic, social and cultural development. These seminars aim to propose and compare interpretations, opinions, significant experiences and projects recounted by the magazine Atlantide.

Atlantide a quarterly magazine, directed by Giorgio Vittadini, was launched in 2005 by the Fondazione per la Sussidiarietà.

#### Subsidiarity and Education

Presentation of the first Subsidiarity Report, May 25, 2007 *The "common good" (welfare) is not indicative of government power, but the state has the duty to guarantee it, promoting free personal expression, no longer as an "abstraction" but as a dynamic concept, within its real multiplicity of social relationships.* (Giorgio Vittadini in "Sussidiarietà ed educazione" - Rapporto sulla sussidiarietà 2006)

#### New Islamic Thinkers

The specific aim of this initiative is to give a forum to some relevant voices of tolerant and reformist Islam in the Mediterranean and surrounding areas. The New Islamic Thinkers series provides a platform for discussion among famous thinkers and professors of those countries, by giving space to people focusing their attention on study and research on Arabic reformism. The support of the most enlightened Muslim opinion leaders is a real contribution in the fight against extremism and terrorism.

May 29, 2006, **Un altro modo di leggere il Corano**

Rachid Benzine, Aix-en-Provence Université

June 9, 2006, **Pensare l'Islam, Oggi**

Hasan Hanafi, Cairo University

November 8, 2006, **Le statut des femmes au Maghreb entre modernité et tradition**

Yadh Ben Achour, Université de Tunisie

March 7, 2007, **Religione e Scienza. Il Cosmo visto dall'Islam**

Abd-al-Haq Ismaïl Guiderdoni, Observatoire de Lyon and Institut des Hautes Etudes Islamiques

The seminars were hosted by the Province of Venice in the Assembly Hall of its headquarters at Ca' Corner on the Grand Canal in Venice.

In addition to ICeSD, the cycle involves the following organizations: ISIAO - Istituto Italiano per l'Africa e l'Oriente, Università La Sapienza, Rome, Istituto Universitario Orientale, Naples, ANSamed, Naples, ISPI - Istituto di Studi di Politica Internazionale, Milan, Fondazione per la Sussidiarietà, Milan

Education for All. Equality Education -

The AVSI experience and goals for the new millennium, November 27-December 1, 2006

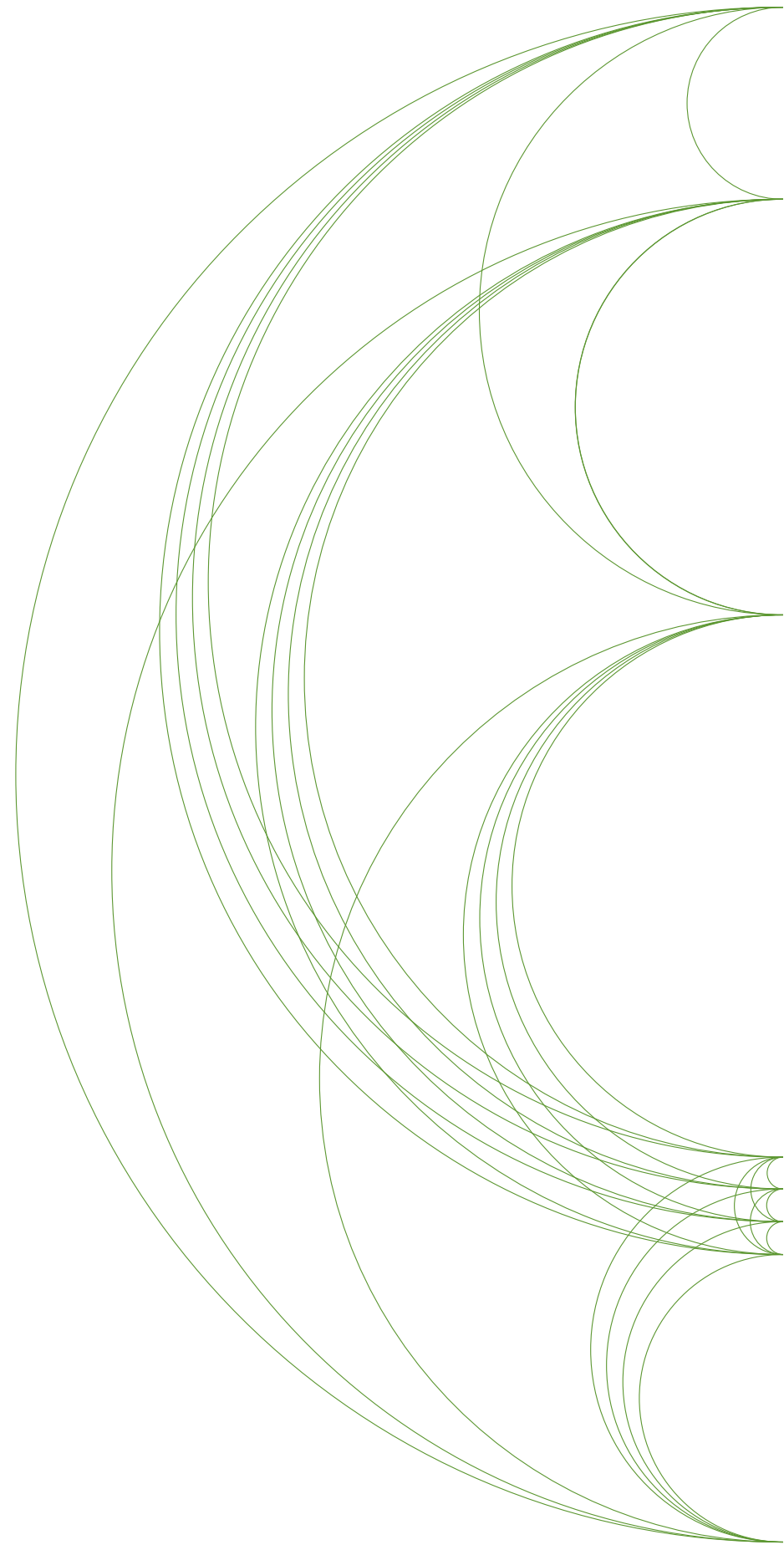
ICeSD hosted this AVSI residential seminar from November 27 to December 1, 2006. AVSI - the Association of Volunteers in International Service is an international, non-profit, non-governmental organization founded in Italy in 1972. Approximately 100 participants from 40 countries met to discuss and exchange experiences about these important themes. AVSI promotes cultural, social and economic development, especially in the most disadvantaged developing nations and countries in transition. Working in cooperation with local organizations, governments and international agencies, AVSI has programs in 32 countries of Africa, Latin America, Eastern Europe and the Middle East. One of the intervention areas of AVSI is the "Education, child care and family support", and consequently the 33 "Achieve Universal Primary Education", one of the eight United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Research on "Subsidiarity and Education" was conducted by the Fondazione per la Sussidiarietà during 2006 on a sample of 3,216 interviews with families, institutions and companies. The results were presented at a conference at VIU promoted by ICeSD and the Province of Venice in May 2007.

Five years after inserting the principle of Subsidiarity into the Italian constitution, this research was meant to monitor the spread of knowledge about subsidiarity in the productive, social and political world in Italy at present. The concept of "subsidiarity" meaning both vertical and horizontal subsidiarity, has been put in relationship with the concept of "education". What are the necessary requirements for educational quality? What factors in education influence personal development? What should be the educational goal?



**Graduate**



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## PhD Programs

### The School for Advanced Studies in Venice (SSAV) offers three PhD Programs at VIU

#### Steering Committee:

Donatella Calabi, Università Iuav di Venezia  
Francesco Gavazzi, Università Bocconi, Milan  
Paolo Legrenzi, Università Iuav di Venezia  
Marco Li Calzi, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia  
Curtis J. Richardson, Duke University  
Salvatore Settis, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa  
Hans-Werner Sinn, Ludwig Maximilians Universität  
Gian Maria Zuppi, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia

### PhD program in Economics and Organization (DEO)

#### Coordinator: Prof. Marco Li Calzi

The Doctoral Program in Economics and Organization (DEO) builds on a long-rooted tradition of economic studies in Venice, dating back to the 19th century. This city was the first in Italy (and the second in Europe, after Anvers) to start formal higher education in Business, Commerce and Economics in the 19th century. DEO aims to renew this tradition by offering a firm foundation for the pursuit of knowledge and research in Business Studies and Economics. The program blends different approaches, ranging from experimental economics to applied econometrics, from strategic thinking to modern economic theory, to equip its students with the most recent techniques and with full awareness of their span.

Original research in innovative fields, as well as intersection from other disciplines, is fostered and actively stimulated.

The program is organized in conjunction with the PhD in Economics (DEC) and PhD in Business Administration (DEA) of Università Ca' Foscari Venezia. The three programs together form the Advanced School of Economics, established by Università Ca' Foscari Venezia and directed by Prof. Agar Brugiavini. In their second-year students pursue research projects abroad and in their third concentrate on completing their dissertations.

DEO participates in the Quantitative Economics Doctorate (QED), a teaching and research network of eight European institutions: University of Alicante (Spain), University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands), University of Bielefeld (Germany), University of Copenhagen (Denmark), Universidade Nova de Lisboa (Portugal), Université de Paris I Sorbonne (France) and University of Vienna (Austria). The network involves active exchanges of students and faculty among the partner Universities. A meeting of students and faculty from all partner Universities is organized every year.

In 2006\_2007, four first-year students were admitted to the doctoral program and attended lectures and seminars at VIU. Fifteen second and third-year students continued to develop their research projects.

In 2006-2007 eight PhD candidates carried out research in international institutions and universities including: Boston College, Boston University, Leicester University, New York University, Northwestern University, University of Copenhagen, University of Southampton, University of Toronto, Vienna Graduate School of Finance.

#### Scientific Committee

Achille Basile, University "Federico II" of Naples, Italy  
Dan Levinthal, Wharton School of Management, U.S.A.  
Costas Meghir, University College London, United Kingdom  
Elvezio Ronchetti, University of Geneva, Switzerland  
Giovanni Toniolo, University of Rome "Tor Vergata", Italy





### PhD Program in Analysis and Governance of Sustainable Development

Coordinator: Prof. Gian Maria Zuppi

The PhD Program in Analysis and Governance of Sustainable Development offers extensive preparation in the development of interdisciplinary skills and knowledge for dealing with economic, environmental and socio-cultural questions that characterize sustainable development.

The program prepares research professionals to address complex environmental and territorial questions within fields related to: production of analysis processes through the use of innovative tools and technologies; environmental quality assessment; socio-cultural suitability, and program and project economy; project governance and territorial development programs.

In 2006-2007, six first-year students attended lectures and seminars at VIU. There were also ten second and third-year students concentrating on their research projects. These students are required to spend at least twelve months abroad pursuing research for their theses. In 2006-2007 students carried out research in international institutions and universities including: Vrije University of Amsterdam, University of Tsinghua, China, University of Nottingham, UK, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA

#### Tsinghua PhD students at VIU

Since Tsinghua University joined VIU in 2005, twenty-seven PhD students have come to VIU on a three month scholarship. They attend courses and seminars in the first year of the academic program of the PhD in Analysis and Governance of Sustainable Development.

#### Tongji Master's students at VIU

The DAGO doctoral program participates in a cultural exchange program within the agreement between Venice International University, Tongji University, China, the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea and the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology.

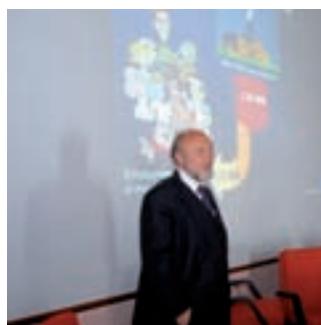
Selected Master's students from the UNEP Master's program from Tongji University receive funding in order to participate in the first year of the DAGO academic program. They are allocated local tutors during their three month stay and live on campus on San Servolo.

#### Scientific Committee

Marcello Balbo, Università Iuav di Venezia  
Carlo Carraro, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia  
Giorgio Conti, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia  
Luciano Vettoretto, Università Iuav di Venezia  
Antonio Marcomini, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia  
Ignazio Musu, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia  
Stefano Soriani, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia  
Margherita Emma Turvani, Università Iuav di Venezia  
Francesco Vallerani, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia  
Gabriele Zanetto, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia

#### International Scientific Committee

Anna Alberini, University of Maryland, USA  
Jean Marie Martin, Honorary Director European Commission  
Andrea Merla, GEF, World Bank Washington, USA  
Francesca Morata, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain  
Giuseppe Munda, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain



Curtis Richardson, Wetlands Centre, Duke University, USA

### PhD Program in Theories and History of Arts

Coordinator: Prof. Donatella Calabi

The PhD program in Theories and History of Arts focuses on interweaving the disciplines of history of architecture and of cities, philosophy and history of the arts, aesthetic theory, and conservation of architectural heritage.

Coordinated by Prof. Donatella Calabi, the PhD program's faculty body is comprised of professors and researchers from the Iuav departments of History of Architecture and Industrial Design, as well as from other Italian universities (Pisa, Verona, Udine) and international universities (Duke University, New York University, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Université de Genève). Although the program is based prevalently on the academic program of the Iuav of Venice, it also relies on a number of international agreements and partnerships with American and European universities and research institutes, participating in teaching and research networks. The name of the program has recently been changed to "Theories and History of Arts". Università Iuav di Venezia is developing a Graduate School of which the PhD program will be part.

In 2006-2007, four first-year students were admitted to the doctoral program and attended lectures and seminars at VIU. Ten PhD candidates pursued research abroad at international universities and institutions including: University of Cambridge, Royal Institute of British Architects, St. John's College for Graduates, Harvard University, Graduate School of Design, TU Vienna, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Columbia University, New York University, New York Public Library; Electronic Arts Intermix, New York; Università di Zagabria; Archeological School of Athens; EHESS, Paris; École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne; Fondation Le Corbusier; Fondation Dubuffet (Paris); Bibliothèque Nationale de France; Archives Bibliothèque de la Ville (La Chaux-de-Fonds); Archives Art Brut (Losanna); The Warburg Institute; Munchen, Bayerischen Staatsbibliothek; Ludwig Maximilian Universität; New York Public Library of Performing Arts; Performing Arts Library and Museum, PALM San Francisco; University of Pennsylvania; Philadelphia Jerome Robbins Dance Division; University of Loven

#### Research

The visiting faculty comprises colleagues from Duke University, New York University, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Université de Genève, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Rome, Harvard University, Ecole Pratique De Hautes Etudes of Paris. All visitors spend periods ranging from days to one month in residence during which they teach a course of 8 to 30 hours.

#### Scientific Committee

Giorgio Agamben, Università Iuav di Venezia  
Carlos Basualdo, Università Iuav di Venezia  
Howard Burns, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa  
Francesca Castellani, Università Iuav di Venezia  
Ennio Concina, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia  
Laura Corti, Università Iuav di Venezia  
Antonio Costa, Università Iuav di Venezia  
Marco De Michelis, Università Iuav di Venezia



Francesco Doglioni, Università luav di Venezia  
Paolo Fabbri, Università luav di Venezia  
Lorenzo Lazzarini, Università luav di Venezia  
Patrizia Magli, Università luav di Venezia  
Giulio Mirabella Roberti, Università luav di Venezia  
Mario Piana, Università luav di Venezia  
Marko Pogacnik, Università luav di Venezia  
Franco Rella, Università luav di Venezia  
Stanislaos von Moos, Accademia del Moderno di Mendrisio  
Guido Vittorio Zucconi, Università luav di Venezia  
Bernard Jan Hendrik Aikema, Università degli Studi di Verona  
Letizia Tedeschi, Archivio del Moderno di Mendrisio

#### **International Scientific Committee**

Caroline Bruzelius, Duke University  
Jean Luis Cohen, New York University  
Yves Hersant, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales  
Bruno Reichlin, Università de Genève

#### **School for Advanced Studies in Venice Conferral of PhD Degrees, April 13, 2007**

The diplomas were awarded during the Inauguration Ceremony of the 2006/2007 Academic Year. Prof. Hans-Werner Sinn, Ludwig Maximilians Universität, Munich gave the the keynote address: *Europe in the Stormwind of Globalization*. Prof. Sinn is a member of the steering committee of the School.

PhD degrees were conferred on the following candidates:

#### **Mustapha Azaitraoui, DAGO**

*Governance et gestion des déchets urbains au Maroc: cas de la ville de Meknès*

#### **Massimo Bisson, ARS**

*'Voltar il coro et poner l'altar alla romana': Le trasformazione del coro nelle abbazie cassinesi del Veneto: tradizione e innovazione nell'architettura ecclesiastica post-tridentina*

#### **Fabia Cigni, ARS**

*L'Abbazia cistercense di Senanque: le vicende storiche, la pianta bernardina, le fonti e l'archivio dell'abbazia*

#### **Sača Dobričić, ARS**

*La committenza architettonica dei Carafa della Stadera nel Quattrocento napoletano*

#### **Lodovico Folin, ARS**

*Sinfonia incompiuta di una metropoli. San Paolo del Brasile tra il 1930 e il 1950*

#### **Fabio Grazi, DAGO**

*Agglomeration, Transport and Environment; The Economics of Spatial Sustainability*

#### **Andrea Mattiello, ARS**

*Pratiche performative a New York, 1952 - 1965:*

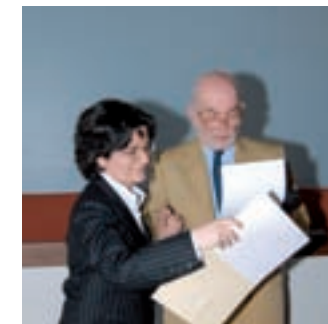
*Jonas, Kaprow, Nauman, Schneemann. Ricerca, tempo e montaggio*

#### **Francesco Musco, DAGO**

*Sustainability, Participation and local action for city regeneration: Theory and best practices*

#### **Paola Nicolin, ARS**

*T68. Il mondo in una Mostra. Il Grande Numero alla XIV Triennale di Milano. Arte Architettura Ambiente*



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**Summer Institute in the Humanities  
2007-2008**

**Manuel Orazi**, ARS

*L'universo erratico di Yona Friedman*

**Giacomo Pasini**, DEO

*Empirical studies on social interactions*

**Francesca Santoro**, DAGO

*Operationalizing Sustainable Development: A Transdisciplinary approach to coastal planning*

**Alessandra Sgobbi**, DAGO

*Negotiating Water policies; non cooperative bargaining theory and water management in the Piave River Basin*

**Giorgio Tavano Blessi**, DAGO

*Urban Renewal and Culture Towards Cultural Policy for the Local Sustainable Development in Post Industrial Societies*

**Valeria Tomasi**, ARS

*I loggiati su Piazza SS. Annunziata a Firenze: tre cantieri rinascimentali a confronto*

**Alvise Vianello**, DAGO

*Shaping the borders of Civil Society: Autonomy and Identity in a Diaspora - Orientated Space*

**Silvia Vianello**, DEO

*Online consumer behavior in virtual communities*

**Fabiana Visentin**, DEO

*The evolutionary dynamics of organizational populations: three studies on the corporate demography of the Swiss banking industry*

**Francesco Zanini**, DAGO

*Industrial Cluster Evolution and Transport Implications. The Case study of the Veneto Region*

DAGO: Analysis and Governance of Sustainable Development

DEO: Economics and Organization

ARS: Theories and Histories of Arts



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**Advanced Seminar in the Humanities  
2006-2007**

**Venice and the Veneto between the XIX and the XX century**

The first session of the fourth edition of the Summer Institute in the Humanities ended on June 16, 2007.

As in the five previous years, a group of advanced graduate students in History, Literature and Language, Architectural History, History of Art, History of the City, Music, and Philosophy from different nationalities met at VIU with some of the best scholars on Venetian history and culture.

The goal of the program, conceived as a two-year commitment for one week, was to provide an interdisciplinary and high-level introduction to Venice and the Veneto for advanced graduate students. The program focused on the new political and economic realities of Venice, from the emergence of great industrial magnates to the production centers in Marghera and Mestre, from issues such as the preservation of the city and its lagoon to the development of the recreational center and bathing establishments of the Lido. The 2007-2008 Summer Institute will consider the singular history of Venice, and the role of the visitor's "gaze", in shaping the economic base, social structures, art, literature, and music of Venice in the twentieth century.

The program consisted of a week of lectures and site visits. During this first session in 2007 the doctoral scholars will identify a research project that will connect some aspects of Venetian culture with their own scholarly interests and research. This project will be presented in the second one-week session in June 2008.

The program was supported by Duke University and Venice International University.

Conveners: Professor Caroline Bruzelius, Duke University and Professor Donatella Calabi, Università Iuav di Venezia.



**Literature and Culture in the Ancient Mediterranean:  
Greece, Rome, and the Near East**

In September 2007 the second session of the graduate seminar "Literature and Culture in the Ancient Mediterranean: Greece, Rome and the Near East" 2006-2007 took place at Venice International University. The advanced seminar was organized by the School for Advanced Studies in Venice (SSAV), with the support of the Fondazione di Venezia and, as the first edition, it was conceived as a two year commitment over two successive years (2006 and 2007).

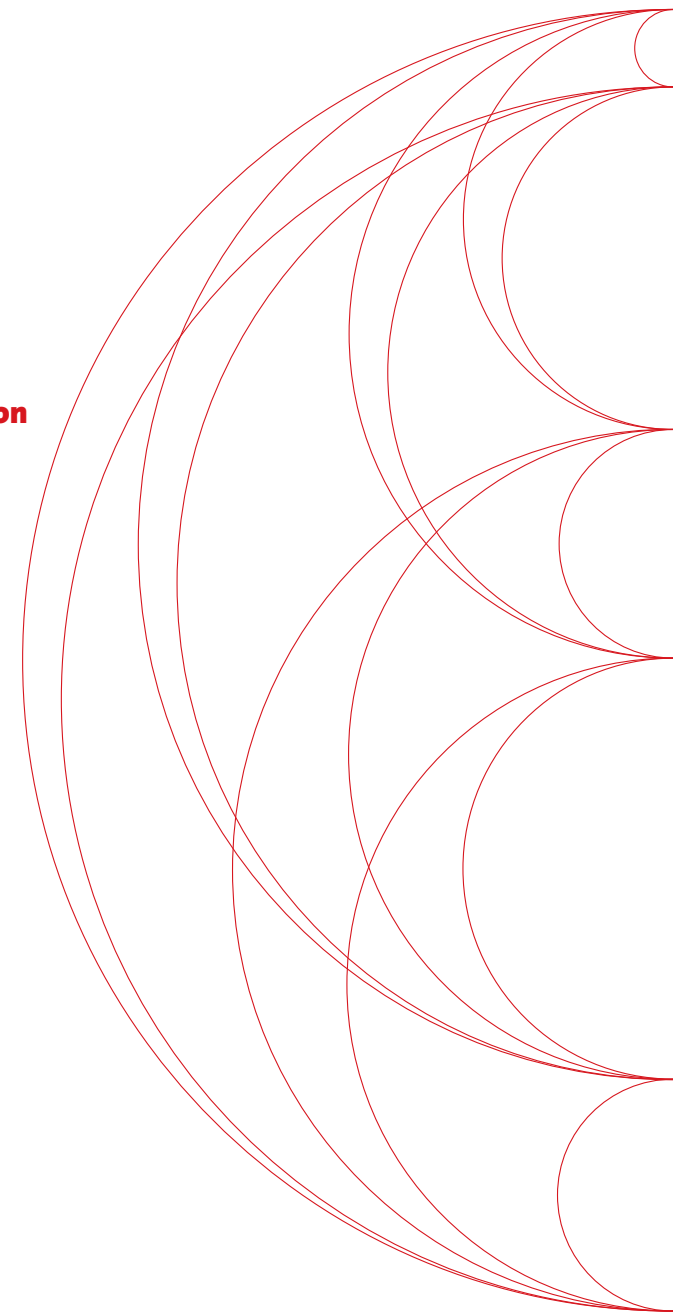
The aim of the program was firstly to investigate the relationship between themes, motifs and structures of the texts, starting with the early examples of epic poetry and of wisdom and didactic literature; secondly, to examine the processes involved in their transmission and preservation in both oral and written forms.

The second session (September 2007) hosted a number of lectures by invited speakers, scholars active in the field of Greek, Latin and Ancient Near Eastern literature, but also the presentation of the research papers that the fellows had carried out during last year under the supervision of one of the faculty.

This project was presented in the form of a dissertation.

Conveners: Professors Ettore Cingano and Lucio Milano,  
Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia.

**Ongoing programs in collaboration  
with other partners**





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**CESifo Venice Summer Institute**

In 2006, EPO and VIU launched a pilot project with the aim to contribute to the promotion in the field of intellectual Property education and training in Europe and the wish to contribute to the promotion of EPIVE (European Intellectual Property in Venice). Under the terms of this agreement, the Institute brings on "Intellectual Property and Knowledge Management" at the end of October, to concur with the Venice Judges' Forum. The second Venice Judges' Forum was held in November, in cooperation with the European Patent Lawyers' Association. Thanks to the cooperation agreement, VIU hosted the ASP (ASP Politecnica (ASP), a summer school for young lawyers to develop their interdisciplinary capabilities in innovation. Founded by the Politecnica di Torino, the ASP is open to students in Engineering, Architecture or Design Universities. ASP students complement the knowledge of their graduate course with a multifaceted understanding of innovation processes and contexts. They develop an interdisciplinary attitude to conceive, plan, implement and promote complex innovation projects that produce a sustainable progress in economy, society and culture. The summer school is organized in cooperation with Venice International University, the European Patent Office and the Italian Ministry for Economic Development.

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**European Summer School in Resource and Environmental Economics**

The European Summer School in Resource and Environmental Economics is jointly carried out by the European Association of Environmental and Resources Economists (EAERE), the Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM), and Venice International University. The broader objective of the school is to provide advanced training for young researchers from all over Europe and beyond on European issues of environmental and resource economics. This Summer School series has recently received funding from the European Community's Sixth Framework Program, Marie Curie Actions - Human Resources and Mobility, within the ESS RESECON project. The Action aims to provide short-term training opportunities to allow researchers to network and keep abreast of the latest scientific developments in their field. The theme of this year's Summer School, which took place at the beginning of July, was "Trade, Property Rights and Biodiversity". Issues included rent-seeking, lobbying and corruption, endogenous institutions and market development and economic geography.

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**International School of Neurological Sciences (ISNV)**

The International School of Neurological Sciences was founded in 1990, at the beginning of the "Brain Decade". ISNV aims to provide health professionals with the opportunity to improve their skills in the Neurological Sciences by organizing courses conducted by leading international experts in specific fields. The 6th International Course on Epilepsy: "Clinical and Therapeutic Approaches to Childhood Epilepsy" took place at the end of July. This summer school is now supported by the European Commission, in the context of the EPILearn project, funded by the Marie Curie Actions of the Sixth Framework Programme. The aim of the course was to teach attendees to utilize primary knowledge of the underlying basis to epilepsy; describe nature and evolution of childhood epilepsies; plan neurophysiological, video EEG and imaging investigations and interpret their results in the clinical context; understand the principles and limitations of drug management in childhood; be aware of when to consider alternative forms of management; recognise the co-morbidities and likely expectations.

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**Italian Association of Council of European Municipalities and Regions (AICCIRE)**

CEMR (the Council of European Municipalities and Regions) is the first and foremost European association of local governments, located in Paris. AICCIRE (Associazione italiana del Consiglio dei Comuni e delle Regioni d'Europa) is the Italian section of CEMR. AICCIRE and VIU have been collaborating for many years in promoting advanced training programs on topics related to European integration including Introduction to the Euro, Agenda 2000 European grants and public financing of projects.

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**European Patent Office (EPO)**

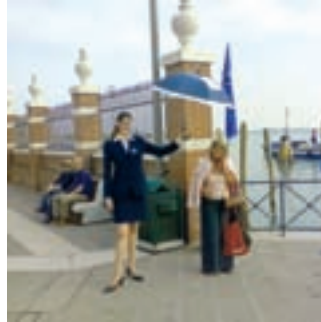
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## Art at VIU

Artistic creativity can be a first step towards new training methods, where theory is combined with practical creativity and the semantics of art, providing opportunities to engage and unify, through the discovery of new visions and ideas. VIU encourages contemporary art practice in order to pursue research based not only on numbers and statistics but also on human and artistic implications. VIU must define a clear strategic goal for an ambitious program in order to create new learning structures and favor innovation and modernization of education systems, concepts that are clearly emphasized in the Lisbon Strategy.

**MOBILE JOURNEY™, June 7-9, 2007**  
A fringe event of the 52nd Art Biennale



**The Inner-soul Island:**  
**Isolation and Foolery, June 7 to August 4, 2007**  
A fringe event of the 52nd Art Biennale

VIU invited international artists, curated by Lorella Scacco, to dialogue with electronic engineers at Vodafone Research and Development in Germany and with VIU researchers. Venice International University regards contemporary art as an experimental space to be used to promote innovative forms of research. "Mobile Journey represents an important step in this direction, breaking new ground in order to establish a dialogue between artistic research, technological innovation and social sciences. The artist is given the task of exploring new ways of using technologies; the electronic engineer that of identifying and developing various potential forms of artistic expression, by rethinking certain basic aspects of the near future; whilst the researcher has the burden of offering a synthesis of the meeting of these two worlds," said Stefano Micelli, Dean of VIU.

The aim of the project was to promote transdisciplinarity between the worlds of creativity and technology, which have always been structured and perceived as separate, though both focus on research. The Biennale exhibition was a final, visible stage of this dialogue, but all the interaction between visual artists exploring new possible and sustainable uses of technologies and engineers providing solutions has been of great interest to VIU. VIU researchers guided and studied the whole process. All the various stages of Mobile Journey have been carried out with another focus: to make every performance and installation interactive, enabling visitors to communicate, through their own mobile phone, with the artists or with each other. This is very important, since both the contemporary art and the technology systems are usually exclusive and closed to external inputs.

In developing the interactive works artists exploited the rich potential of the mobile phone, ranging from video and sound recording to communication and user generated web contents. Global Groove (Rome) presented a project to investigate the concept of mobility from the cameraman's point of view, Kalle Laar (Germany) created a mobile phone connection which allowed to listen to the sound of a melting glacier in the Alps, Silver & Hanne Rivrud (Norway) created an interactive work inspired by video games: from a mobile phone the public could guide a real person instead of an avatar, seeing what he was seeing while touring Venice, Peter Callesen (Denmark) attempted at an impossible journey reaching mainland while navigating on a cardboard made boat, Crispin Gurnholt (Norway) selected and positioned professional models on a public boat to simulate the variegated population of Venice (aristocrats, managers and ethnic minorities), Empfangshalle (Germany) investigated the behavior of mobile phone users by creating





innovative and ironic services, Laura Beloff, Erich Berger and Elina Mitrunen (Finland) created a wearable work enabling the public to register their own heartbeats, Gaston Ramirez Feltrin (Italy/Mexico) invited visitors to produce their own videos of the Mobile Journey event via mobile phone.

The Inner-soul Island: Isolation and Foolery, curated by Achille Bonito Oliva, was the theme developed by Vettor Pisani, an artist who has investigated precociously well ahead of others incest, anti-nature, hostage, undue influence, anti-heroism, the abuse of ideology and of art.

Always attempting a balance between art and critical citation, Vettor Pisani's work offers a rich *impasto* of symbolologies, alchemies, iconographies and contents where there is no continuity between the past and the present.

A desecrating artist with a strong sense of history intended as a reflection and vision of the world, Vettor Pisani uses as his point of departure Marcel Duchamp and Joseph Beuys in a process that echoes Masonic and Rosacrucian as well as symbolist, philosophic and psychoanalytic references, where photography, sculpture, installation and performance investigate, with ironic and necessary intelligence, passions and myths.

The exhibition at VIU included works by Vettor Pisani that focused on the theme of mourning and melancholy, such as *La Venere di Cioccolato* ("Chocolate Venus") of 1970; *Hermes*, a 1975 sculpture; *L'Adolorata* of 2007, a Madonna placed on an upturned piano.

The work of art is the mask, the threshold that the artist cannot cross, because the world knows him in a definite manner and nothing can deny him this acknowledgment, for no sliding into silence could possibly reduce him to become a producer of day-to-day events.

The exhibition was sponsored by the Morra Foundation of Naples, in cooperation with Galleria Cardelli & Fontana, Sarzana, and Venice International University.



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Venice  
January 2008

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