



Padua, 24th June 2019

THE FIRST 800 YEARS OF HISTORY AND RESEARCH of the University of Padua start from Space Stefano Debei special guest of the first event held at Sala Rossini

Eight as the testimonials (Stefano Debei, Federico Rea, Giulio Peruzzi, Fabrizio Nestola, Telmo Pievani, Carlo Fumian, Mauro Conti and Annalisa Oboe) who will explain what the University of Padua has represented for the world's scientific and social civilization.

Eight, again, as the centuries through which the University of Padua has lived, which will soon be celebrated in 2022.

And four, as the years leading up to that date, just as the four (Bepi Colombo, Galileo Galilei, Gianbattista Morgagni and Elena Lucrezia Cornaro Piscopia) masters who changed the world's cultural horizon and who will symbolize - one for each year from 2019 to 2022 - the University's eight hundred years of history.

These are important numbers and names, who laid the foundations of modern knowledge and transformed the University into a microcosm of knowledge and beauty. Indeed, this magnificent world has always been "part" of the magical context of a dynamic city, Padua.

In the past, scientists such as Copernicus and Galileo Galilei, physicians such as Andrea Vesalio and William Harvey, lawyers and writers such as Pietro d'Abano and Carlo Goldoni, turned Padua into one of the central places for the birth and dissemination of European science and culture. Lucrezia Cornaro Piscopia, the first woman in the world who achieved a university degree, graduated in Philosophy from the University of Padua in 1678.

Today, the University of Padua is the scientific and cultural center of the Northeast and meets the needs for higher education in an area with over 7 million inhabitants and more than 650,000 businesses.

The University and the City have always been connected and intertwined: they talk to each other, they reflect one another, just like the facades of the city's two iconic buildings: Palazzo Bo' and Palazzo Moroni.

This is the heart and thread that characterizes **"800 YEARS OF HISTORY AND RESEARCH. A City and its University"**: a cultural project that will animate the city of Padua from Wednesday 26th June 2019 to 2022. This initiative of the University of Padua, sponsored by the City of Padua, supported by the Banca Patavina and Alì S.p.a., with the collaboration of APPE (Associazione Provinciale Pubblici Esercizi Padova - Association of Public Businesses of the Province of Padua), Confcommercio Imprese for Italia Ascom Padova and Confesercenti del Veneto centrale, offers a calendar full of events, guided tours and itineraries focused on these eight hundred years.

8 topics and 8 distinguished speakers will define the excellence of the University of Padua in the context of a "*Café Scientifique*", by summarizing the University's important topics with an outlook on the future at Caffè Pedrocchi.

The first meeting with Stefano Debei, Director of the Centre of Studies and Activities for Space CISAS "G. Colombo" of the University of Padua, entitled "Exploring Space and future challenges, will be held on **Wednesday 26th June at 6pm in the Sala Rossini of Caffè Pedrocchi, in via VIII febbraio 15, Padua.** The Vice Rector of cultural, social and gender relations of the University of Padua, Annalisa Oboe, together with the Municipal Councillor of Culture of the City of Padua, Andrea Colasio, will introduce the conference. Paolo Cagnan, journalist and co-director of the "Mattino di Padova" will moderate the meeting. The topics covered will focus on the scientific interest and the technological challenges that have inspired space exploration for decades, as shown by the numerous ongoing and future missions carried out. The main goal of the international space community and Space Agencies worldwide is to bring men to Mars. However, such objective requires the scientific strategy to evolve.

Conference booking: <https://www.eventbrite.it/e/biglietti-esplorazione-spaziale-e-sfidefuture-con-stefano-debei-63373047491>

"800 YEARS OF HISTORY AND RESEARCH. A City and its University" is also a way to combine all of the energies that have always converged towards the City of Padua, as the representatives of institutions well recall.

"Eight different topics told by eight important testimonials of the University with a single goal: telling the story of the University of Padua through different multidisciplinary points of view - **states Rosario Rizzuto, Rector of the University of Padua.** In fact, these appointments will be held in the Sala Rossini of Caffè Pedrocchi, in the city center, to symbolically underline the strong relationship between the City of Padua and its University. In a "*Café Scientifique*" context, along with the presence of young researchers, we will thus continue our path towards this very important accomplishment: the 800 years of our University".

"We are approaching a historic milestone that few universities worldwide can boast - **comments Andrea Colasio, Municipal Councillor for Culture of the City of Padua** - Eight hundred years of history and research represents a cultural heritage that our Administration intends to enhance with projects and initiatives aimed to bring citizens closer to the symbolic places of our University and to the founding values that have always characterized it: freedom of research and openness towards the world. Tracing the life of the individuals who made the University of Padua illustrious and prestigious is not only a source of pride for us all, but also a stimulus for our young minds who are now tracing the path towards the future".

"We are honored to see our Bank's brand - which symbolizes the spirit of being from Padua - next to that of the University of Padua on the occasion of this extraordinary anniversary - underlines **Leonardo Toson, President of Banca Patavina.** We couldn't miss this appointment with history: as stated by our Statute and its values and principles of help and support in terms of social and cultural promotion and recognition of the territory and its people. Our Bank is gradually strengthening this commitment through effective actions in the city and province of Padua, by putting its competence and professionalism at the service of the needs and requirements of its people".

"We have always supported the city's cultural activities. - states the **Vice President of Ali S.p.A. Gianni Canella** - In particular, we have built a consolidated relationship with the University of Padua through our support in various cultural projects over the years, such as in the activities in

favor of the botanical garden. It is an honor to be able to be part of this prestigious project: the "800 years of the University of Padua". The University represents excellence worldwide, the same excellence which has made the city of Padua famous over the centuries: in fact, it was recently recognized Italy's #1."

"800 YEARS OF HISTORY AND RESEARCH. A City and its University" is also subdivided into **four cultural paths** that will accompany us to the 800th year since the University's foundation: 2019 Bepi Colombo and the challenges of Space; 2020 Galileo Galilei and modern science; 2021 Gianbattista Morgagni and Medicine; 2022 Elena Lucrezia Cornaro Piscopia as the genesis of Women and Science.

"800 YEARS OF HISTORY AND RESEARCH. A City and its University" also means rediscovering the **"places of science and culture"** through guided tours in July and August. In 2019, the University has opened the doors of its ancient architectural, scientific and cultural treasures through a series of summer appointments (for residents and tourists) planned in the event calendar of the City of Padua. A century of reference will be selected each year and discussed through the historical testimonial of the four aforesaid individuals.

"800 YEARS OF HISTORY AND RESEARCH. A City and its University" is the pretext of **"Eight centuries at the table with Bo:"** incursions and digressions on the culinary history of the period that contextualizes the individual, through the culinary practices, tastes, flavors and smells of the time, along with various itineraries throughout the city, in collaboration with the tourism promotion bodies, the City and trade associations, which will be involved through licensed premises in recreating the atmosphere of the various centuries as depicted by the historical testimonials of the Bo, through a "journey in the name of taste".

The other appointments scheduled include: the importance of Medicine in Padua with Federico Rea on 12th September; Giulio Peruzzi will explain what the word "Science" once meant on 10th October; on 7th November, Fabrizio Nestola will delve into the themes of Geology; Telmo Pievani will focus on "Evolution" on 5th December; Carlo Fumian will recall the "Resistenza" (Italian resistance movement) and the Gold Medal for Military Valor awarded to our University, the only University in Italy to have received such recognition, in the first appointment of 2020, on 15th January; then, the latest on Cybersecurity will be explained by Mauro Conti on 6th February and, on occasion of Women's Day, Annalisa Oboe will tell us about the importance, often not reported through historical and scientific literature, of female presence in science.

VIDEO "800 YEARS OF HISTORY AND RESEARCH. A City and its University."

https://mediaspace.unipd.it/media/t/1_9m7zu95h

Credits: Marco Toffanin - University of Padua digital learning and multimedia office