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UNIVERSITÀ
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DI MILANO

NEWSLETTER N.84 - JULY 2015

The Mountain University (UNIMI) keeps you updated on training, research, development and innovation for the mountains. Every month, in direct contact with the territory.

For further information, please see our website: www.unimont.unimi.it

OUR NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE IN
ITALIAN

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UNIMONT FOR NEPAL

Unimont supports the [initiative](#) of the Italian alpine Club which has started fundraising to help those affected by the Nepalese earthquake. The Mountain University is supporting this initiative, aware of the suffering caused by the catastrophe in a nation with a mountainous area which is one of the most beautiful, fragile but also one of the poorest in the world. "We have ourselves seen the extraordinary nature in the Nepalese mountains and the great dignity of the local people during a scientific mission to the Laboratory-Observatory "Pyramid" in the Khumbu Valley - says Anna Giorgi, Director of the Interdepartmental Centre GESDIMONT at the EDOLO Centre - the Mountain University will support and publicize initiatives to help the Nepalese

community thanks to its national and international networks." The goal is to provide practical help for the Nepalese people and for this reason the allocation of the proceeds will be decided together with the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA). N.M.A. will then be entrusted with the local management of the funds raised.

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The Mountain University supports the initiative

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Highlights

Unimont presents a "cultural hub" for the mountains at the Chamber of Deputies

ROME, 3 JULY 2015



The activities of the Mountain University were presented yesterday at the Chamber of Deputies in collaboration with the Parliamentary Intergroup for the Development of Mountain Areas.

The network of Italian universities, three of the largest foundations that invest in the Italian Alps and Apennines (Cariplo, and Compagnia di San Paolo and Garrone), and Federations such as Federbim and UNCEM representing all Italian mountain municipalities, were also present together with Unimont.

The meeting, which was attended by over 100 participants from universities, institutions, organizations and stakeholders, highlighted the potential of the "highlands" with an innovative proposal, presented by Unimont and the Parliamentary Intergroup, for direct action and the protection of mountain areas in a national and international dimension.

Hon. Borghi, who has always been committed to the conservation and enhancement of mountain areas, highlighted that the high quality training and applied research suggested by Unimont and its network constitute a fundamental element for the launch of innovative enterprises capable of triggering virtuous processes.

Unimont presented the results of sixteen years of work, of which the last four as a Centre of Excellence of the University of Milan for *applied studies and sustainable management and conservation of mountain areas* - GeSDiMont, in implementation of the MIUR Programme (Prot. n.1923 dated 05/08/2011). A simple idea is the focus of the undergraduate and postgraduate courses, of the research and development projects and of the many national and international events: mountain areas are not marginal, but an environment full of high potential resources. It is therefore essential to develop models that are based on the specific features of the mountain environment but also that different political, economic, social and scientific institutions join together in supporting informed and inclusive governance for mountain areas. The challenge is to examine the current situation and plan changes to encourage growth on the basis of issues such as young people and entrepreneurship in the mountains, the management of the timber industry and land division.

Unimont is working to ensure the growth of this dialogue and discussion network, signing agreements like the one with the three entirely mountainous provinces - Belluno, Sondrio and Verbania - in regions which are not independent (recognized as areas to be assigned fundamental functions by Law Delrio n.56 of 7th April 2014) and setting up platforms for the exchange of knowledge such as the web portal (www.unimont.unimi.it), the virtual classroom for distance learning and teaching (<http://www.unimontagna.it/servizi/aula-virtuale/>), the thematic working groups (<http://www.unimontagna.it/network/tavoli-di-lavoro/>) and the network of antennas that broadcast scientific knowledge and information regarding the mountains, via streaming and free of charge (<http://www.unimontagna.it/network/antenne/>).

"Marginalization is primarily the result of cultural abandonment," says Anna Giorgi, Director of GeSDiMont, "the aim is therefore to convert the large network created to date in a CULTURAL HUB for the mountains in a European and International context".

[Link to the article of the Mountain Partnership](#)

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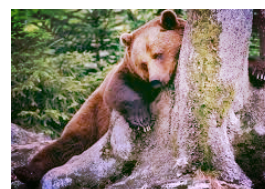
Conferences and Webinars

VIRTUAL CLASSROOM - Visit the [Multimedia section](#)

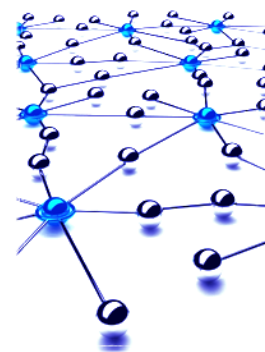
Follow our seminars online

Download the App for [iPhone](#) and [Android](#) or follow us on your PC

No seminars are planned for July; follow us in the [multimedia](#) section, where new events will soon be available



"Antennas" are points that transmit scientific and general information on mountain themes in both directions via streaming, making them available to all interested parties in different mountain areas. To activate an 'antenna' in your area you need a PC, a video projector, speakers and an external microphone as well as a stable connection to the Internet (preferably via LAN cable). [Contact us](#) and activate an 'antenna'!



[Network Antenne - Find out more](#)

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Activities Scheduled

1st Graduation Session A.Y. 2014/2015

GRADUATION

The 1st Graduation Session of the A.Y. 2014/2015 will be held on 15th July 2015. 5

The Commission, chaired by Prof. Giuseppe Carlo Lozzia, will evaluate the final essays of:

Casalini Matteo (Edolo, BS)

Phytodepuration: Environmental opportunities for alpine refuges

Castelnuovi Sara (Bienno, BS)

Apple growing in Valle Camonica, agrometeorological analysis of the 2013-2014 season

Gambacorti Martino Passerini Maria (Monza, MB)

Application of models of multi-functional enhancement in an artificial larchwood of historical importance in Lazzaretto – Littorio Wood in Edolo (BS)

Guerrini Matteo (Rovato, BS)

The study of the Chironomid population (Diptera Chironomidae) at St. Apollonia (Bridge Lgeno, BS) in comparison with progressive data highlights climate change?

Provati Alessandro (Legnano, MI)

In search of the giants of the Val Cavargna: Hypothesis of valorization for educational and hiking purposes in the municipality of Cusino.

The final essays are available [ON OUR WEBSITE](#) on the page Final essays, which includes a list of the final essays of all graduates of the Edolo Bachelor's Degree Course.

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Vismont Conference "Agriculture, environment and territory: a new vision for mountain farming"

The Mountain University supports the initiative

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME ON RESEARCH AND TRAINING ON SUSTAINABLE
MANAGEMENT OF MOUNTAIN AREAS

The conference "Agriculture, environment and territory: a new vision for mountain farming", organized by the Council for Research in Agriculture (CRA), together with the Bergamo section of the Italian Alpine Club and Bergamo Orobie Park will be held in Bergamo on 27th July, 2015. Agriculture in the Alpine environment has a very special significance, offering a range of products and services which are extremely positive from an environmental, social and economic point of view. VisMont will concentrate on mountain areas, and some aspects of mountain agricultural and forestry economy, reflecting on their current potential and possible ways to valorize such areas with a special focus on agricultural activities.

The conference, sponsored by the Mountain University, is part of the CRA programme of events outside EXPO during the semester, and is aimed at a wide audience: local operators, local institutions, entrepreneurs and all those who wish to know more about such issues with particular reference to the mountain environment.

It promotes the participation of young scientists, students and graduate students. The deadline for participation in the presentations has expired, the original press release sent on 16th and 25th June is available at the following [link](#)

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Past activities

IPROMO “Food security in mountain areas EXtraordinary POTential” - annual course on the management of protected mountain areas

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME ON RESEARCH AND TRAINING ON SUSTAINABLE
MANAGEMENT OF MOUNTAIN AREAS

25 technicians and officials from the mountain areas of 21 countries were selected to participate in iPromo 2015. The course was organized by the Secretary of the Mountain Partnership of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), under the patronage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with the University of Turin - DISAFA - NatRisk, the municipality of Ormea (CN), the Institut Agricole Régional (AO) and the Mountain University (Ge.S.Di.Mont) - DISAA - University of Milan.

This year IPromo, following the EXPO theme, will focus on the issue of food safety, a major issue for all mountain areas, but especially for those located in developing countries.

The course includes a first series of meetings (the first took place in Ormea, in the Piedmont Alps, from 23rd to 29th June), while the final part (30th June to 3rd July) will take place in Edolo at the Ge.S.Di.Mont headquarters, thanks to the contribution of the Cassa Rurale Alta Val di Sole e Pejo that supported the initiative.

[Visit the gallery](#)

[See press release](#)

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Field trip: Mountain University Students in Val Taleggio

VAL BREMBANA (BERGAMO) 18 / 19 JUNE 2015

Students of the first year of the course in "Conservation and Sustainable Development of Mountain Areas" went to the Orobic bergamasche mountains on Thursday 18th and Friday 19th June 2015 on a field trip to improve their knowledge about

the plants, history and typical products of an area of great interest in the PreAlps: Val Taleggio.



After visiting the woods and pastures of this area and spending the night at the A. Gherardi refuge, the field trip continued in a mountain dairy (Cooperativa San Antonio) where two DOP cheeses are produced: taleggio and strachì tunt. The field trip ended with a visit to an innovative mountain cattle farm ("Locatelli Guglielmo e figli ") in Vedeseta. During these two days students were accompanied by Dr. Luca Giupponi and the field trip was the last lesson of the Plant Biology course held by Prof. ssa Anna Giorgi.



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The Mountain University in Rome to present the 'Report on the Italian Mountains' - Fondazione Montagne Italia

17th JUNE, 2015 - VILLAGES: "OUR COMMUNITIES - PLACES OF INTEGRATION AND WELFARE, AN EXAMPLE FOR ITALY".



Nowadays the Italian mountains, in many municipalities, are places where innovative policies can be tried out regarding integration and community welfare. Until the 1990s the mountains were an area subject to emigration, with the loss of tens of thousands of inhabitants both from the Apennines and the Alps whereas nowadays, after these long and uneven periods of decline, they are seeing an increase in population. The mountains have a different ability to receive and accommodate new long-range migration flows, with foreigners making up a significant component of the labour force.

This is one of the positive and unexpected images that emerge from the Report on the Italian Mountains, drawn up by the Foundation that combines Uncem and Federbim, and

years after the previous study of its kind carried out by Censis. New welfare, but also a new economy and openness to the service sector and innovation, but with a need for greater cohesion between municipalities, many with less than a thousand inhabitants, together able to overcome the difficult period of institutional reorganization that has first seen the evolution of Comunità montane and then a suppression of the Provinces, both service providers and institutions capable of mediating the dialogue between rural and mountain areas and metropolitan and urban areas.

Anna Giorgi, professor and manager at the Mountain University in Edolo and director of the research centre GeSDiMont intervened on the issue of training and on the cultural construction of processes.

Read the complete article on the [UNCCEM](#) website

Download the 'Report on the Italian Mountains' from the [UNCCEM](#) website

Read the [press release](#)

Read the [article](#) in Sole 24Ore.

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Edolo hosts the first Italian workshop on RAD sequencing data analysis

7th TO 12th JUNE 2015

The Edolo campus of the University of Milan hosted the first Italian workshop on RAD sequencing data analysis from 7th to 12th June 2015

The workshop, organized by Matteo Montagna, PhD (DISAA - University of Milan) and Alessio De Biase, PhD (BBCD - University of Rome La Sapienza) saw the participation of 26 researchers including PhD students, post-docs and University Researchers from several Italian universities and research centres - experts in various fields of animal and plant biology research. The course, held by Emiliano Trucchi, PhD (Dept. of Botany, University of Vienna), dealt in detail with the preliminary procedures for handling samples and preparing sequencing libraries as well as the data analysis procedures for the sequences generated, with an indication of the possible applications in the field of genotyping of model and non-model organisms, QTL analysis and analysis of hybridization and gene flow in the case of population genetics studies.

Contributions were made by Margherita Collini, PhD (Edmund Mach Foundation) and Paolo Gratton, PhD (Max Planck Institute, Leipzig) presenting some applications of the RAD methodology, the former presenting the case study of the tick *Ixodes ricinus* in the Trentino area and the latter presenting a work of phylogeography and population genetics of alpine butterflies of the *Erebia* genus.



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About us

LA STAMPA

- Agricoltura, a Mù maturano buoni frutti
- CUORGNE' - Primo evento con l'Università della Montagna
- Gli alpeggi come monumenti - Pronti gli operatori specializzati
- Le Grigne alla Cascina Cuccagna di Milano



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Internships, Calls and Opportunities

LE NOVITA' DEL MESE

[ERSAF - Publication of notice FOR/EX/01/2015](#) - support for the activities of soil conservation and mitigation of landslide risk.

[Valle Camonica Servizi](#) indice un bando di selezione per profilo professionale da inserire nel settore idrico.

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The Press

LE NOVITA' DEL MESE

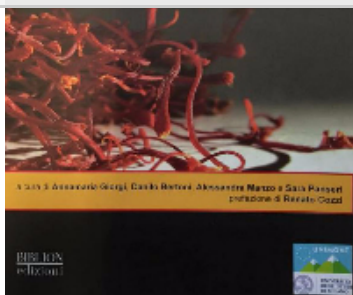
Manual "L'Oro Rosso delle Alpi" (ITA)

SAFFRON

Please note that the Scientific-Technical Manual on saffron production " L'Oro Rosso delle Alpi" is now

Edoardo G. Rossi (Ed.)

Conservazione del patrimonio culturale



available in print.

The book is only available in Italian.

For information and reservations contact:

corso.edolo@unimi.it

Ethnobotany (ITA)

CONSERVATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE



Ethnobotany: Preservation of cultural heritage as a resource for sustainable development

Some topics:

- Ethnobotanical uses in the tradition of the Mediterranean world (medicinal, cosmetic, veterinary and food uses).
- Home-craft uses.
- Ritual, magic-religious uses.
- Ethnobotany for the conservation of nature and culture.
- Ethnobotany and prospects for agricultural and forestry development.

and much more ...

The book is only available in Italian.

For information and reservations contact:

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