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NEWS



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1 Italian Space Startup Competition (ISSC) in Naples

The fourth edition of the Italian Space Startup Competition (ISSC) was held in Naples on 12 and 13 November 2022, https://spacegeneration.org/4th-italian-space-startup-competition. The ISSC is a startup competition where the participants interact with experts from the space field and work in teams, discussing ideas and shaping them into business cases. In addition, the participants benefit from the support of mentors whose backgrounds and expertise are diverse and cover different areas of the space sector.



AIDAA supported ISSC by offering an award and was represented by members from the local Section: S. De Rosa, N. Favaloro, M.D. Graziano, and G. Petrone. The SOI (Security in Orbit) project, proposed by Alessia Finizio, Gabriele Di Natale, and Giuseppe Puleo, won the AIDAA award. The startup idea is to design black boxes for satellites containing tracking and protection data systems through quantum communication.



2 Two Nobel Laureates at the LARES Workshop and Wheeler Prize in Rome¹

Kip Thorne, Sir Roger Penrose, and Igor Novikov were awarded the first John Archibald Wheeler Prize, with a ceremony on 30 May 2022 during the LARES and LARES 2 International Science Workshop in Rome. Kip Thorne received the Nobel Prize in 2017 for direct gravitational wave detection. Sir Roger Penrose received the Nobel in 2020 for his studies on black holes and singularities formation. Igor Novikov is well-known for the prediction of X-ray emissions around black holes. John Archibald Wheeler (1911–2008) was one of the most outstanding physicists of the XX century. He contributed to general relativity and worked, among others, with Enrico Fermi, Albert Einstein, and Niels Bohr. He mentored two Nobel laureates: Richard Feynman and Kip Thorne. Wheeler is also known for having coined "black holes" for the intriguing gravitationally collapsed bodies and "wormhole" for the spacetime bridge predicted by general relativity.

The President of the Italian Space Agency, Giorgio Saccoccia, opened the ceremony in the auditorium of the Italian Space Agency (ASI). Ignazio Ciufolini and Antonio Paolozzi, members of AIDAA, chaired the event introducing

¹ A contribution by I. Ciufolini. A. Paolozzi, and C. Paris.



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speakers from ASI, ESA, Sapienza, OMPM, and Avio. Two distinguished representatives of AIDAA attended the ceremony: Erasmo Carrera (President) and Mario Marchetti (President of the Roma section). A round table was held in Monte Mario, where the scientists debated the concept of time and the possibility of traveling into the past.

The picture below was taken at the Wheeler Prize ceremony, from right to left: Mario Marchetti (Sapienza), Erasmo Carrera (Politecnico di Torino), Roger Penrose (Nobel in Physics 2020, Cambridge University), Igor Novikov (Lebedev Institute), Kip Thorne (Nobel in Physics 2017, Caltech), Cosimo Caputo (OMPM), Francesco Passeggio (OMPM), Agostino Neri (ESA), Antonio Paolozzi (Sapienza), Ignazio Ciufolini (Centro Fermi), Vahe Gurzadyan (Yerevan State University), Sergei Kopeikin (University of Missouri), Richard Matzner (University of Texas Austin), Erricos Pavlis (Goddard Earth Sciences Technology and Research II, ILRS Analysis Coordinator).



3 Third Edition of Aerospace Ph.D. Days from 16 to 19 April 2023 in Bertinoro



The third edition of the Aerospace Ph.D. Days will be held in Bertinoro, Emilia-Romagna, from 16 to 19 April 2023, https://www.aidaa.it/phd_days2023/. Ph.D. Days is an International Congress of doctoral students in Aerospace Science and Engineering organized by AIDAA. The event is open to Ph.D. students in Aerospace Science and Engineering or with a Ph.D. topic in the aerospace field. An extended abstract on the Ph.D. topic is required by 28 February 2023. Presentations on aeronautics, space, and aviation are welcome.

4 AIDAA Section of Turin Celebrates the Centenary from Foundation

The AIDAA Section of Torino was founded on 14 December 1922, and a celebration of the centenary took place in the Aula Magna of Politecnico di Torino, https://www.aidaa.it/aerospaceitaly2024/100thanniversary/.



Aula Magna, Politecnico di Torino

The event opened with a talk by Mario Marchetti (Università Roma La Sapienza) on the role of the Section of Turin in strengthening AIDAA over the last century. Contributions by Marco Protti (Leonardo), Giacomo Martinotti (Distretto Aerospaziale Piemonte), and Maria Antonietta Perino (Thales Alenia Space Italia) followed and provided an overview of the current aerospace activities in Piemonte. The last part of the event focused on the initiatives of AIDAA towards 2024, with presentations by Erasmo Carrera, Giuseppe Governale, Rebecca Masia, and Marco Petrolo.

5 The Moon and Italy, Turin and the Future of Space Exploration

Istituto Affari Istituzionali, Politecnico di Torino with the support of the Italian Space Agency, Compagnia di San Paolo and Thales Alenia Space Italia, organized a meeting in Turin on 16 December 2022, the Italian National Space Day, https://www.iai.it/en/eventi/luna-e-italia-torino-e-il-futuro-dellesplor azione-spaziale.



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The focus was on the role of Turin and Italy in future space exploration. Representatives from academia, research centers, industry, and public institutions participated and answered questions from students. Furthermore, four student teams of Politecnico di Torino presented their activities on space engineering.

6 27th AIDAA Congress in Padova– Registration has opened



The University of Padova will host the next Congress of AIDAA from 4 to 7th September 2023, https://www.aidaa.it/aidaa2023/. The AIDAA Congress brings together an international community of academic and non-academic delegates to share the latest findings in aeronautics and astronautics science and technology. The AIDAA 2023 technical program will include plenary and parallel sessions, keynote talks, mini-symposia, and other events. Abstracts can be submitted until 16th April 2023, and contributions in all aerospace engineering and science fields are encouraged, including, but not limited to, Aerodynamics and Fluid dynamics, Propulsion, Materials and Structures, Aerospace Systems, Flight Mechanics and Control, Space Systems, and Missions. Registration has opened and can be carried out online, https://www.aidaa.it/aidaa2023/registration/.

7 AIDAA 2023 Membership Packages



AIDAA is pleased to announce the opening of the 2023 membership campaign. Four packages are available with benefits for members. More details can be found online, https://www.aidaa.it/become-a-member/.

8 Space Meetings Veneto—May 15–17, 2023



Space Meetings Veneto—https://spacemeetingsveneto.com/ will be a new global business event organized by the Aerospace, Innovation, and Research Network of Veneto, bringing together professionals and researchers to discuss the latest developments in satellite applications.

The event will take place at Venezia Marine Terminal from May 15th to May 17th, 2023, and will provide an interconnected platform for aerospace industry stakeholders to learn, debate and network.

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