



# Mountain University @informa

*The newsletter of the Mountain University*

**n° 48 – 30th March 2012**

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## **NEXT EVENTS:**

**16th April 2012** → Seminar **"Saffron in the Alps: an opportunity?"** organized by Ge.S.Di.Mont. Interdepartmental Centre

**26th April 2012** → Seminar **"The chestnut, a mountain resource: history, culture, ecology and management problems"** organized by Ge.S.Di.Mont. Interdepartmental Centre

**3 May 2012** → Meeting with Dott. Agr. **Gianpietro Bara** President of the Ordine dei Dottori Agronomi e Dottori Forestali of the Province of Brescia

**16th May 2012** → Seminar **Introduction to plant ecology: autecology and sinecology** organized by Ge.S.Di.Mont. Interdepartmental Centre

**16th May 2012** → Seminar **Plant response to climate factors** organized by Ge.S.Di.Mont. Interdepartmental Centre

**30th May 2012** → Seminar **Plant response to soil factors** organized by Ge.S.Di.Mont. Interdepartmental Centre

**30th May 2012** → Seminar **Plant response to biotic and abiotic perturbations** organized by Ge.S.Di.Mont. Interdepartmental Centre

**6th June 2012** → Seminar **Ecological indexes and measurement of biodiversity** organized by Ge.S.Di.Mont. Interdepartmental Centre

**6th June 2012** → Seminar **The main plant typologies of Lombardy** organized by Ge.S.Di.Mont. Interdepartmental Centre

**May/June 2012** → Course **"Fauna health management"** Paolo Lanfranchi (Department of Animal Pathology, Hygiene and Veterinary Public Health) Silvana Mattiello (Department of Animal Science) Milan University –Veterinary Medicine Faculty

**For further details see below**

## RECORDING AND BROADCASTING OF EVENTS AT THE MOUNTAIN UNIVERSITY

On the Undergraduate programme in Conservation and Sustainable Development of Mountain areas website, on the page dedicated to extra activities <http://www.valmont.unimi.it/italiano/studenti/calendario.html>, there are some links to seminars which have taken place over the last few months at the Faculty of Agriculture's Edolo Campus.

This means that the activities which take place at the Mountain University can also be seen by those who could not take part on the day.

In addition, please note that **you can take part in the seminars offered by the Mountain University** in Edolo by connecting remotely via web. The web conferencing service, supported by the CTU of Milan University, allows you to watch live seminars and interact with the speakers.

**Participation via web is limited to users who have booked.** We therefore invite you to contact the Secretary's Office in Edolo (Tel. 0364/71324 [corso.edolo@unimi.it](mailto:corso.edolo@unimi.it)) to find out more.

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## 16th APRIL 2012: III GRADUATION SESSION A.Y. 2010/2011

The III Graduation Session of the Academic Year 2010/2011 will be held on Monday 16th April 2012 at 2.30 pm in Edolo. The Commission, chaired by Prof. Giuseppe Carlo Lozzia, will assess the final dissertations of the candidates:

### **Stefano Bonetta (Valfurva - SO)**

Dissertation: "VARIATIONS IN THE PRODUCTION AND QUALITY OF MILK FROM BRUNA ALPINA COWS IN MOUNTAIN AND VALLEY FARMS"

Supervisor: Alberto Tamburini (Department of Animal Science)

### **Stefano Ferrari (San Zeno Naviglio - BS)**

Dissertation: "PRELIMINARY STUDY ON THE QUALITATIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF SAFFRON IN VALLECAMONICA"

Supervisor: Anna Giorgi (Department of Plant Production)

### **Donata Guerini (Marone - BS)**

Dissertation: "THE INFLUENCE OF GRAPE ORIGIN ON QUALITATIVE CHARACTERISTICS. AN EXPERIENCE IN FRANCIACORTA"

Supervisor: Lucio Brancadoro (Department of Plant Production)

### **Oliver Cairati (Oleggio - NO)**

Dissertation: "ANALYSIS OF THE VEGETATION IN RELATION TO ZOOTECHNY ACTIVITIES IN THE POLLINO NATIONAL PARK (MONTE ALPI)"

Supervisor: Alberto Tamburini (Department of Animal Science)

### **Marco Tacconi (Castelletto Sopra Ticino - NO)**

Dissertation: "MANAGEMENT AND PRODUCTION OF MILK IN A GOAT FARM IN THE MOUNTAINS"

Supervisor: Ivano De Noni (Department of food and microbiological science and technology)

### **Michele Tagni (Cedrasco - SO)**

Dissertation: "THE FORESTS OF LOMBARDY AND SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY MANAGEMENT: ERSAF, REGIONAL BODY FOR AGRICULTURE AND FORESTS IN LOMBARDY"

Supervisor: Gianfranco Gregorini (External lecturers)

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## FEDERBIM AND MOUNTAIN UNIVERSITY: a strategic partnership for mountain areas

The conference "**The Consortia BIM between past and future**" was held on Friday 16th March 2012, in Bergamo, on the **50th anniversary of the establishment of Federbim**. Federbim was founded on 17th March 1962 in accordance with Law 959 of 1953: the law about the mountain economy, which led to the establishment of consortia of towns in the mountains.

After a welcome from those present including **Carlo Personeni**, President of Federbim, **Jean Barocco**, Federbim Assembly President, introduced the many speakers dealing with topics relevant to the mountain areas: **Sergio Cesare Cereda** of Studio Radice & Cereda, **Davide Pettenella** of Padua University, **Paolo Malighetti and Andrea Di Lascio** of Bergamo University, **Ermanno Pievani** of Dedalo Esco, Alberto Petroni of Parma University and **Anna Giorgi** of the Mountain University (Milan University, Edolo Campus, BS). **Giacomo Santini**, Senator and President of the Parliamentary Group Friends of the Mountains, gave the closing speech. The conference was also attended by Sen. **Valter Zanetta** Vice Chairman of the Parliamentary Group Friends of the Mountains.

In essence, Federbim recalled, "the objective of the law establishing the BIM consortia is to recognize compensation to the inhabitants of mountain areas for damage caused by the presence of reservoirs, hydroelectric plants and distribution networks, through the management of revenue arising from the fee paid by the users of public water. This revenue is used solely for the benefit of the populations concerned. A real 'federalism' ahead of its time'.

Anna Giorgi, lecturer of the Mountain University, highlighted for the Presidents of the Associations of BIM throughout Italy and parliamentarians present the state of the art of activities at the university centre dedicated to the mountains in Edolo. In particular, attention was focused on the work of implementing the program agreed with the Ministry of Education and University which, in the next five years, provides for the consolidation of the centre of excellence for mountain themes by involving universities and institutions competent in this sector. The opportunities associated with a very ambitious but extremely strategic project, which aims to "restore young people to the mountains", giving them the cultural and technical operational tools to face and operate profitably in a specific context, were explained.

Federbim is actively involved in the project of "Mountain University", in fact **Enrico Petriccioli**, Vice President of the Federation, was appointed a member of the study group provided for by the agreement with the Ministry of Education, by the Rector of Milan University. Strategic intervention in teaching and research is being discussed in order to achieve the objectives specified in the agreement.

The forthcoming stipulation of a specific cooperation agreement establishes a partnership offering great potential for mountain areas between the mountain university and federbim.

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## ISCAR and Alpine Convention

The International Scientific Committee on Research in the Alps met in Innsbruck on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012. This was the first meeting to be chaired by **Anna Giorgi** lecturer of the Mountain University. The meeting dealt with the role of ISCAR and the activities to be developed together with themes such as research and innovation for the mountains.

Anna Giorgi also took part in the 48<sup>th</sup> permanent committee of the Alpine Convention, held in San Gallo (CH) on 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> March, since ISCAR is an official observer of the Alpine Convention. The "issue" of the Alps is seen in an international context, where the various nations making up the Alps discuss issues to identify strategic actions to be taken in a shared institutional framework, for the development of mountain areas.

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## MOUNTAIN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS GUESTS AT THE CEVA (CN) FORESTRY CORPS TRAINING CENTRE

From 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2012, students of the Undergraduate programme in Conservation and Sustainable Development of Mountain areas were hosted at the Forestry Training Centre of Ceva (CN) of the State Forestry Corps.



Students attended lectures given by the inspectors of the State Forestry Department regarding: criminal procedure, waste management in agriculture, legislation on the disposal of sewage, animal welfare and environmental- forestry



legislation, protected areas, forest fires, food safety, labelling of products, national legislation on forest fires, notions of climatology, mountain safety and other operational areas of the CFS.

The experience, very positive and very stimulating for students, also included visits to local farms.

This was the first of the activities provided for in the agreement signed February 2012 **between the State Forestry Corps and the Faculty of Agriculture of Milan University, the beginning of a collaboration that significantly enriches the training offered to Mountain University students, who benefited from this chance to stay for 5 full days in a CFS centre where theory and practice on topics central to the management and**

**preservation of upland areas are in perfect synthesis.**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the State Forestry Department and in particular Stefano Anania, head of the Forestry Training Center Barracks G. Galliano, for the hospitality and professionalism offered during the week resulting in a highly positive experience for our students.

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## ERASMUS NEWS

Two students of the Undergraduate programme in Conservation and Sustainable Development of Mountain areas are taking part in the Erasmus programme in Germany and in Scotland. More news from them below:

### Scottish spring...

#### **Lanfranchi Mauro (Casnigo BG) in Aberdeen, Scotland**

Even in Scotland, spring has arrived. They tell me I've been very lucky, probably this year was the warmest in the last twenty. I hope the weather will continue for the next three weeks, so I can do some more travelling during the Easter break which is quite long (three weeks).

My studies are going well. In this second semester I had more hours of lab than in the previous one. I must say I did find it a bit hard to get used to at the beginning; I was unfamiliar with the equipment and procedures because in Italy laboratory activities are quite infrequent, but here it is not difficult to find courses with 40% of the time spent in practical activities.

In addition to university courses I am preparing for an English exam, "International English Language Testing System" on 21st April.

As for everything else: the atmosphere is often fun, especially at the moment when there are no exams, it's easy to find activities, some societies or simply a party on campus to join. With a bit of initiative it is easy to organize something nice: for example I prepare the best Italian lasagna alla bolognese of the entire campus; modestly... Head Chef



### Third episode from Stuttgart...

**Matteo Corti (Como) in Stuttgart, Germany**



We are almost at the end ... 15 days and a final exam and then I'll return to Edolo. In the last 2 months I have been very busy with 3 'Klausuren' in name and in fact, because to take exams in German was certainly not a piece of cake, but thanks to my preparation and the skills that I learnt at the Mountain University they all went well.

I really have to reiterate that Erasmus has been a great opportunity for me, opening new doors towards new challenges and opportunities to learn another language well.

I very much hope that my example and my experience can be a stimulus to other students to embark on this great adventure, to all intents and

purposes a true test of maturity.

Matteo

News and info on our students' months abroad can be found at:

<http://www.valmont.unimi.it/italiano/home>.

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## ***Extra Activities***

### **3 MAY 2012: MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE ORDER OF AGRONOMISTS AND FORESTRY EXPERTS OF THE PROVINCE OF BRESCIA**

**On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2012 at 3.30pm** in the Main Hall of the Mountain University dott. **Gianpietro Bara, President of the order of Agronomists and Forestry experts of the province of Brescia**, will present the opportunities resulting from being part of this organization to the students and graduates of the Undergraduate programme in Conservation and Sustainable Development of Mountain areas. Information will also be provided about the examination.

The meeting is open to the public and free of charge

You **can follow the meeting by** connecting remotely via web. **Participation via web is limited to users who have booked.** We therefore invite you to contact the Secretary's Office in Edolo (Tel. 0364/71324 [corso.edolo@unimi.it](mailto:corso.edolo@unimi.it)) to find out more.

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## 16th APRIL 2012: SAFFRON IN THE ALPS: AN OPPORTUNITY?"

The Seminar "Saffron in the Alps: an opportunity?" will be held by **Anna Giorgi**, lecturer of the Mountain University and **Sara Panseri** lecturer of Milan University on **Monday 16th March 2012 at 6.00pm**, in the Main Hall of the Mountain University. **Renato Cozzi** of the important firm **3 Cuochi** will intervene in videoconference.

The Seminar is further to the research carried out by the Mountain University student, Stefano Ferrari, whose internship followed the first experimental cultivation of saffron by the biodistrict of Valle Camonica. During the meeting the results concerning the qualitative characteristics of the first crop will be discussed as well as an assessment of the opportunities connected with the production of saffron in a multifunctional context in the mountains.

The meeting is open to the public and free of charge

You **can follow the meeting by** connecting remotely via web. **Participation via web is limited to users who have booked.** We therefore invite you to contact the Secretary's Office in Edolo (Tel. 0364/71324 [corso.edolo@unimi.it](mailto:corso.edolo@unimi.it)) to find out more.

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## 26th APRIL 2012: "THE CHESTNUT, A MOUNTAIN RESOURCE: HISTORY, CULTURE, ECOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS"

The Seminar " **The chestnut, a mountain resource: history, culture, ecology and management problems**" will be held by **Marco Conedera** forestry engineer and researcher at the Istituto federale di ricerca per la foresta, la neve e il paesaggio WSL in Bellinzona on **Thursday 26 April 2012 at 3.30 pm**, in the Main Hall of the Mountain University.



**The chestnut** has influenced the history of many Central European mountain regions, dictating the pace of life, habits and customs of local populations for many centuries.

With the start of the industrial age and the globalization of the economy, the chestnut has lost its important social and economic role.

Its legacy is however still an important potential resource for peripheral mountain areas.

In order to improve the situation it is however necessary to deal with many old and new management issues such as new diseases (fungal pathogens and insect pests), the effects of climate change (e.g. summer drought), degradation due to neglect, as well as the development of new products compatible with the needs of the modern market.

**The meeting is open to the public and free of charge**

You **can follow the meeting by** connecting remotely via web. **Participation via web is limited to users who have booked.** We therefore invite you to contact the Secretary's Office in Edolo (Tel. 0364/71324 [corso.edolo@unimi.it](mailto:corso.edolo@unimi.it)) to find out more.

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## About us

This month:

**"L' Università della Montagna? Adesso Edolo indossa la divisa"** - *Bresciaoggi* on 4th March 2012 [CLICK HERE](#)

**"Gesdimont, Università della Montagna"** - *Ottantadue "Cobat informa"* February 2012 [CLICK HERE](#)

We also invite you to see page [http://www.valmont.unimi.it/italiano/course/dicono\\_di\\_noi.html](http://www.valmont.unimi.it/italiano/course/dicono_di_noi.html) where you can find all the articles published regarding the Undergraduate Course.

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For further information on the above-mentioned news items, and to activate, cancel or change your subscription to our newsletter please write to [corso.edolo@unimi.it](mailto:corso.edolo@unimi.it)

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at

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Canale You Tube [www.youtube.com/user/corsoedolo](http://www.youtube.com/user/corsoedolo)