



UNESCO Chair

*“Training and empowering human resources for health development
in resource-limited countries”*

University of Brescia

Report 2014

Chairholder:

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BACKGROUND

Considering its long lasting training activity in the field of Tropical Medicine and International Health, the Department of Clinical and Experimental Sciences of the University of Brescia has proposed that the University of Brescia is granted the UNESCO Chair named *Training and empowering human resources for health development in resource-limited countries*.

After assessment of the project proposal, the UNESCO Chair “*Training and empowering human resources for health development in resource-limited countries*” at the University of Brescia (Italy) has been finally approved on the 3rd of October 2013 (ref. doc. ED/THE/HED/13/397, attachment 1).

At the request of the Department of Clinical and Experimental Sciences, the Chancellor of the University of Brescia, Prof. Sergio PECORELLI, has proposed that Prof. Francesco CASTELLI, Professor of Infectious Diseases at the University of Brescia, is to be named the Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair and the final agreement has been signed by the Chancellor of the University of Brescia on the 6th of march 2014.

The present report is intended to summarize the activities of the UNESCO Chair “*Training and empowering human resources for health development in resource-limited countries*” in the period march – December 2014

OPENING CERIMONY (23RD JUNE 2014)

The opening ceremony was held at the Salone Apollo of the Chancellorate in Brescia on the 23rd of June, 2014, with the extraordinary presence of:

- Prof. **Sergio Pecorelli**, Chancellor of the University of Brescia
- Prof. **Giovanni Puglisi**, President of the Italian Commission of UNESCO
- Prof. **Enrico Agabiti Rosei**, Director of the Department of Clinical and Experimental Sciences, University of Brescia
- Prof. **Jean Pierre Coulaud**, former Professor of Infectious and Tropical Diseases at the Bichat Faculty of Medicine (Paris), former Director of the Institute of African Medicine and Epidemiology (Paris) and former President of the European Association of the Instituted of Tropical Medicine
- Prof. **Francesco Castelli**, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair "*Training and empowering human resources for health development in resource-limited countries*", University of Brescia

The opening ceremony (photo attached as annex 1) was also covered by local media, both television and newspaper (Giornale di Brescia and BresciaOggi), that informed the population of the Province of Brescia (1.200.000 inhabitants) about the goals and expected activities of the UNESCO Chair at the University of Brescia

VISIBILITY OF THE CHAIR

A specific website page has been created and hosted on the website of the University of Brescia, both in Italian (<http://www.unibs.it/ricerca/unesco-chair-cattedra-unesco>) and in English (<http://www.unibs.it/research/unesco-chair-cattedra-unesco>), detailing the Chair goals and activities.

TRAINING ACTIVITIES IN ITALY IN 2014:

1. Elective Courses in Tropical Medicine and International Health

The UNESCO Chair, in collaboration with the Chair of Infectious Diseases of the University of Brescia has organized and run a cycle of 5 seminars devoted to the training in the field of Tropical Medicine and International Health. The seminars were offered as electives to the medical students (4th year) of the University of Brescia and to the professionals of the interested Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) active in the medical field in resource-limited countries.

The seminars were held on the following dates at the University of Brescia:

- 25 May 2014
- 9 June 2014
- 17 June 2014
- 23 June 2014
- 2 July 2014

2. Graduate Course in Tropical Medicine and International Health – Core Course of the European TropEd Master in International Health (February – May 2014)

The XX edition of the Course, that was accredited as TropEd Core Course in 1995 and later reaccredited in 2005, has taken place over a span of 13 weeks, from the 3rd of February to the 30th of April 2014, under the auspices of the Brescia UNESCO Chair.

The Course was successfully attended by 26 Students (including 5 student from the joint Master in Tropical Medicine and International Health organized together with the University of Florence), whose professional breakdown was as follows:

n. 8 Physicians

n. 16 Nurses

n. 2 Midwives

The 2014 edition of the Course benefited from a scholarship for a Burundian Physician, granted by the Museke Foudation, Brescia

3. Symposium Tuberculosis today and tomorrow: perspectives until 2035 (4th April 2014)

The Brescia UNESCO Chair has co-organized the Symposium “Tuberculosis today and tomorrow: perspectives until 2035” (*Attualità e prospettive sulla Tuberculosis: da oggi al 2035*) together with the WHO Collaborating Center for TB/HIV co-infection and the Italian Branch of Doctors without Borders.

The Symposium took place on the 4th of April 2014, with the participation of over 200 participants (Annex 2)

4. Seminar: Poverty related diseases (20-21 october 2014)

The Brescia UNESCO Chair has promoted the visit of Prof. Eduardo Gotuzzo, from the University Caetano Heredia, Lima, Perù, who has delivered two speeches on poverty related diseases to the students and professors of the University of Brescia (see programme in Annex 3).

The workshops were very well attended, with over 250 attending students and professors

5. Seminar: Ebola epidemic (3rd November 2014)

The Brescia UNESCO Chair has organized a conference on the ongoing Ebola epidemic. The conference, open to students and professors but also to the general population in Brescia, was attended by over 600 persons

Apart from the medical aspects, the need for specific training of personnel was discussed as well as anthropological and sociological aspects of the epidemic

See Annex 4 for the Conference Programme

6. Scholarship for Doctor from resource-limited countries to attend the Graduate Course in Tropical Medicine and International Health - Core Course of the European TropEd Master in International Health

The Brescia UNESCO Chair has offered a scholarship, exclusively addressed to health personnel living and working in resource-poor Countries, to attend the 2015 edition of the Graduate Course in Tropical Medicine and International Health – Core Course of the European TropEd Master in International Health (February – May 2015).

A Doctor from Burundi, presented by the NGOs Medicus Mundi Italy and the Museke Foundation was selected and will attend the Course in 2015.

OVERSEAS ACTIVITIES

7. Funding the mission of an expert to Burkina Faso to train health personnel of either the health structures of the Camillian Order and public structures in the preventive measure to avoid nosocomial Ebola transmission

At the request of the health structures of the religious Camillian Order in Burkina Faso (that have a long lasting tradition of collaboration with the University of Brescia), a physician expert in preventive measures to avoid Ebola nosocomial transmission was sent to Burkina Faso from 8 to 22 December 2014 at the expenses of the Brescia UNESCO Chair

The expert has also interacted with the public regional health authorities to disseminate knowledge and information about personal and structural preventive measure to be undertaken.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

8. Reporting to UNESCO HeadQuartes

During 2014, the Chairholder of the Brescia UNESCO Chair, Prof. Francesco Castelli, has visited the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris to discuss with the reference person for the Chair, Dr Casimiro Vizzini, at Natural Sciences Sector, UNESCO, Paris) to discuss and plan activities in accordance with UNESCO mission. The visit took place on the 18th November 2014

During the visit to UNESCO, Paris, a meeting with the Deputy Director General of UNESCO, Mr Getchew ENGIDA, has also taken place. During the meeting, the future activities of the Chair, including the possible participation of Mr Engida to the scheduled IV° National Conference of the Italian University Network for Cooperation for Development, have been discussed.

ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED in 2015

The following activities are planned in 2015, according to the plan agreed by UNESCO Headquarters:

- Organization of the 2015 edition of the Graduate Course in Tropical Medicine and International Health – Core Course of the European TropEd Master in International Health (February – May 2015). A young Burundian physician will attend the Course benefiting from the scholarship by the Brescia UNESCO Chair. A call for additional scholarships to attend the 2016 edition will be issued in the fall of 2015;
- Organization of Elective Courses in Tropical Medicine and International Health, open to students of all Faculties of the University of Brescia, to NGO workers and to the general population;
- A closer collaboration with other UNESCO Chairs in Italy, as well as with other UN institutions in Italy and abroad, will be strongly pursued
- Organization of the IV° National Conference of the Italian University Network for Cooperation for Development (*CUCS: Coordinamento Universitario Cooperazione allo Sviluppo*), that will take place from the 10th to the 12th of September 2015. The Deputy Director General of UNESCO, Mr Getchew ENGIDA, has been invited to deliver the main talk at the opening ceremony. During the Conference, a specific session devoted to the activities of Italian UNESCO Chairs in the field of Cooperation for development will take place

CONCLUSIONS

The Brescia UNESCO Chair “*Training and empowering human resources for health development in resource-limited countries*” has started its activities in 2014 only.

During the first year of operation, the following activities have been undertaken according to the plan agreed by UNESCO Headquarters:

- Training and education activities in the field of Global Health for undergraduate medical students of the University of Brescia and for the general population (see above activity #1);
- Training and education activities in field of Global Health for graduate medical students of the University of Brescia, in the frame of the European TropEd Master of International Health (see above activity #2);
- Educational activities addressed to the personnel and students of the University of Brescia and the general population (see above activities #3,4,5);
- Funding of a scholarship exclusively addressed to one health professional from resource-limited Country to attend the Graduate Course in Tropical Medicine and International Health of the University of Brescia (see above activity #6);
- Funding of an expert's mission to train health workers in Burkina Faso (both private and public sectors) on preventive measures to avoid nosocomial transmission of Ebola virus, should it enter the country.

Fund raising in 2014 was satisfactory and seed money to run scheduled operations has been secured by private donations to the University of Brescia, specifically addressed to the UNESCO Chair activities.

Regular contacts (phone calls, mailing, face-to-face encounters) have been maintained with Dr Casimiro Vizzini, Brescia UNESCO Chair reference person at Natural Sciences Sector, UNESCO, Paris.

Brescia, 3rd of February 2015

Prof. Francesco Castelli

Professor of Infectious Diseases

University of Brescia (Italy)

Chairholder, UNESCO Chair *Training and empowering human resources for health development in resource-limited countries*

Annex 1





Il Centro Collaboratore OMS per
"TB/HIV collaborative activities and for the TB elimination strategy"
Clinica di Malattie Infettive e Tropicali dell'Università di Brescia-Spedali Civili di Brescia

e
Medici Senza Frontiere

organizzano il convegno

Attualità e prospettive sulla Tubercolosi: da oggi al 2035

4 aprile 2014 ore 14.30

aula F ex-Facoltà di Medicina e Chirurgia
viale Europa n°11, Brescia

Programma

14.30-14.45: Saluto delle Autorità

Introduzione- Francesco Castelli (Università di Brescia) e
Stella Egidi (MSF Italia)

14.45-15.15: *Una nuova strategia globale per la TB: come cambiano le regole del gioco* - Mario Raviglione (OMS)

15.15-15.45: *Controllo della TB in Italia: quale contributo alla strategia globale ?* - Maria Grazia Pompa (Ministero della Salute)

15.45-16.15: *Si può pensare di eliminare la TB in Italia?*- Alberto Matteelli (OMS)

16.15-16.45: *La tubercolosi multiresistente: come combatterla nel mondo ed in Italia* - Daniela Cirillo (IRCCS Ospedale San Raffaele Milano)

16.45-17.15: *Vecchi e nuovi farmaci sul mercato globale: ostacoli ed opportunità di lotta contro la tubercolosi multiresistente* – Carole Zen Ruffinen (MSF internazionale)

17.15- 18:00: Discussione e chiusura del convegno

Ingresso libero; iscrizione non richiesta

Per contatti:

Francesco Castelli, Università di Brescia: 030 3996628

Stella Egidi, Medici Senza Frontiere: stella.egidi@rome.msf.org, 0688806171

Evento patrocinato dalla Cattedra UNESCO Training and empowering human resources for health development in resource-limited countries, istituita presso l'Università di Brescia





Dipartimento di Scienze Cliniche e Sperimentali

Clinica di Malattie Infettive e Tropicale

Direttore: Prof. Francesco Castelli

Lunedì 20 e Martedì 21 ottobre 2014

Orario: 17.00-18.30

Sede: Aula A

ex Facoltà di Medicina e Chirurgia

V.le Europa 11 - Brescia

“Poverty-related diseases”

*Typhoid fever, Chagas disease, HTLV-1 infection and disease,
Cysticercosis*

PROF. EDUARDO GOTUZZO

Principal Professor of Medicine and Director of the “Alexander von Humboldt”
Institute of Tropical Medicine and Infectious Diseases
Peruvian University Cayetano Heredia in Lima, Peru

Il seminario si svolgerà in lingua inglese

Tutti gli interessati sono invitati a partecipare

Annex 4

Dipartimento di Scienze Cliniche e Sperimentali
Dipartimento di Medicina Molecolare e Traslazionale
Dipartimento di Specialità Medico-chirurgiche, Scienze radiologiche e Sanità Pubblica
Università degli Studi di Brescia



La Cattedra UNESCO
“Training and empowering human resources for health development in resource-limited countries”
(Prof. Francesco CASTELLI)
organizza il Seminario

“Epidemia di EBOLA tra allerta, paura e realtà”

Lunedì 3 novembre 2014
Ore 17.15 - 18.30

Aula B, ex Facoltà di Medicina e Chirurgia
V.le Europa 11 - Brescia

PROF. ARNALDO CARUSO
PROFESSORE ORDINARIO DI MICROBIOLOGIA
PROF. FRANCESCO CASTELLI
PROFESSORE ORDINARIO DI MALATTIE INFETTIVE
PROF. FRANCESCO DONATO
PROFESSORE ORDINARIO DI IGIENE E MEDICINA PREVENTIVA

Tutti gli interessati sono invitati a partecipare

