

Higher Education and Equality of Opportunities

29-30 June 2023

University of Modena and
Reggio Emilia

Department of
Economics Marco Biagi

Via J. Berengario 51
Modena



PROGRAM

THURSDAY 29 JUNE

9:30 – 10:00 REGISTRATION

10:00 – 10:10 WELCOME ADDRESS

Tommaso Fabbri - Director of the Department of Economics Marco Biagi

Fabrizio Patriarca P.I. Project University and Social Inclusion: the Unimore case

10:10 – 11:05 **KEYNOTE LECTURE**

Núria Rodríguez-Planas (City University of New York – Queens College) *Long-term educational outcomes of two different higher-education programs during COVID-19*

11:05 – 11:20 COFFEE BREAK

11:20 – 13:20 SESSION 1 – **INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN**

Chair: **Massimiliano Bratti** (University of Milan La Statale)

Elena Lisauskaite (University of Portsmouth) *Teacher Effects on Foreign Students in Higher Education*

Carmen Aina (University of Piemonte Orientale) *Effects of Workload Allocation per Course on Students' Academic Outcomes: Evidence from STEM Degrees* - with Koray Aktas and Giorgia Casalone

Silvia Granato (Joint Research Centre) *Why are lower socio-economic background students underrepresented in Erasmus? An analysis of Bologna University students* – with Sylke V. Schnepf

Stefano Fusaro (University of Loyola) *Do higher education careers services affect labour market outcomes of graduates: Evidence from Catalonia* – with Kristin Hermannsson and Rosario Scandurra



13:20 – 14:20 LUNCH BREAK

14:20 – 15:50 PARALLEL SESSIONS

PARALLEL SESSION 2A – **COVID-19 ISSUES**

Chair: **Núria Rodríguez-Planas** (City University of New York – Queens College)

Zelda Brutti (Universitat Pompeu Fabra) *Muddying the waters: how grade distributions change when university exams go online* – with Daniel Montolio

Marco Colagrossi (Joint Research Centre) *Studying During a Pandemic: the Impact of Covid19 on Higher Education Choices in the Netherlands* – with Elena Meroni, Gianluca Mazzarella and Silvia Granato

Daniela Piazzalunga (University of Trento) *A lost generation? Impact of COVID-19 on high school students' achievements* – with Dalit Contini, Maria Laura Di Tommaso, Caterina Muratori and Lucia Schiavon

PARALLEL SESSION 2B – **GENDER BIASES**

Chair: **Giulia Santangelo** (CEDEFOP)

Barbara Luppi (University of Modena and Regio Emilia) *Good Friends and bad teachers: the gender gap in STEM and the channels of influence on college choice* – with Giuseppe Caruso, Chiara Giovinazzo and Fabrizio Patriarca

Majlinda Joxhe (University of Bologna) *Nature or Nurture? The effect of Twin Testosterone Transfers on Females schooling and Labor Market*

Marina Murat (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia) *Culture, stereotypes, and self-empowerment: Gender gap in tertiary education*

15:50 – 17:20 SESSION 3 – **DROP OUT**

Chair: **Giorgio Brunello** (University of Padova)

Cristina Iannelli (University of Edinburgh) *Higher education retention in Ireland and Scotland: does school subject choice matter?* – with Patricia McMullin and Emer Smyth

Francesco Berlingeri (Joint Research Centre) *Preferred Field of Study and Academic Performance* – with André Diegmann and Maresa Sprietsma

Massimiliano Bratti (University of Milan La Statale) *Shall I try it again or maybe later? Number of exam sessions and university students' outcomes* – with Silvia Granato and Enkelejda Havari



17:20 – 17:30 COFFEE BREAK

17:30 – 19:00 SESSION 5 – **EXPERIMENTAL EVIDENCES, FINANCIAL AID AND INFORMATION**

Chair: **Graziella Bertocchi** (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia - Einaudi Institute)

Giuseppe Pignataro (University of Bologna) *Inequality of Opportunity and Access - to Tertiary Education: evidence from an information experiment* – with Luca Bonacini and Veronica Rattini

Davide Azzolini (IRVAPP) *A savings-based approach to financial aid. Experimental evidence on university outcomes and an exploration of workforce development* – with Sonia Marzadro, Alession Tomelleri, Loris Vergolini

Tommaso Agasisti (Polytechnic University of Milan) *Tailoring nudging communication for students at risk: experimental evidence from an Italian university* – with Marta Cannistrà, Anna Maria Paganoni, Chiara Masci and Elena Claire Ricci

Margherita Fort (University of Bologna) *Triggering Parental Time-Investments on Pre-school Children through a mindful parenting program* – with Maria Bigoni Margherita Monfardini, Annalisa Guarini Chiara Suttora Alessandra Sansavino

20:30 SOCIAL DINNER

FRIDAY 30 JUNE

8:30 – 9:30 SESSION 6 – **THE SPATIAL DIMENSION**

Chair: **Luca Bonacini** (University of Bologna)

Giuseppe Croce (Sapienza University of Rome) *High-paid jobs in large cities: the missing piece of job polarization in Italy* – with Paolo Piselli

Piero Esposito (University of Cassino) *Higher education and innovative entrepreneurship* – with Francesco Ferrantea and Sergio Scicchitano

9:30 – 9:45 COFFEE BREAK

09:45 – 10:40 **KEYNOTE LECTURE**

Giorgio Brunello (University of Padova) *The pathways to college. Does the type of secondary education matter?*



10:40 – 12:10 SESSION 8 – **SOCIAL MOBILITY**

Chair: **Maurizio Franzini** (Visiting – Sapienza University of Rome)

Fabrizio Patriarca (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia) *Firm sorting and social mobility: the embedded nature of background wage premia* – with Luca Bonacini

Matija Kovacic (Joint Research Centre) *The effect of preschool education and early life conditions on inequality of opportunities in tertiary education*

Orazio Giancola (Sapienza University of Rome) *Propensities and educational choices: the dynamics of (re)production of inequalities in tertiary education* – with Adamo Lo Cicero and Federica Rizzi

12:10 – 12:20 COFFEE BREAK

12:20 – 13:50 SESSION 9 – **LABOUR MARKET OUTCOMES**

Chair: **Giovanni Gallo** (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Paolo Brunori (University of Florence and London School of Economics) *Addressing Compensation and Reward in Data-Driven Approaches to Estimate Inequality of Opportunity* – with Pedro Salas-Rojo and Domenico Moramarco

Petru Crudu (University of Venice) *Long-term effects of early adverse labour market conditions: A Causal Machine Learning approach*

Juliana Bernhofer (University of Bologna) *Unfair opportunities or unequal abilities? Parental background effects on Italian graduates' early careers* – with Giuseppe Caruso and Fabrizio Patriarca

13:50 LUNCH

15:00 GUIDED CITY TOUR

Practical Information: attendance at the sessions is free; social events are restricted to registered participants.

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