EDITORIAL. MAKING THE POINT ON SCIRES-IT IN 2018

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Abstract

SCIRES-IT- SCIentific RESearch and Information Technology is an eco-sustainable Open Access Journal providing an international forum for the exchange and sharing of know-how in the areas of Digitalization and Multimedia Technologies and Information & Communication Technology in support of Cultural and environmental Heritage documentation, preservation and fruition. It combines the main principles of the Berlin Declaration on Open Access with the aims of the International Convention on Biological Diversity. Founded in 2011 and directed mainly and admirably by women, SCIRES-IT has achieved, in a few years, very high scientific levels and degrees of openness, complying with Best Practice and high publishing standards.

Keywords

SCIRES-IT, Editorial, Open Access Journal, Eco-Sustainable Publications

Eight years have passed since SCIRES-IT (SCIentific RESearch and Information Technology) was founded. During these years the journal has been increasingly enriched by new scientific contributions and international collaborations, and it has been also indexed in many archives and data bases of various scientific disciplinary and specialized sectors.

SCIRES-IT was founded in 2011 by Virginia Valzano, Director of Coordinamento SIBA,[1] University of Salento, in collaboration with Francesco Proietti, director of CASPUR[2], under the editorial project "Eco-sustainable OA Publications".

The editorial project was launched in 2009 by Virginia Valzano in partnership with CASPUR, CIBER[3], SIBA, the Botanical Garden[4], and the Laboratory of Zoology and Marine Biology[5] of the University of Salento for the development of open access publications and for the preservation and restoration of the natural environment.

It combines the main principles of the Berlin Declaration on Open Access[6] with the aims of the International Convention on Biological Diversity, fostering scientific dissemination, biodiversity awareness, enviroment preservation, and sustainable use of natural resources.

Both the editorial project and the SCIRES-IT Journal are supported and developed by CEIT (Centro Euromediterraneo di Innovazione Tecnologica per i Beni Culturali e Ambientali e la Biomedicina)[7] and the Department of

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1 SIBA (Servizi Informatici Bibliotecari di Ateneo) a centre founded and directed by Virginia Valzano until 2010, coordinates the Library Computer Services and the Telematic Information System for Research and Education at the University of Salento (see: http://www.ceit-otranto.it/images/documents/brochure_info_siba.pdf).

2 CASPUR. Consorzio interuniversitario per le Applicazioni di Supercalcolo Per Università e Ricerca (Consortium for Supercomputing for University and Research).

3 CIBER. Coordinamento Interuniversitario Basi Dati & Editoria in Rete. - Interuniversity Committee for Database and E-publishing of CASPUR.

4 Orto Botanico (Botanical Garden) of the University of Salento. Technical manager: Rita Accogli.

5 Laboratory for Zoology and Marine Biology of the University of Salento, directed by Ferdinando Boero.

6 Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities (2003). Retrieved from http://openaccess.mpg.de/Berlin-Declaration.

7 CEIT. Centro Euromediterraneo di Innovazione Tecnologica per i Beni Culturali e Ambientali e la Biomedicina (Euro-Mediterranean Centre for Innovation Technology for the Cultural and Environmental Heritage and Biomedicine),

Mathematics and Physics "Ennio De Giorgi" of the University of Salento[8].

SCIRES-IT is an eco-sustainable Open Access journal providing an international forum for the exchange and sharing of know-how in the areas of Digitalization and Multimedia Technologies, and Information & Communication Technology (ICT) in support of Cultural and Environmental Heritage (CH) documentation, preservation and fruition.
It is a peer-reviewed journal, covered by various indexing and abstracting databases and available online on a semi-annual basis.

In 2013 a closer collaboration was established between the Editors-in-Chief and some members of the Editorial Board, in particular with Marco Gaiani and Fabrizio Ivan Apollonio of the Department of Architecture, University of Bologna[9].

Since the first issue of Volume 4, 2014, SCIRES-IT has improved its graphical layout, widened its international Editorial Board, with a new Co-Editor-in-Chief, Cristiana Bartolomei, Department of Architecture, University of Bologna, who replaced Francesco Proietti, Director of CASPUR and Co-editor-in-Chief of SCIRES-IT until 2013.

Over all these years, thanks to the two Editors-in-Chief, Cristina Bartolomei and Virginia Valzano, working together smoothly and efficiently, with their passion and generosity, to manage the activities of the Journal by tackling all the related scientific, editorial and technical problems, SCIRES-IT has maintained its fundamental objectives and its policy, thus achieving excellent results in both national and international scientific fields.

In line with the editorial project "Eco-sustainable OA publications", for each issue of SCIRES-IT, an action of environmental restoration has been carried out in protected areas by planting local ecotypes of native species, in cooperation with CEIT and the Botanical Garden of the University of Salento.

In cooperation with CEIT, the Laboratory of Zoology and Marine Biology, the Department of

Mathematics and Physics of the University of Salento, and the Pro Loco of Porto Badisco-Otranto[10], other initiatives and workshops have been organized aimed at the knowledge, enhancement, management and preservation of natural and environmental resources, as well as the development of study programmes aimed at carrying out interventions of restoration of the natural environment, thus enabling policies of improvement and cultural, economic and eco-sustainable development of the areas involved.

SCIRES-IT has published open access scientific articles and special issues of great international relevance on ICT, cultural, architectural, historic, artistic heritage and landscape, as well as on the application of innovative technology for the knowledge, protection and (also virtual) fruition of the cultural, environmental and natural heritage.

In 2016, in full accordance with its policy, SCIRES-IT published a Supplement containing the results of CoCoNet, the projects of the EU Oceans of Tomorrow programme, which tackled two interconnected problems, namely, the protection of the marine environment and the production of clean energy. [11]

SCIRES-IT is an Open Access Journal that has achieved, in a few years, a very high scientific

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[10] Pro Loco is an association promoting local culture and tourism. Pro Loco of Porto Badisco-Otranto. President: Vito Corvaglia.
Porto Badisco is a seaside resort in the Municipality of Otranto (LE, Italy), with a charming landscape, a crystal blue sea and an uncontaminated nature; rich in history and culture, with archaeological sites of remarkable relevance, such as the Grotta dei Cervi, a complex and fragile Neolithic cave with an extraordinary repertoire of pictograms. The Grotta dei Cervi of Porto Badisco was the subject of a digital acquisition Project, three-dimensional reconstruction and virtual representation, coordinated by Virginia Valzano. See: http://www.ceit-otranto.it/index.php/progetti/24-grotta-dei-cervi-porto-badisco .
http://www.ceit-otranto.it/index.php/progetti/250-tesori-otranto-3d .
[11] CoCoNet: *Towards coast to coast networks of marine protected areas (from the shore to the high and deep sea), coupled with sea-based wind energy potential.* http://caspur-ciberpublishing.it/index.php/scires-it/article/view/12592.
DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.2423/i22394303v6Sp1
Editorial. A supplement of Scires-it on the COCONET European project. http://caspur-ciberpublishing.it/index.php/scires-it/article/view/12591
DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.2423/i22394303v6SpI

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directed by Virginia Valzano (see: http://www.ceit-otranto.it/).
[8] Department of Mathematics and Physics "Ennio De Giorgi", University of Salento, http://www.matfis.unisalento.it
[9] Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna, Department of Architecture, http://www.da.unibo.it/it

level, adhering to Best Practice and high publishing standards.

SCIRES-IT, besides being covered by various indexing and multidisciplinary and specialized abstracting databases, has been included in the List of the scientific journals of ANVUR, the Italian National Agency for the Evaluation of University and Research Systems. It has also been indexed in Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) - a new database within the Web of Science - and in SCOPUS, the largest abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed literature, such as scientific journals, books and conference proceedings.

First of all, we would like to thank Cristiana Bartolomei and Virginia Valzano for the invaluable work they have done so far, which we greatly appreciate, and then all the collaborators: the Editorial Board, the Editorial Staff and the Reviewers.

We would like to bid an affectionate farewell to Cristiana Bartolomei, who has lately quitted her post as Co-Editor-in-Chief of the journal, in the hope that she may attain great heights in her field and her new initiatives.

Starting from the present first issue of Volume 8, 2018, SCIRES-IT has a new Co-Editor-in-Chief, Michela Cigola, University of Cassino and Southern Lazio, who has replaced Cristiana Bartolomei as Co-Editor-in-Chief of SCIRES-IT.

Together with the Editor-in-Chief, Virginia Valzano, we welcome Michela Cigola, wishing that this new collaboration may lead SCIRES-IT towards new, greater and more significant accomplishments.

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