Events

III Research Evaluation Seminar in SSD ICAR/17-Disegno.
Disciplinary Strategies and Policies

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On 12 May in the Aula Magna of the Faculty of Architecture in Valle Giulia, the *III Research Evaluation Seminar in SSD ICAR/17-Disegno. Disciplinary strategies and policies* was held, organized by the Commission on Scientific Production and Evaluation jointly with the Innovation Commission of the UID.

The seminar aimed to lay the foundations for a thematic comparison based on concrete data that could take into account the contents of the calls for RTD-a, the PhDs financed by the PNRR and the main lines of research emerging from the publications of the *Disegno* sector, collecting the requests arising from the debate around the new declaration, shared and approved by the members after a joint effort that engaged the Association between November 2020 and May 2021. Furthermore, the seminar intended to share an initial analysis of the PRIN results, starting from the data available for 2020, using the data collected through a questionnaire submitted to the UID associates, in order to identify the prevailing interdisciplinary issues and evaluate the results obtained.

In the introductory speech, Rossella Salerno, Coordinator of the Research and Evaluation Commission, showed how the seminar was solidly linked to the two that preceded it. In the *I Seminar on Research Evaluation in the ICAR/17 SSD*, of May 9, 2019, the main focus was on improving the quality of the evaluation and the enhancement of the most appropriate strategies to enhance the quality of scientific products in the area. From this first appointment it became clear to what extent the evaluation policies influence the choice of research areas and how these different aspects must be taken into consideration jointly, through flexible and effective tools. A tangible outcome of this first Seminar was the decision to draw up the *Evaluator's Vademecum* approved in February 2020 after a shared path that engaged the Commission and the CTS for months.

During the *II Research Evaluation Seminar in the ICAR / 17 SSD* of 4 March 2020, the evaluation exercise of the 2015-2019 VQR was taken into consideration, analyzing the call in a precise manner, in order to disseminate detailed information on the typologies of research products as well as the methods of conferment and judgment. On the same occasion, the *Evaluator's Vademecum* was presented with the aim of promoting the dissemination of a culture of refereeing that was as aware and shared as possible. In addition, the role of the third mission in evaluating de-partmental structures was considered. At the end of her introductory speech, Rossella Salerno, making explicit reference to six of the MUR thematic areas of specific interest for our disciplinary area, took stock of the various questions to which the seminar tries to answer that –taking into account the opportunities that open up for young people– concern the responses that our area is able to offer to the urgencies of the PNRR, the new relationships with organizations and companies and the multifaceted European field of research. The complexity of the current moment, however, is evident by some open questions that constitute the background of our field of action, such as the '*Riforma dei Saperi*', the updating of the SSDs and the debate on the criteria for adapting the Degree Classes.

The first thematic speech was that of the group formed by Antonella di Luggo, Edoardo Dotto, Laura Farroni, Matteo Flavio Mancini, Ornella Zerlenga who –starting from the consideration that recent investment actions show thematic constraints aimed at specific areas of *Innovation* and *Green*– have tried to identify the directions towards which the research interests of the discipline are moving, building a strategy for identifying the topics of interest to our SSD, through an analysis of scien-

tific products aimed at sharing common languages and references.

To achieve these objectives, the recently funded RTD-a PON projects were analyzed and, above all, the classification of the research topics through the detection of key words relating to the research products. In this first phase of analysis those of the five-year period 2017-2021 were examined, taking into consideration the essays hosted in four of the most popular scientific journals in our SSD and the monographic publications. It was necessary to propose a new organization of the keywords into four thematic groups, adding to the traditional areas of Drawing, Surveying and Geometry also that of Visual/Multimedia Design. The organized list of keywords proposed is also the result of the elaboration of previous lists, now updated by resolving ambiguities and repetitions and integrated with new items that identify emerging research lines. The list of keywords of specific interest for our area proves to be a very useful tool for monitoring the development of our research areas and will be supported with the construction of a reference glossary available to scholars. The slides projected at the Seminar with the detailed graphics –together with all the slides shown during the other speeches– are available on the UID website that can be referred to for an in-depth consultation.

The following speech was by Marcello Balzani of the Innovation Commission, who took into consideration the React EU *Green* and *Innovation* calls and the investment potential in industrial research for the ICAR/17 sector. These calls are part of a response strategy to the crisis generated by the recent pandemic that uses huge resources designed to be used by 2023, also in order to contribute to the settlement of the differences between North and South and to build a connection plan between the cycles of programming 2014-2020 and 2021-2027. The speech showed the results of an internal survey in the area aimed at recognizing the areas in which research and innovation paths are concentrated, the various types of partnership and above all the variety of thematic responses that seem to be distributed, albeit with different percentages, including that of Digitization, Visualization, Social Innovation for Cultural Heritage, that of Technologies for the conservation of built, historical and artistic heritage, that of Cities, Territory, Landscape and Environment. Furthermore, he showed how, in specific areas, it is necessary to make the timing of research coincide with those of the needs linked to industrial production, which requires particular reactivity.

The third speech by Alessandro Luigini, Roberta Spallone and Graziano Valenti analyzed the participation of our sector at PRIN 2020, for which he proposed an analysis of the results, and at PRIN 2022. Furthermore, it took into consideration both the ERC subsectors that the proposals as well as the number of enrolled in the register of REPRISE assessors refer, in order to make available the tools to build an overall strategy that can lead to the improvement of our performances. Also in this case, the data on which to operate –as well as from the research in the ministerial databases– were extracted from the responses to a questionnaire disseminated among the shareholders. Very detailed elaborations were shown, supported by clear and captivating graphics, which took into consideration in an analytical way the involvement of the various ERC sectors. In analyzing the unsatisfactory results in our sector, among other things, it was shown that the highest concentration of winners is attributable to an extremely limited number of proposing SSDs.

In her closing speech at the Seminar, UID President Francesca Fatta underlined the fertility of this choral work and indicated some critical aspects identifying the type of challenges that await our sector. She also noted how there is a direct continuity between the aspects dealt with so far in the three seminars on Research and Evaluation and how they clearly outline a series of issues to be addressed in the future.

At the end of the work, it became clear how the work of the Commissions was able to provide new reading tools to organize conscious research strategies within our SSD and how it is essential to continue in the collecting and processing of new data, in order to structure a repertoire that allows us to plan the paths that will guide the future of the area. This year, more than other times, the Seminar was based on the critical processing of precise data, 'surveyed' –we could say– with care and patience and transformed in a balanced way into project ideas, into conscious openings, according to an intellectual attitude which, in hindsight, deeply characterizes the operating methods referable to our discipline.

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