Dear Students, Dear Colleagues,

as you know, the university is working to welcome all students physically on campus next semester, with due caution and in complete safety.

In previous messages, I already had the opportunity to emphasize the irreplaceable value of teaching in presence: a value that the University, as a place of training, relationship and exchange, has the duty to assure. For this reason, Politecnico has decided to start next semester with teaching in presence with special attention to the students who will start their studies at the Politecnico in September: we are ready to welcome the freshmen and all the students, aware of the particular importance for them to fully experience life on university campuses.

The model we are planning will guarantee the full protection of the health of students, professors and staff. We will extend the current daily timetable and organize shifts of the teaching activities in attendance. I would like to stress that this system will not entail any additional burden for the student and that lessons in attendance will make up approximately half of the entire coursework offer. I would like to add, as already expressed previously, that the university will be ready to immediately switch this organization in the unfortunate event that the health situation worsens.

Let me underline that the forced experience of the last few months will be enhanced: we are designing an increasingly richer digital teaching and learning experience, which makes use of innovative methods and contributions from the international professional and academic world.

All the organizational aspects will be announced in detail in September, but Politecnico is committed to ensure attendance of lessons in remote mode to those who will be unable to reach the university, such as our international students who may be unable to travel to Italy. In view of this, we are preparing the renewal of the tools and technological equipment of the classrooms.

Let me also mention some recently approved measures to support students. We have provided, in agreement with student representatives, an extraordinary fund for measures to support students in critical situations caused by the health emergency. The new Call for the assignment of “DSU” Benefits is ready; it will cover 1700 scholarships and for it the University is committed, once again this year, to guarantee with its own funds the disbursement of scholarships to 100% of eligible students. The necessary financial coverage has been approved to grant more than € 5.5ML of exemptions from student contributions for particularly deserving students.

I would also like to inform you that this week Politecnico has reopened some of the main study spaces available to students at the Leonardo and Bovisa campuses; the University Libraries, which in recent months have continued to offer essential services, have reopened the Candiani and Leonardo spaces to the public.
I am aware of the difficulties due to the socio-economic crisis that many families are facing. However, we cannot permit ourselves, in this critical phase for the country, to give up the education and human and professional growth of young people.

I would like to stress in this sense that our commitment as University to safeguard our mission in educating the young generations, in supporting the right to study and in supporting merit and excellence, will never fail.

Best regards
Ferruccio Resta
Rector of Politecnico di Milano