FACE THE CHALLENGE

INTRODUCTION

Every day you come to PoliMi: lectures, study, exams… Someone might call it a conviction or a necessary pain to graduate. Is it literally just that? Is university just a troubled path to access to the labour market?

Often one would say yes, but we are certain that university can not only prepare us professionally but also it makes us become women and men.

What’s the key? To respond to the challenges that are placed in front of us at any time. During lectures you have to decide: do you listen to the demonstration or do you look at Instagram? When the break finally arrives, do you mind your own business, or do you turn around to meet the neighbour? And lastly, in front of something wrong, big or small, do you resign yourself to a useless plaint or do you move to solve it?

Study places are missing, there are long queues for the microwaves, lesson is monotonous, in the classroom there is not a free sit and maybe it's even too hot ... What do you do? How do you react?

We have decided to accept the challenges that university gives every day, we want to get involved, to discover the improvement that PoliMi can make to our training and to be able to participate in the construction of this place.

For these reasons we have decided to stand up for elections: we want to actively engage in the organs of the University and work to improve the Right to Education, the quality of teaching, the services and spaces in Poli.
The student representative is our way to answer, but the challenge is launched to everyone, at any time and in every corner of Poli. What about you? Do you face the challenge?

Listening, discussing and dealing with those who care about university was the ground from which we started to write our program. We consider it useful to continue working on some issues that have always characterized the work of Lista Aperta:

**Teaching**

Our target is a great quality teaching, open to innovative methods and to experiences from the job market. We consider as fundamental that the Study Plan can be assembled by every single student following his own passions with more autonomy and freedom.

**Right of Study**

University education must be accessible by all “the capable and deserving, even without financial means as express on the Italian Constitution. For this reason, we have always asked and obtained that at Poli all those eligible for scholarships are also assignees. We work on all aspects that can simplify the student, such as tax exemptions and conventions.

**Livability**

We work to guarantee all students to live in an increasingly beautiful and welcoming university, paying particular attention to study spaces, classrooms for lectures, canteens and utilities such as microwaves. We want to guarantee all those services that simplify and improve life in the University and safety on campus.

**TEACHING**

A great challenge we want to face is to make possible drawing an academic path that satisfies in the best way the interests of each student and favors contact with the job market.

**BACHELOR’S**

We want to design a three-year educational path that is not made up only preparatory of a master's degree, but that can shape a suitable figure for the world of work. In these cases we consider it appropriate, especially in the third year, to give the possibility to integrate the own Study Plan with experimental and planning courses and more possibility of internships.

To design paths that meet the demands of the job market, let's think of a confrontation table between students, professors and business professionals.

**ACCESS IN THE MASTERS**

- **Access thresholds**
  
  To decide criterias for access to the different Courses of our university, we believe that must to be followed some fundamental guidelines: to guarantee quality teaching, support students' demand, consider available resources, and finally take into account the demand of the world of work. We therefore want to work with the individual Degree
Courses (CCS) so that the entry thresholds in the Master's Degree also follow above criteria and so that changes to the regulations do not take effect in a retroactive manner.

- **Degrees in discontinuity**
  We propose the creation, in each course of study, of a database with information and useful examples for students wishing to undertake a Master's Degree Program different from that of the Bachelor's. In this way the student would be guided in planning an academic path that best follows his interests and his inclinations.

- **Students from other universities**
  Students from outside universities who enroll in PoliMi often find themselves disoriented, without the necessary foundations to face our Masters. We believe it is necessary to review the evaluation system of the curriculum of these students, so that, through appropriate additions, the necessary bases are provided to all that face the Masters.

**MASTER'S**

- **Planning your own route**
  We believe that in the Master's Degree we should increasingly make easier the possibility of building a customized Study Plan in which you can also enter exams related to other Study Courses, belonging or not to the University.

- **Thesis in collaboration with other Courses**
  We wish to increase the chances of performing master theses or parts of them in collaboration with students from other courses and schools. The cooperation of people who have a different approach to problems can become an added value and such an experience is not far from a possible job in a heterogeneous company team.

- **Extraordinary exam session**
  As already happens with the extraordinary November session, we will work to add an equivalent session in March, which allows access to the April graduation appeal. Moreover, in a perspective of "disposal" of the students who they have completed their teachings, we wish to expand the possibility of using them of these sessions to all students nearing the end of their studies.

- **Project Work**
  Project Works represent the possibility to get involved in a work activity very closely with companies during Master's Degree studies. Because of the proposal of our representatives, PoliMi introduced them in 2014 in the Automation Engineering course and, in the following years, work was also started on other courses of Engineering. We are interested in working so that this possibility is extended to more and more courses Study.

**EXAM DATES**

- **Partial exam ≠ Full exam**
  We want to include the possibility of taking the full exam on the second partial date, guaranteeing everyone the opportunity to face 5 complete exams during the year.

- **We want an automated exam calendar**
  The scheduling of exam sessions today is done manually. We believe that its automation can guarantee some constraints that we believe fundamental:
    - A week of suspension between lessons and exams;
- Two full days (three nights) of distance between exams of the same year and semester;
- Fifteen days apart between two appeals of the same exam;
- Appeals scheduled for a session are not repeated in the same order and with the same distances from each other;
- The possibility of knowing the dates of the exams at the beginning of the semester.

**UNIFORMITY AMONG MULTIPLE SECTIONS**

At Poli, in many Study Programs, the division among students in sections only happens following the alphabetical order: it is necessary, therefore, to ensure the uniformity of program, exams subjects and evaluation criteria, respecting the peculiarities and personnel inclinations of each teacher.

**EFFECTIVENESS OF CREDITS**

We will work to ensure that the credits (ECTS) of each course are always consistent with the required study load.

**ASSESSMENT OF DIDACTICS**

As part of the didactic evaluation questionnaires, we propose to:

- Introduce a new optional post-exam questionnaire to give voice to all of them criticalities that can emerge only after having prepared and supported the exam;
- Introduce a new layout to get more completed questionnaires sliding;
- Add some specific questions for the evaluation of tutors, where present.

**INNOVATIVE TEACHING METHODS**

We consider interesting the innovative teaching method, on which our University has a lot pushed in recent years, because it can allow active learning of all participants to the course and a study based on real problems, to be faced with transversal knowledge. On this front we want to work:

- Collecting feedback from students in order to identify and enhance the modalities more effective than innovative teaching;
- Expanding this concept of teaching also to innovative examination methods, such as presentations and projects to develop teamwork skills, problem solving skills and communication skills. In this way, even the final test can become an occasion to develop skills and skills that are currently in great demand in the world of work.

**CAREER SERVICE**

The Career Service carries out the fundamental function of connection between the university and the job world for PoliMi students.

- We wish to collaborate to obtain not only a better offer of proposals of work in quantitative and qualitative terms, but also a strengthening of services for the development of skills and soft skills useful to a student nearing the entry into a company.
- It is essential to have a reference point in every Campus that allows this service to reach each student, respecting the needs of the Course of Study. For this reason we propose to open a new office on the Design campus.
ENTRY TO POLIMI - NEW TEST

The new entry methods introduced from this year are a massive change for those who are choosing to enroll in an Engineering course in our University. For this reason we want accompany this transition phase, verifying the actual impact of the programmed numbers and possibly acting on them. We believe it is fundamental to satisfy as much as possible the demand of the students of each course of study, without damaging the quality of teaching and on the basis of available resources.

RIGHT OF STUDY

A challenge to be faced is to continue working so that what is expressed in Article 34 of the Italian Constitution is guaranteed at Poli: "The capable and deserving, even if without means, have the right to reach the highest levels of study", offering to the students the opportunity to better face the university path.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Eligible=Assignees:
  We will continue to ask and ensure that all students eligible to receive scholarships for the right to education are also assignees.

- Companies in action:
  We will in order that the numerous companies linked to PoliMi are encouraged to invest in scholarships.

UNIVERSITY FEES

- Second installment: it is done in two!
  We want to introduce the possibility of dividing the second fee in two portions. For those who are in a medium-high income band or for those with siblings in the university, paying a very expensive fee in a single tranche is often complicated.

- Refunds:
  Refunds for exemptions, language certifications, ISEE and DSU are often received with a large delay: we therefore want to work to reduce waiting times.

WORK AT POLIMI - 150 HOURS

- Entering your availabilities
  We want to work to improve the assignment system by introducing the possibility for students to communicate their unavailability in the call for applications. In this way one would no longer be in the situation of having to refuse an assignment only for problems of hourly availability.

- New jobs:
  We want to increase the job opportunities for Polimi students within the 150-hour call, such as assisting more professors in their research work.

- Tutoring not coinciding with the 150 hours
For the Master's Degree courses the call for the 150 hours and for the tutoring coincide, not allowing to apply for only one of the two activities. We want to introduce the possibility, when filling in the application, to provide a preference on only one of the two or both.

**WE WORK THROUGH POLIMI**
We want to carry out collaborations between Polimi and some agencies for temporary work, that collect fixed-term jobs and offer them to those who have a contract with them. While the 150 hours only include work carried out internally at Polimi, this innovation would introduce the offer of short assignments for students with a maximum of hours of work each and the improvement of the Career Service, increasing the educational offers that companies can bring to the students.

**POLI RESIDENCES**
- Assignment times
  After the modification of some deadlines due to the introduction of the new entrance test (TOL) for engineering, we will undertake to monitor the timely assignment of the rooms of the residences so as to guarantee better conditions for the students that are away from home.

- Services
  We will work to improve the services offered by the residences of the Polimi which has recently started to directly manage many structures previously only affiliated, such as the Lecco residence which today has a kitchen for over 200 students. We will also strive to ensure that every student is offered the opportunity to invite friends to sleep with a maximum limit of times per month.

**UNBEARABLE COSTS FOR PROJECTS**
In the Schools of Architecture and Design the cost to be incurred for models and prints is more than € 400 annually. We will work to ensure that a fund is made available to each student to support these costs, as in the case of several foreign universities.

**CONVENTIONS FOR STUDENTS**
We will work with the Politecnico to stipulate new agreements for students in structures outside Polimi. In particular we propose to establish agreements in the following sectors:
- refreshment points;
- computer assistance and PC repairs;
- clothing and sporting goods stores;
- health facilities such as clinics and analysis centers;
- copy shops and model shops;
- sustainable mobility.
LIVING UNIVERSITY

Living Polimi is a challenge! We don’t want to come to the university only to attend lectures and give exams, but we desire to have a welcoming place to study and spend time together because living the university fully is more fascinating!

SPACES

At Polimi the theme of space is critical: there are no classrooms to study individually or in groups, there are no classrooms for lessons or places to have lunch. Therefore, in the path of our predecessors, we will work for:

- **More study spaces**
  Today the number of available study stations is less than 10% of the number of Polimi students. How to increase them?
  ○ In the coming years, the State University will move from Città Studi, opening a scenario in which the Politecnico will be able to purchase some of its spaces, such as the veterinary faculty that has been already released.
  ○ We will report the presence of unused spaces to ensure that they will be used as study rooms as in recent years. We will work in Leonardo on Buildings 4 and 5 and on the Smerlo park, while in Bovisa we will concentrate mainly on the veranda of the B12, the B8 and the BL28.

- **More services in the library**
  We want to work in order to:
  ○ Keep a library open also in the Bovisa campus until 11.45 pm during the week and open it in the weekend.
  ○ Introduce the possibility to indicate the time of return from a break, to make one’s own station available during the absence but keeping it booked for the return.
  ○ Improve the PoliMi Library smartphone application.

- **More space to eat**
  We believe that it is necessary to have places where it’s possible to consume your lunch even in winter and when it rains because in the canteens it is not allowed to bring food from outside. In addition to increase the chairs and tables in the common areas already in use, we would like to take advantage of the open spaces, for example by creating heated tensile structures.

- **Redevelop the Patio**
  We propose a redevelopment of the Patio if the Campus Leonardo, which regulates its use to make it a suitable space for studying and working on projects and models. Let's think for example about the introduction of a special space for the use of paints and cans.

- **More sports in Bovisa and in the Territorial Poles**
  We believe it is important to increase sport opportunities in the Bovisa campus and in the territorial Poles by building, as in the Leonardo campus, a gym and sports fields.
More visibility in the classroom
In many large classrooms it is not possible to see the blackboard clearly; therefore, some interventions are necessary such as the insertion of raised platforms and the placement of chairs and blackboards higher up.

UTILITIES
In these years, working on the small needs of students has been very important and we therefore want it to remain a cornerstone of our commitment and effort, trying to:

- Increase the wiring in the classrooms and in the closed studio spaces and create columns to wire the outdoor tables;
- Improve the locker booking service by increasing the number and distribution on the campuses and giving the possibility to book them every six months with the option to confirm the locker for the following semester;
- Increase the space for the deposit of models of architects and designers;
- Increase the number of bathrooms in some buildings to avoid endless queues in the breaks, and improve maintenance and cleaning in the existing ones;
- Improve the quality and logistics of the canteen service, leading to a reduction in queues, and introduce a canteen on the Design campus, in addition to the existing bar;
- Improve the recycling service on campus with more effective signs;
- Further increase the number of microwaves spread across campuses;
- Improve the classrooms air conditioning system and install it where it is not present;
- Add other tables outdoors;
- Increase the number of places to park bicycles, making them safer;
- Reinsert the welcome kit for freshmen, which includes an aluminum water bottle and a cardboard ring binder, containing information on the university functioning;
- More free water distributors, also sparkling water, so you can guarantee one per building;
- Rethink the interface of Politam tam improving the interaction between those who propose the activities and students.

POLI 4.0
We want an increasingly connected Polytechnic, in step with the times and digital; so we will work for:

- Improving the PoliMi Application for Smartphones by entering access to Online Services and the Beep channel with the ability to perform all activities by phone. For example: receiving notifications in real time, registering for exams, view and download files, booking classrooms, lockers and spaces, reporting faults and contact student representatives. Also, make it possible to automatically integrate the academic calendar with the smartphone calendar.
- Simplified the access to the Beep channel, guaranteeing prolonged use sessions and a simplified computer interface.
- Increase the power of the University Wi-Fi in order to prevent overloads in the days of greatest use.
SAFETY
Unfortunately, Polimi is often the scene of theft of books, backpacks, but above all of many PCs that disappear constantly. In recent years we have managed to include insurance against theft and we want to continue working on this theme by increasing staff and introducing cameras to make Polimi a safe place where every student can study and live peacefully.

ACTIVITIES
Life in the university is made up of lessons, study and exams, but also of meetings and relationships. For this reason we will strive to create opportunities for students to meet, continuing to propose as Lista Aperta:

- The welcome of freshmen through banquets on different campuses during the first weeks of each academic year;
- the Sagra della Matricola: an evening together dedicated mainly to freshmen
- Polipo: a six-monthly magazine of Lista Aperta written with some friends, focusing on the university and what happens around us;
- Studying groups: groups of free help to the study of Analysis 1 held by older students;
- Design and Architecture Preview: a time dedicated to high school students to learn about university students and their projects.
- the Pretest: preparation courses for the entrance tests of Politecnico organized and held by students;
- Discovering Milan: an organized tour to introduce Milan to Polimi foreign students, usually followed by a dinner together with typical Italian dishes;
- Travel: organized by us with the economic contribution of Polimi, they are a great opportunity to get to know Italy, Europe and the world, visiting cities, discovering new cultures and meeting new friends;
- other activities, such as exhibitions, meetings or visits to companies, but also sports activities.

MORE ASSOCIATIONS, LESS BUREAUCRACY
Establishing a new association at Polimi today is a long and complicated process, which sometimes risks of discouraging the good initiative of many groups of students. We believe it is advisable to speed up the process of creating associations, streamlining the bureaucracy and making students even more aware of the possibility of founding one, becoming part of the existing ones and taking advantage of the manifesto for Cultural Activities and Travel.

INTERNATIONALIZATION
Internationalization is a challenge as it represents an opportunity to get in contact with different cultures, societies, methods and approaches and it can also be a valid tool for a better quality teaching.

INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY - ERASMUS
Having the possibility of a study experience abroad is a fundamental requirement in a formative course. For this we will work on the following fronts:

- Referrals Erasmus:
  We ask more attention in the work of supporting the students by the professors referring to them in the various Study Programs, beginning from virtuous examples in some of them.
Tripadvisor Erasmus:
in the last year we introduced the "portal" of Erasmus students from the Politecnico to Online Services to help those who are interested in going abroad. We will continue to work to improve the service, introducing filters and detailed information, encouraging the recording of experiences lived by students who have just returned from Erasmus and ensuring that they can be easily contacted by other students.

More information for incoming Erasmus students:
We offer greater clarity in the information provided to Erasmus students who arrive to Polimi because they are often not aware of the content and the language in which the course in which they participate is delivered.

ENGLISH
We want to continue working in the direction already taken by PoliMi in recent years. Our position in this regard is simple: the provision of courses in English is certainly a valuable tool that our University offers to students. It’s a tool, however, and not a goal, and as such it should not be confused with the objectives of a university that is research and teaching. Only the clarity of this distinction allows us, and has allowed us in these years of work, to overcome the superficiality of an ideological position supporting the English or against English. Like our predecessors, we are convinced that a "low" job, that is in individual CCS, can be useful to evaluate in each Course whether it is better to provide teaching in Italian or English.
RIGHT TO STUDY

The Right to Study is crucial because it represents the main tool to guarantee University is not a privilege for few but an opportunity for many. With the State Integrative Fund (FIS), the State finances scholarships. In Italy there are about 7,500 students who, despite having the right, do not receive a scholarship. Priority is a structural increase of 50 million euros and the shift to the FIS of some funds badly used by the State, such as the 50 million allocated by the Government for the “Young Excellence” fund, intended to encourage the recruitment of graduates with 110 cum laude. It is also necessary to partially revise the decree on the allocation criteria of the FIS, with a view to a more efficient and transparent reallocation of resources, which to date do not allow all the Regions to meet scholarship applications.

For all students who are not eligible to receive a scholarship, it is necessary to promote honor loans, complementary to the scholarships to support university studies: it is awarded not on the basis of economic criteria but only meritocracy and the amount received will be returned starting two years after graduation, with absolutely advantageous interest rates.

ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE LEVELS (LEP)

LEPs allow the State to determine the minimum level of services that each Region must guarantee to citizens. It is essential that the DM on the LEPs of the Stock Exchanges be issued as soon as possible, in order to guarantee scholarship students a sufficient amount of scholarships to support them.

FOUNDOING UNIVERSITIES

The Ordinary Financing Fund (FFO), which amounts to 7 billion euros, represents the main economic resource of the universities. It is distributed in part through a basic quota defined starting from a standard cost per student and partly through a prize share that now sees the evaluation of research quality as a practically totalizing criterion. Given the current under-financing condition of the university system, it is necessary to increase the fund’s base share. Once the fundamental needs of the universities have been met, the prize share can be a useful tool, provided that teaching is included among the binding criteria for the allotment.
INTERNATIONALIZATION

Besides having a curricular value, going abroad is primarily an opportunity for growth and personal enrichment that can be improved not only by encouraging outgoing internationalization, but also by working to encourage incoming mobility.

We propose the increase Funds and the provision of new Calls for research activities during the thesis work that give the possibility to graduates to deepen the study and to give their work an international profile.

At the same time, we want to encourage the visiting professor figure, promoting his activity in our universities. We propose to reduce the minimum contractual duration of stay to a semester and to introduce a minimum quantity of teaching hours provided by these professors, so that all students can benefit from the presence of foreign professors.

ACCESS TO TEACHING

In recent years the discipline that regulates access to teaching in primary and secondary schools has undergone several changes and upheavals: after the TFA, the FIT was passed, but it was consistently redesigned even before it came into force. The CLDS has obtained some guarantees on the 24 CFU that the FIT required, according to the law, to be able to enter the Competition, including an additional semester to the ordinary course to achieve the credits and the progressiveness of the ISEE taxation for those who were no longer enrolled in the university.

The working points for the future are:

- Maintain the recognition of curricular credits obtained in extra curricular or supernumerary form.
- Allow to compete for more classes of competition at the same time.
- Create post-competition walkways that semplify inclusion in secondary school.

ASSOCIATIONS

Recognizing the value that student associations bring to the university, we want to continue supporting them and, in particular, we believe it is appropriate to speed up the process of creating an association by streamlining the bureaucratic process. In PoliMi we will ensure that there going to be more information for students about the possibility of participating in the life and activities of associations and taking advantage of the Call for Cultural and Social Activities.