



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI FERRARA
- EX LABORE FRUCTUS -

ROUTES
towards
sustainability

Ecological Minds

in the Humanities and in the Sciences

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI FERRARA

Auditorium Santa Lucia, Via Ariosto 35

Aula Magna, DEM, Via Voltapaletto 11

22 - 23 February 2018



Clover

Odeceixe, Southwest Alentejo
and Vicentine Coast Natural
Park, Portugal, 2018

Clover

Wallpaper design by John
Henry Dearle, produced by
Morris & Co., England, 1903

It is the role of humans as makers that requires closer inspection in discourses of sustainability. Sustainable wellbeing presupposes understanding how the behaviours and decisions of social groups as well as individuals can contribute to cultural diversity, global prosperity, environmental commitment and social justice. While anthropogenic impacts are measured, monitored and mitigated, the Planetary Boundaries framework must circulate, be taught and understood. A pervasive paradigm shift depends on effective communication and public understanding.

The paramount task shared by the humanities and the sciences is to form ecological minds able to develop cultures of sustainability by reshaping mental and societal models, value systems and individual behaviours. Discerning the value of material goods and immaterial benefits, appreciating the dynamics between consumer and intangible cultures; repurposing economic goals; ensuring that companies accept social and environmental responsibility; fostering sustainable leisure and food habits: these are the agents of change which allow humans and nature to coexist and thrive.



Thursday 22 February

Auditorium di Santa Lucia, Via Ariosto 35

14:30-15:00

GREETINGS AND OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

Giorgio Zauli, Rector

Gianfranco Franz, Massimiliano Mazzanti, Paola Spinozzi, Università degli Studi di Ferrara

15:00-17:00

SESSION I – MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY NETWORK *ROUTES TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY*

Planning the IV International Symposium and the next General Meeting, to be held at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Campus Villarrica, in November 2018

Chair: **Gonzalo Valdivieso**, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

15:00-15:30

Gianfranco Franz, Co-coordinator of *Routes*, Department of Economics and Management

Close to the Limits: Footprints, Ecological Minds, Cultures of Sustainability

15:30-16:00

Paola Spinozzi, Co-coordinator of *Routes*, Department of Humanistic Studies

Ecological Minds and Ecological Humanities: Theories, Methods, Materials

16:00-16:45 - Discussion

16:45-17:00 - Coffee break

17:00-19:00

SESSION II – TRANSDISCIPLINARY LIAISONS WITH SUSTAINABILITY

Chair **Massimiliano Mazzanti**

17:15-17:45

Francesco Musco, Università IUAV di Venezia

Resilient Cities in a Climate Change Scenario

17:45-18:15

Michele Mistri, Università di Ferrara

Forever Young: Man-Nature Interactions in Lagoonal Systems

18:15-18:45

Alessandro Zironi, Università di Bologna

The Natural Environment as a Mirror of Human Depravity and Fragile Creation. Re-framing Early Medieval Attitudes in the Current World.

18:45-19:00 - Discussion



Friday 23 February

Aula Magna, Department of Economics and Management, Via Voltapaletto 11

9:30-12:45

SESSION III – BOOK LAUNCH AND PANEL

Cultures of Sustainability: Theories, Histories and Policies, edited by Paola Spinozzi and Massimiliano Mazzanti (New York and London: Routledge, 2018)

Chair: **Richard Chapman**, Department of Humanistic Studies

9:30-10:00

Massimiliano Mazzanti, Department of Economics and Management

Inequality, Development and the Environment: Cultures of Capitalism and Policies for the Climate Change Challenge

10:00-10:30

Anna Luise, ISPRA - Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale

Towards an Ecological-Driven Sustainability: The Community and Land Based Approach to Combating Desertification

10:30-11:00 - Discussion

11:00-11:15 - Break

11:15-11:45

Fátima Vieira, Universidade do Porto

A Recipe for Change. Speculative Narratives and Interdisciplinary Dialogue; or How Books Can Change the World

11:45-12:15

Stefan Ulrich Speck, EEA - European Environment Agency, Copenhagen

Complex Interactions between Fiscal Sustainability, Demographic Change and Environmental Policy

12:15-12:45 - Discussion

13:00 - Buffet Lunch

Auditorium di Santa Lucia, Via Ariosto 35

14:30-15:30

SESSION IV – FORMING ECOLOGICAL MINDS

Paola Spinozzi

Introducing the PhD programme on Ecological Minds

15:30-16:30 - Discussion

16:30-16:45 - Break

16:45-17:00 - Discussion

17:00-18:00 **CLOSING REMARKS**

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Gianfranco Franz, Massimiliano Mazzanti, Paola Spinozzi