

# Friends of Ca' Foscari Report 2020



Ca' Foscari  
University of  
Venice



**Fondazione  
Università  
Ca' Foscari**



Ca' Foscari  
**Alumni**



→ Inauguration of  
Incroci di civiltà 2019  
— International Literature  
Festival in Venice

→ Researchers on mission for the Ice Memory project



→ Ca' Foscari crew at the Universities Rowing Challenge



→ Students in CFZ Library  
CFZ – Zattere



→ Science Gallery Venice,  
Tesa 4 San Basilio (render)



→ Donors at the Friends of Ca' Foscari Night 2019



→ Participants of Kids University 2019

→ Graduates  
in St. Mark's Square



# Friends of Ca' Foscari 2020 Report



Ca' Foscari  
University  
of Venice



Fondazione  
Università  
Ca' Foscari



Ca' Foscari  
Alumni



Dear Friends,

I would like to thank you for your support and trust, thanks to which we have been able to carry out the many projects and initiatives that we tell you about in this booklet.

We want to give you an account of the initiatives of 2019 and 2020 through stories, testimonies and figures. The numbers highlight new important successes and confirm the growth of Ca' Foscari, which is currently among the top 90 universities in the world for modern languages according to the "QS University Rankings by subject" classification, first in Italy and among the first 6 universities in Europe in terms of number of Marie-Skłodowska Curie fellows, and first in terms of internationalisation among Italy's medium-sized universities according to the recent Censis rankings.

But it is the people, with their testimonies, stories and participation in the Ca' Foscari community that make Ca' Foscari great and make it so special.

Ca' Foscari has grown thanks to the support of over 1,600 donors who have believed in us and who, since 2015, have made it possible to raise 10 million euros, contributing to create unique opportunities for many deserving students through scholarships, to improve the quality of our training with the establishment of new professorships and innovative teaching projects, to develop the quality and impact of our research, and to build the conditions for a lively and engaging university experience, one full of cultural initiatives, sports activities and opportunities to meet and grow for both the academic and the city community as a whole.

Aware of the ongoing emergency, we know that the years ahead will be full of challenges, which we take up with the same enthusiasm as always, counting on continuing to work together with you in a journey of sustainable growth, with new initiatives and projects.

Every single donation has been, and will, be precious to achieving a target, a new milestone. Each and every one of you is a valuable and irreplaceable travel companion. THANK YOU!

The Rector,  
Michele Bugliesi

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# Ca' Foscari in numbers

Ca' Foscari University of Venice, founded in 1868, now has more than 21,000 students. International, inclusive, able to offer excellent teaching and to promote frontier research, Ca' Foscari is a leading university in terms of quality of training and research, as evidenced by the numerous national and international awards it has achieved.

Primary objectives:

1. Promote research with real effects;
2. Create transformative study experiences;
3. Enhance the international scope;
4. Act as a catalyst for innovation;
5. Ensure a fully sustainable academic future.

**Years**

**150+**

**Italy's oldest Business School** with over 150 years of history

**Number of departments**

**8**

of which **5 of Excellence** rewarded by funding of the Research Ministry

**Number of students enrolled**

**21,000**

of which **1,500 international**

**Number of graduate**

**4,000 PER YEAR**

**Research centres**

**19**

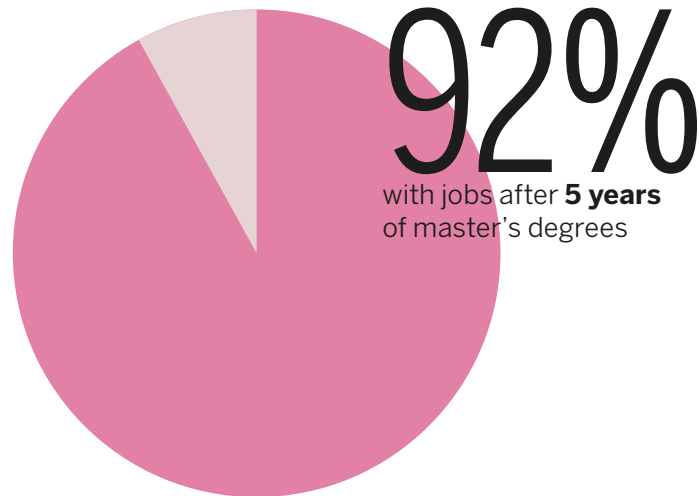
**Number of researchers**

**1,000+**

**Research quality**

**3<sup>RD</sup> place** in the **ANVUR** assessment

**Postgraduate occupation**



**Internationalisation**

**ITALY'S LEADING UNIVERSITY IN TERMS OF INTERNATIONALISATION**

**Foreign languages taught**

**40+**

Arabic, Albanian, Anglo-American, Amharic, Armenian, Azerbaijani, Basque, Bulgarian, Brazilian, Cantonese, Catalan, Czech, Chinese, Mandarin, Korean, Hebrew, French, Japanese, Hindi, English, Hispanic American,

Italian, Latin, sign language, Marathi, Mongolian, Neo-Greek, Pali, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Sanskrit, Serbo-Croatian, Slovenian, Spanish, German, Thai, Tibetan, Turkish, Vietnamese, Urdu.

**Number of English language courses**

**28**

**Number of double and joint degrees**

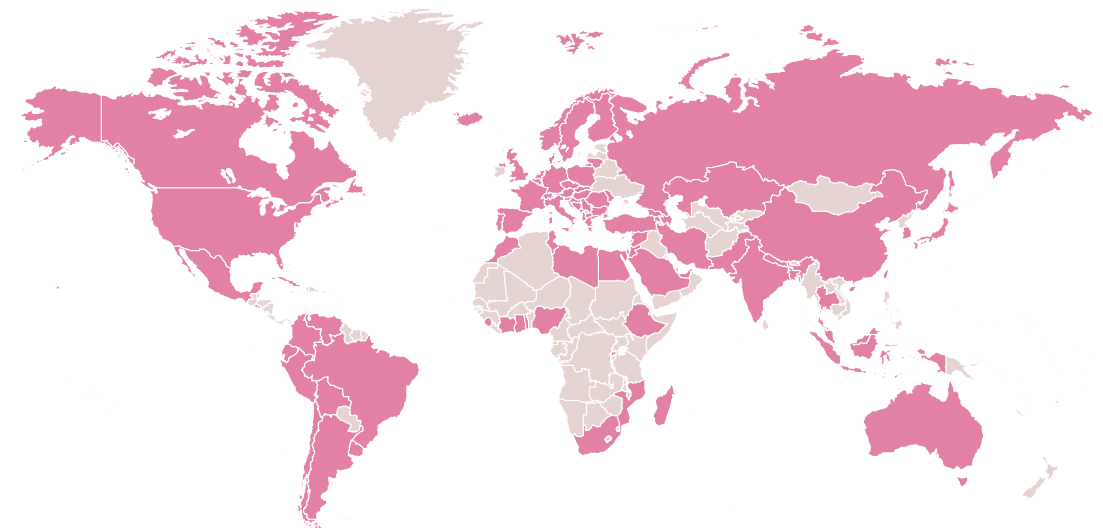
**27**

**Number of Alumni**

**100,000**

**Alumni worldwide**

**90+ COUNTRIES**



# Fundraising

The data present the performance of the fundraising initiatives of the University and the Fondazione with particular reference to the period October 2015 — July 2020.

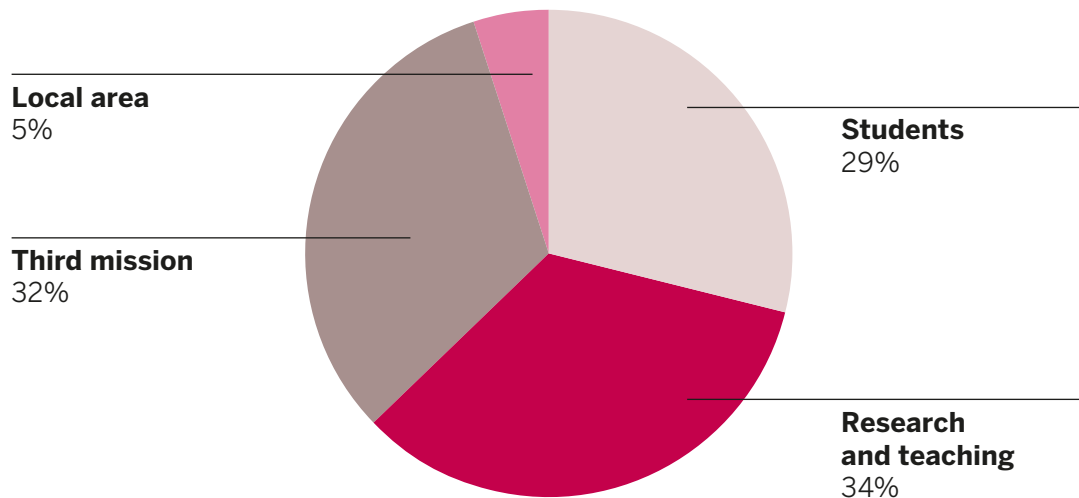
**Funds raised progressively during the period 2015-2020**



**Total contribution in euros**

**13,826,690.13 euro**

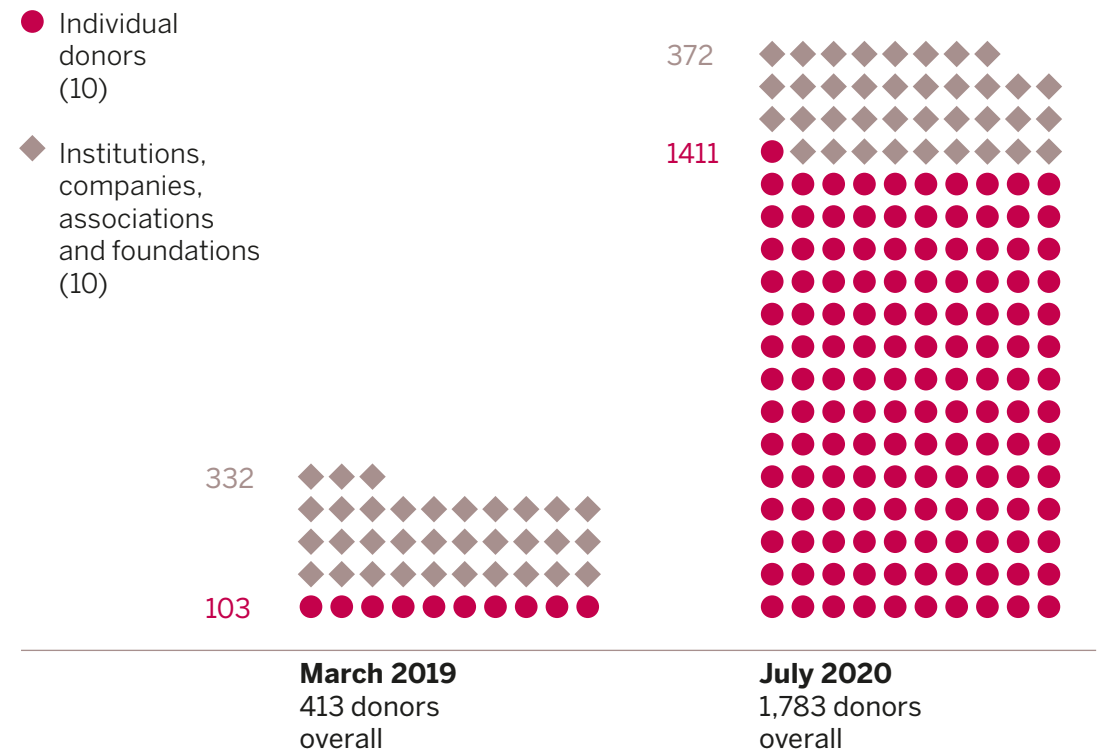
**Distribution of funds raised 2015-2020**



**Fundraising Committee**

To ensure transparency in how the collected resources are used, and to properly assess the funding sources, since 2018, the University has established a fundraising committee. Its members are Rector Michele Bugliesi, Vice-Rector Tiziana Lippiello, a member of the Academic Senate, Stefano Campostrini, a member of the Board of Directors, Guido Vicario, and the coordinator of fundraising activities within the Development Office, Beatrice Mezzogori

**Donors: number and type**



## For the local area and community

→ San Servolo Island flooded by the high water

## The Venice emergency campaign

In November 2019, Ca' Foscari University too was struck by the exceptionally high water that caused the city, its inhabitants and institutions a great deal of damage and distress. The University took action from the outset by promoting a fundraising campaign just a few days after the flood to support Venice, its priceless cultural heritage, citizens, and consequently to support its students and their future.

The campaign for the emergency in Venice reached its goal of collecting over 52,000 euros from 1,130 donations. Among the numerous donors were students, lecturers, and the technical administrative staff of Ca' Foscari, over 350 alumni of the University and the Ca' Foscari Alumni Association. The contributing companies included EsoSphera, Sica and Master Italia.

After the collection, the institutions participating in the Venetian District of Research and Innovation (DVRI), which is made up of 17 Venetian cultural institutions, were asked to inform the University of their needs.

Among the requests for contributions, the "Commission for assigning the funds raised for the Venice Emergency" of the University, composed of Prof. Giovannella Cresci, Prof. Giuseppe Barbieri and Prof. Stefano Campostrini, decided to allocate:

- 15,000 euro to the "Benedetto Marcello" Conservatory in Venice to cover a project of digitisation, cataloguing and restoration of documents damaged by the exceptional high water of a restoration objective that also includes a new room in the Museum of Ancient Instruments which will be used as a permanent exhibition of the most precious volumes and manuscripts;
- 25,000 euro to the Fondazione Querini Stampalia to replace the shelving damaged by the exceptional high water.

In addition to the 40,000 euros collected to support the city, another 12,000 euros were collected by the [SOS International College campaign](#) launched by Ca' Foscari on the initiative of the students of the College located on the island of San Servolo. The extraordinary high water took a destructive toll also on San Servolo Island, which hosts students from all over the world selected on merit. The College was submerged for several days by the high water, which also cut off its connections with Venice, and suffered major damage especially to its doors, windows and numerous rooms on the main ground floor, including the students' reading room. The student community managed the emergency by sharing areas and food with other people who were stranded, keeping connections with the city open through the internet.

The 12,000 euros collected by crowd funding were used to renovate the communal student areas of the College, with ongoing works. In particular, the area most affected by the flooding was the Reading Room, but so were also other communal areas such as the Common Room and the storage room, which will have to undergo further renovations.

*"With the Venice emergency campaign — explains [Michele Bugliesi](#), Rector of Venice's Ca' Foscari University — we wanted to play an active part in helping the city and restoring its artistic and cultural heritage after the severe damage caused by last November's high water. I am grateful to all those — our community (lecturers, technical-administrative staff, and students), companies, Alumni, and partner foreign universities — who with their donations have joined with Ca' Foscari to come to the city's rescue at such a difficult time."*



*"The contributions donated are invaluable to us to the progress of restoring and digitising the books that were damaged by the devastating high water of 12 November last. The spirit of cooperation, solidarity and affinity among the most prestigious cultural and educational institutions in Venice is borne out also by these instances, which transcend the already fruitfully-established academic relationships, and which lead me to think of a wider participation and commitment. We are truly grateful for the generous gesture of the Ca' Foscari University of Venice."*  
— [Giovanni Giol, President, "Benedetto Marcello" Conservatory, Venice](#)



*"The attention that Ca' Foscari University has afforded to the Fondazione Querini Stampalia after the emergency of the exceptional high water on 12 November last year is very gratifying as it acknowledges the value of our institution, deeply rooted in the fabric and culture of Venice and beyond, and its Library. Always a place of dialogue and training, open to the new generations, the Querini Stampalia is also a daily point of reference for the university's students. In addition to financial support, it gives concrete evidence of the highest sense of networking: that ability to bring together resources, people and knowledge to achieve common goals such as the development of knowledge, research and innovation."*  
— [Paolo Molesini, President, Fondazione Querini Stampalia and Ca' Foscari Career Alumnus Award, 2018](#)

## Master Italia for the International College

For Ca' Foscari Forward 2019, the event that awards the Career Alumnus and the Alumnus of the Year awards, [Master Italia](#), a former supporter of the Ca' Foscari Alumni Association, donated 5,000 euros to renovate areas of the Ca' Foscari International College that were damaged by the floods of 12 November. During the event, Alessandro Colle Tiz, President of Master Italia S.p.A., joined the fundraising campaign set up by the Ca' Foscari Alumni Association, and handed over the cheque to the students and to the Director of the International College, Prof. Marco Li Calzi.

*"Master Italia was established 25 years ago in San Donà di Piave, and has always believed in the strength of its roots and the positive interaction with its local area. Today we are present internationally with the Atlantis brand. For us, being a benchmark company of Italian excellence around the world means supporting young people and stimulating education and training to enhance the awareness of Italian know-how of which we are proud. It's due to this geographical closeness but, most of all, to our outlook for the new generations that we found it came naturally to us to provide support to Ca' Foscari, which has one of Europe's best business schools and a university campus that reflects the great history of its city, a genuine melting pot for cultural research, ideas and creativity.*

*Aware of the ongoing climate emergency, we are sensitive to our local area and community. For the last couple of years, we have also embarked along the journey of corporate sustainability. After the*

*extraordinary flood last November, instead of the usual Christmas gift for our customers, the love that binds us to the city of Venice and the friendship with the University and its students, drove us to raise funds towards the restoration of the buildings on the island of San Servolo, home of the Ca' Foscari International College, so that the students may return to a normal situation as soon as possible. The natural choice for us was appreciated and supported by all our partners around the world.*

*It was both a pleasure and an honour to hand over our donation directly to some of the students at the International College. I was touched to see gratitude in their eyes, and a rekindled trust to continue in their studies. With my own daughter currently a Ca' Foscari student, I felt proud of this institution and also of being able to contribute through my company. Laying the blocks for the future of young people means creating the blocks for building a better future for us all." — [Alessandro Colle Tiz, President, Master Italia](#)*



## Venice Emergency: the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta, Torcello Island

A new piece of Venice's immense artistic heritage will shine again thanks to the support of [Intesa Sanpaolo](#), [Leonardo](#) and [Snam](#) who have contributed to the study and implementation of a conservation project using innovative techniques of an important tombstone in the Church of Santa Maria Assunta on Torcello island that was severely damaged during the flood water.

The initiative was proposed by [Ambassador Raffaele Trombetta](#) as part of the preparation of the twenty-fifth edition of the Venice Seminar organised yearly by the Italian Embassy in London, and hosted by Ca' Foscari for several editions as a contribution to the city on this significant anniversary to bolster its capacity to defend its monuments from the effects of high water.

*Ca' Foscari is pleased and honoured to offer its technical and scientific expertise to safeguard the artistic heritage of Venice, a priceless treasure to preserve and protect" — [Michele Bugliesi, Rector](#)*



The stone identified for the application of innovative techniques developed by the project curated by Ca' Foscari is the important tombstone of Bishop Paolo d'Altino placed at the foot of the high altar in the Cathedral of Santa Maria Assunta on Torcello island.

The tombstone is constantly subjected to the action of salts found in the brackish lagoon water rising through the pavement, exacerbated by the November 2019 floods, which caused the stone's state of conservation to turn particularly critical.

The restoration of this important historical heritage item requires new methods and materials to be developed that are compatible with both the stone itself and the particular environment where it is found, and therefore able to ensure lasting effectiveness.

### A musical marathon for *Acqua Granda* in aid of Venice's craftsmen and women

*Laguna Libre* in Venice, *Al Vapore* in Marghera, *The Wishing Wells* in Treviso e *l'Osteria Plip* in Mestre are the venues that took part in the music marathon to support the charity initiative *Acqua Granda 187 #helpingvenice*. The donations collected during the events in the area with a musical theme were donated to the fund *Emergenza Venezia* set up by Ca' Foscari University, which then handed over the contributions to the solidarity fund promoted by Confartigianato Venezia S. Lio. The total contributions collected by Confartigianato were redistributed among 40 craftspeople who were sorely affected by the 12 November high water.

### Also the Ca' Foscari Students among the "high-water angels"

During the days of serious emergency for Venice, many Ca' Foscari students also made themselves available to help the city and its citizens by rolling up their sleeves to help residents in need.

*"Thank you all for this lesson in civility and the love you show to your university and the city that welcomes you. It is for you, who live in and love Venice, and to ensure that your dreams become concrete prospects, that we must work — all of us — to give our city a future."*  
— [Michele Bugliesi, Rector](#)



→ Ca' Foscari  
International College,  
San Servolo Island



# For the local area and community

→ San Giobbe  
Economic  
Campus

## The campaign to support students following Covid-19

Due to the Coronavirus emergency, many university students were faced with a new emergency: not having the financial resources for their studies and university. Ca' Foscari sought to remedy this by creating an ad hoc emergency fund to support students and their families who have suffered financial loss and are in difficulty, with the aim of giving them concrete help and implemented immediately while also launching a crowdfunding campaign.

The campaign immediately found support from the Ca' Foscari community, which donated about 5,000 euros to immediately provide the first scholarships. Promptly siding with the community and providing significant contributions were: [Emanuela Barilla](#), [il Cav. Pier Giorgio Coin](#) and the companies [PAM Panorama](#), [Master Italia](#), [OTB](#), [Crédit Agricole FriulAdria](#) and [Fondazione Coin](#).

Some 200 applications for scholarships were received during the first period when it was possible to apply for this type of support and all the approved applications were funded through a fundraising campaign that multiplied the € 500,000 investment made available by the University itself.

*The Rector: "I hope that this contribution will be of help to families in need. At the same time as our allocation, we launched a fundraising campaign to increase the capacity to reach the largest number of students and families. As mentioned, I feel sure that the issue of student contributions can only be addressed centrally, as in fact has been the case with a major intervention, which I hope will be effective from the next academic year. However, the extraordinary nature of the situation cannot fail to require extraordinary action on our part as well."*

# For students

UNIVERSITÀ CA' FOSCARI



→ Students  
at the entrance gate  
of Ca' Foscari

## Giving opportunities to merit and investing in further education to create social value

Ca' Foscari has always been committed to offering young people the tools for making informed choices about entering the jobs market with enough preparation, to training future researchers to uphold Italy's high cultural-scientific contribution, and last but not least, to helping create a society that is well-informed, active and ready to take up the challenges of today and tomorrow. To reach these ambitious goals, Ca' Foscari has ensured talented students an unhindered education, favouring as much as possible all the opportunities that may arise, through a series of scholarships and merit-based grants, in addition to those provided by Ca' Foscari.

## The “Fondazione Coin” merit awards

The Fondazione Coin was established in 1966 by the will of Alfonso Coin, Order of Merit for Labour and entrepreneur, to encourage and support the education of young talents in the fields of economics, business organisation, research and advanced technology.

The awards given annually by the [Fondazione Coin](#) are given in cash to the three best students of the first year of each three-year course in economics (Business Administration, Export Trade, Economics and Business and Digital Management) according to a merit indicator calculated with on both average marks and the number of training credits earned. The awards are presented at the Inauguration of the Academic Year. In 2019, 12 prizes were awarded for a total of 12,000 euros to: Oleksii Chepil, Marco Boso, Aurora Colle Wincler, Tommaso Conte, Cecilia Giunta, Marta Gnata, Michele Olmi, Rachele Povelato, Alberto Roncato, Giovanni Scattolin, Arianna Sutto, and Greta Zaramella.



## Crédit Agricole FriulAdria in support of female-student empowerment and sporting talent

The Lion Cup, an international university dragon boat competition, took place on 25 May in Venice. Now in its fourth edition, it is organised by the Universities of Ca' Foscari and IUAV (architecture) with the collaboration of CUS Venezia (sport) and the contribution of [Crédit Agricole FriulAdria](#).

The initiative aims at promoting this water sport at university level to encourage teamwork and exchange — both sporting and non — between the different universities. It was attended by student teams from the universities of Venice, Padua, Vienna, Insubria, Trento and Bari. The races were held on boats with mixed crews consisting of 5 men and 5 women along courses of 200 and 400 metres. The magnificent Grand Canal served as the race course with the finishing line at Ca' Foscari. The Venice team won the competition, followed by Padua, with Vienna in third place.



“[Crédit Agricole FriulAdria](#) also supported the initiatives of [LEI](#) — *Center for women's leadership*, the University project that works on issues of women's employability and promotes female leadership in the professional sphere.

In particular, thanks to the contribution collected, the project for the University magazine [LEI](#), was finalised. This four-monthly magazine aims to promote reflection on the themes of female employability and inclusiveness in the world of work both within the Ca' Foscari community and beyond, in dialogue with the network of companies and stakeholders that collaborate with the Career Service.

Lady professionals are also the key figures of the series of interviews entitled “Impronte” (footprints), dedicated to female talents who have achieved important professional goals in the worlds of economics, culture and communication. The interviews, conducted by journalists and Ca' Foscari lecturers, aimed at bringing to the fore the marks left by each of the figures in their own journeys so that they may inspire students who are keen to pursue careers in the same field.

The events, held remotely, were attended by over 300 people.

## Developing IT talents

Computer science and ‘*computational thinking*’ have become essential parts of today's society. Increasingly more local, national and international companies are seeking specialised personnel in these fields, and often the demands of manufacturing sectors are not met by higher education due to the lack of graduates in these disciplines. The Degree Course in Computer Science at Ca' Foscari sets out to redress this gap by organising a Summer School on Advanced Algorithms to raise awareness about IT among the most promising students of upper secondary schools. [Lauree Scientifiche PLS Informatica Project](#), [Confartigianato Vicenza](#), [Pricewaterhousecoopers \(PwC\) Advisory S.p.A.](#), and [Venice International University](#) supported the Summer School, which was held from 29 July to 2 August 2019 on San Servolo Island, which allowed selected secondary school students from Veneto to stay on the island and attend the course for free.

Ca' Foscari also encourages its students to participate in several international programming contests as a lever to introduce advanced topics, and to encourage them to taking the master's or doctoral degree. We would like [Deloitte](#) for funding the [Project Competitive Programming@Ca' Foscari](#) by covering the scholarships for a selected group of students who, in 2019, took part in the international contest *Southwestern Europe Regional Contest (SWERC)* in Paris.

*"Deloitte has always cooperated with the leading Universities and Schools of Specialisation throughout the area. Thanks to Ca' Foscari, in the past few years we have participated in several programmes and scholarships for deserving students, because we believe in merit, diversity of thought and the uniqueness of people. This year we have also chosen to support the project Competitive Programming@ Ca' Foscari to allow the selected team of students to participate in the European competition, offering them the opportunity to express their talents and pursue their dreams of reaching the international final. We invest in future leaders who share our same passion so that they can, like us, leave a distinctive mark and an "Impact That Matters."*

— [Sabrina Piazzolla, Sourcing & Employer Branding Senior Specialist, Deloitte](#)

In 2020, thanks also to the sponsorship of [Nutanix](#) to cover the scholarships, Ca' Foscari also took part in the project *CyberChallenge.IT*, a training programme for young talents that aims to significantly reduce the current workforce shortage in the IT field, acting as the main Italian initiative to identify, attract, recruit and place the next generation of IT security professionals.

*"Nutanix is very proud to cooperate with Venice's prestigious Ca' Foscari University on the CyberChallenge.IT project. I think it's important to have a direct dialogue with today's young people, who will be the IT professionals of tomorrow. Giving students the opportunity to be directly in contact with the real business helps to stimulate their interest in technical-scientific subjects, and to tackle and enhance their professional training in a way that fosters talent and enthusiasm."*

— [Alberto Filisetti, Country Manager, Nutanix Italia](#)



### **Fondazione Emilio e Annabianca Vedova for climate research and the support of young talents**

In memory of Emilio Vedova, an artist who was sensitive and attentive to all situations of crisis and conflicts that have shaken the world and torn society apart, including wars and climatic emergencies, which are highly topical today, the [Fondazione Emilio e Annabianca Vedova](#) has decided to cooperate with Ca' Foscari University of Venice so that some of the best students have the opportunity to take advantage — for three years from the academic year 2020-21 —

of a scholarship abroad to conduct a research programme on the effects of climate change in the world.

*"Emilio Vedova's entire works are a sort of almost desperate cry that bears witness to the struggle between good and evil, in a continuous conflict of situations, interpreted as an inscrutable grid that imprisons the World as summed up in the famous work: Tondo del '91 Golfo. Mappa di Guerra."*

— [Alfredo Bianchini, President, Fondazione Vedova](#)

The donation will make it possible to provide one senior scholarship per year for doctoral students and two junior scholarships for Master's students. By the end of the year, the University will launch a call for PhD and Master's students who will be selected on the basis of their thesis or doctoral project; the winners will have the opportunity to spend a period of study at the Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, with which the University has an ongoing partnership to jointly develop research projects on environmental issues, such as the rise in sea levels and the effects of climate change on marine-coastal systems.

### **BNP Paribas for sustainability**

[BNP Paribas](#) shares with Ca' Foscari a focus on sustainability as a key factor in ensuring a sustainable future for our planet and mankind. It has therefore chosen to support several partial scholarships for participation in Ca' Foscari International College, in particular for those students who will choose the minor in Sustainability, and to promote a Hackathon to promote new ideas for sustainability through innovative teaching.

### **Additional learning abroad to nurture Italy: Fondazione Zegna awards prize to Ca' Foscari student**

Through its Scholarship programme, since 2014 the Ermenegildo Zegna Group has committed to donating 25 million euros over 25 years to support young Italian talents in their studies abroad. The seventh edition of the Ermenegildo Zegna Founder's Scholarship project awarded a total of 42 scholarships to young students from 15 Italian Universities, among whom a female student from the Ca' Foscari International College, Clara Cuonzo.

The programme aims not only to provide students the opportunity to expand their knowledge in the chosen fields, but also to pursue a path of personal growth with the aim of forming future leaders who will play active roles in the cultural and social progress of our country.



Clara Cuonzo, from Abruzzo, received her College Diploma with a minor in Global Asian Studies, her Bachelor's Degree in History at Ca' Foscari, and her Master's Degree in Linguistics at Cambridge. Fondazione Zegna will contribute to her PhD programme at the University of Maryland, where she intends to specialise in heritage languages such as the languages of migrants or Italian dialects, acquired marginally in family contexts subordinated to the use of another dominant language.

*"Safeguarding these languages, which are often subjected to the domination of a few dominant international languages, is essential to preserve their capacity to describe their local area and sustainable production methods, as is borne out by the Venetian terms of barena or bricola, which have been used since the time of the Serenissima Republic." — Clara Cuonzo*

### **Assoreti together with Ca' Foscari to enhance training of financial advisors**

Assoreti, the Association of Investment Advisory Companies, chaired by 2018 Career Alumnus, Paolo Molesini, started a collaboration in 2020 with Ca' Foscari aimed at running a study course that contributes to better prepare people to become professional financial advisors for banks and investment firms. In this context, Assoreti has set up annual scholarships for the most deserving students with degree courses dedicated to the profession.

### **Ca' Foscari Challenge School, a network of partners for providing scholarships and placements**

Ca' Foscari Challenge School is the University's unit that develops and delivers post-graduate education: Level I and II Master's courses, and courses of Higher Education. The training provided is divided into four different 'Schools' (Environment, Humanities, Government, and Management) and allows students to choose between several executive and corporate courses as well as post-graduate courses. One of the strengths of the Ca' Foscari Challenge School master's programmes is the attention paid to the placement process achieved thanks to the continuous and careful development of the network of partner organisations and companies that finance the scholarships by covering the tuition fees and offering competitive internships that prove excellent stepping stones for the younger students.

In 2019, new cooperations with important partners were launched to start new Master's courses such as the new Master's in Mobility Innovation and Management (MIMA), the result of the partnership between the University with its Center for Automotive and Mobility Innovation (Cami) and the Volkswagen Group Italia as main sponsor.

The master's is a highly specialised study course for training up new professionals to function as links and thereby integrate different skills: economics and managerial skills are flanked by the development of skills in urban planning and the planning and development of sustainable systems.

With reference to the Master's programme, the Managing Director of Volkswagen Group Italia, Massimo Nordio, explains:

*"The transformation of our Group is not limited to making electrically-driven models, autonomous driving, and to developing digital services. Rather, it takes in an all-embracing change reflected in all our daily activities. Investing in training is one of the strands of our strategy, and it is important for us to be a partner of Ca' Foscari University of Venice for this project, the first of its kind.[...] The concept of mobility is rapidly evolving and it is clear that to manage business, the managerial approach typical of the 'traditional' automotive sector will no longer be enough. The future requires a much broader vision, a propensity for rapid change — especially in the light of the current post-COVID-19 situation — and cross-disciplinary skills."*

The Master's course in Luxury, Client Advisor and Retail Excellence, with its second edition in 2019, stemmed from the collaboration with the LVMH Institute of Crafts of Excellence (IME).

Created in France in 2014, the LVMH Institute of Crafts of Excellence offers a professional training programme aimed at ensuring that the LVMH Group passes on its exclusive savoir-faire in the crafts of craftsmanship, creation and sales to the next generations in order to promote employment. The Institute was set up as a result of the LVMH Group's human resources philosophy of developing emerging talents and recognising their skills and know-how by promoting a corporate social responsibility approach.

The sharing of this goal led to setting up a partnership with Ca' Foscari University and Ca' Foscari Challenge School, and to launching the Master's course in Luxury, Client Advisor & Retail Excellence. For the institutions involved, the goal is to ensure a new generation of professionals in the sector of luxury product sales. The Master's programme provides a unique learning opportunity to specialise in selling luxury products, and it expertly combines the academic research of Ca' Foscari with the know-how of the best professionals in the luxury sector.

The partnership with LVMH has made it possible to cover all the scholarships and the offer of internships of one of the boutiques of the LVMH group partners of the IME: Bulgari, Celine, Christian Dior, DFS, Fendi, Loro Piana, Louis Vuitton, and Sephora.

The Master's course in Fine Arts in Film making was created with the aim of training professionals to carry out film-making and other forms of dissemination in the field of cinema and multimedia (advertising, music clips, video art, multimedia archives). The students of the master's course benefited from scholarships offered by [NH Hotel Rionovo](#) to create film-making.



→ Graduates of the Master's course in Luxury, Client Advisor and Retail Excellence

# For high-impact research and teaching excellence

→ Archaeological excavations on the Island of Torcello

## Attracting talent and guaranteeing quality higher education

Ca' Foscari's primary goal is that of quality. We live in an era of intensive exchanges with other countries in terms of work and education, and with incredible choice opportunities worldwide. Ca' Foscari does its utmost to ensure excellence and to maintain highly competitive levels.

The quality of its educational services is the heart of Ca' Foscari. Teaching services always updated to the new needs of the jobs market and teaching staff of the highest level, make this University a guarantee for both Italian and foreign students.

### Professorship funded by the North Adriatic Port Authority

The International Management course 2018-2023 is named after the Northern Adriatic Port Authority of Venice and Chioggia as part of the memorandum of understanding to create, at Ca' Foscari, the Centre Study of Economics and Management of the Port. The Centre conducts joint research and training of new professional figures and new entrepreneurship in the maritime-port and logistics sector. The research themes the Centre carries out in particular are in the fields of economics, management, law and international relations related to maritime-port activities, and the impact of ports on the economic and environmental plan, fields in which the funded course assigned to Prof. Stefano Micelli is also included.

### Professorships supported by H-Farm

Since 2017, H-Farm has been supporting the teachings of the Bachelor of Science in Digital Management, an innovative programme to train specialists in digital transformation. The programme is taught entirely in English and is based on interdisciplinary problem-solving skills and teamwork. The course promotes the development of concrete projects in partnership with the H-Farm business network. The lecturers assigned to the funded courses for the 2017-2021 period are Prof. Elisa Barbieri, Prof. Andreas Hinterhuber and Prof. Leonardo Maccari.

### Research grants supported by the Humanities and Social Change International Foundation

The International Center for the Humanities and Social Change (ICHSC) was established in 2017 thanks to the generous support of Erck Rickmers, Chairman of the Humanities and Social Change International Foundation. It aims to create and develop an interdisciplinary research programme in the humanities and social sciences, and to establish relationships with other fields of art, science, and technology, as well as with experts in labour, media and information, policy, and other stakeholders. Twelve researchers, research fellows and PhD students work in the centre on as many interdisciplinary projects of various durations, funded in the period 2017-2021.

Four temporary researchers are funded:

- Francesco Della Puppa, Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage, Social Innovation by Means of Artistic Media for Addressing Cultural Diversity: Coping with the Challenges of Young, Second-Generation Immigrants Starting from the Educational System;
- Luigi Doria, Department of Comparative Linguistic and Cultural Studies: The Nature of Money and its Social Perception in Times of Crisis;
- Andrea Drocco, the Department of Asian and African Studies: Mediterranean, Language Rhetoric and Linguistic Strategies of Religious Intolerant Discourses: the Case of South Asia;
- Fabiana Zollo, Department of Environmental Sciences, Computer Science and Statistics: A Quantitative Analysis of Intolerance and Polarisation.

*"In the face of the growing social and political challenges we face around the world, I would like to give the humanities greater influence in public debate. Today the influence of economics seems to be predominant, but we need a more holistic approach to solving contemporary global problems. Spending a lot of time in Venice, I am happy to support this cultural capital city and its renowned Ca' Foscari University." — Erck Rickmers, Chairman of the Humanities and Social Change International Foundation*





## “Guido Cazzavillan” Fellowship Grants

The [Cazzavillan family](#), through [Mobiliare Veneta S.p.A.](#) (owner of the San Marco Hotels Group) has established and runs two scholarships and research grants for Italian talents named in memory of Guido Cazzavillan, an influential intellectual and creative scholar in the field of economic theory, who passed away in 2014 at the age of just 51:

- an annual research fellowship for economists on the topic of strategies to overcome inequality and poverty, with a focus on developing countries;
- an annual scholarship for master's degree students for a PhD in the field of economic theory and analysis at a leading foreign university.

Luca Gagliardone and Sara Tonini were the winners of the 2019 “Guido Cazzavillan Fellowships”.

Thanks to the grant, Gagliardone, a Bocconi University graduate, will be able to pursue his doctorate in economics in the United States. *“After receiving a rejection for a PhD, everything was reset; but then I decided to try again. This grant gives me the opportunity to continue my studies — said Luca Gagliardone on receiving the award. — This fellowship triggers positive competitive dynamics among us young researchers, and represents the open and meritocratic side of the Italian university system as being a university system that we like, and one we would like to be a part of into the future.”*

Sara Tonini was awarded a grant to carry out a research project at the University of Cape Town, South Africa, to develop and assess technological solutions to help bring young people out of social exclusion. *“It’s a great honour and a big responsibility — commented Sara — I feel the responsibility to prove that I am worthy of this fellowship grant and of following the path of Professor Cazzavillan. While I will not achieve his heights, he will be my source of inspiration.”*



## Research grant in memory of Carlo Giannini

The research grant in memory of Carlo Giannini is awarded to develop advanced research in econometrics with the support of the [Carlo Giannini Association](#), [Unicredit Foundation](#), the [Bank of Italy](#) and the [Inter-university Centre for Econometrics](#). Dario Palumbo was the recipient of the grant for 2019.

From the University of Cambridge, where he has just completed his PhD, Dario Palumbo returns to Italy thanks to the prestigious “Carlo Giannini” fellowship in Econometrics launched by the Carlo Giannini Association. Dario has chosen the Department of Economics of Ca' Foscari for his two-year post-doctoral research.

## Premio “Top-Up Foscolo Europe Fellowship” and “Marco Fanno Fellowship” awards of the UniCredit Foundation

The Top-Up award consists of a grant to supplement the remuneration offered by the winning European universities to the researcher selected in the economists' job market.

The main objective of the fellowship is to attract to Europe the best young economists currently working abroad. So returning to Italy from the London School of Economics is Marco Di Cataldo, the talent selected by Ca' Foscari as part of the UniCredit Foundation's “Top-up Foscolo Europe Fellowship”.

Thirty-two-year-old Marco Di Cataldo graduated at Bologna and earned his doctorate at the London School of Economics. In the last two years, he has been working in London in

the team of a project funded by the European Research Council. In September, he took office in Venice as a post-doctoral researcher in Applied Economics.

*“Da veneziano sono fermamente convinto che Ca' Foscari rappresenti un valore fondamentale per la città. Per mantenere Venezia un ambiente cittadino vivo non si può prescindere dalle sue università. In particolare, il Dipartimento d'eccellenza di Economia di Ca' Foscari è una realtà che merita di essere tutelata e valorizzata. Sono felice di poter contribuire, nel mio piccolo, alla crescita di questa istituzione.”*  
— [Marco Di Cataldo](#)

*“We have already been recruiting our junior researchers for four years on the international jobs market — explains Monica Billio, Director of the Department of Economics at Ca' Foscari — and the top-up funded by UniCredit Foundation has finally allowed us to bring the financial offer into line with those of the best universities in Europe and the USA. Specifically, the Top-Up selection process was of great interest to all, with over 350 applications received, and it provides a growth opportunity for the department too.”*

Maurizio Beretta, Chairman of UniCredit Foundation, underlines: *“UniCredit Foundation's commitment to attracting top scholars in economic-financial research in 2019 has doubled, with 4 homecomings of young economists who were working abroad, thus confirming our goal to raise the level of academic training provided in the countries where our Bank operates. Ca' Foscari University's Department of*

*Economics has been selected from a large panel of candidates from the most prestigious universities of the 14 countries in which UniCredit operates, and was awarded for its solidity and the credibility of the project presented."*

In 2020, the Department of Economics also received one of the two Marco Fanno Fellowships for the best departments in economics or finance of Italian state universities, to support, with an additional donation, the positions of B-type fixed-term researchers. The position selection process was completed by the summer of 2020.



### **Participatory archaeology through crowdfunding: every donation can make a difference**

The first crowdfunding projects at Ca' Foscari were launched in February 2019 with an initial set of six diverse projects having a strong social and cultural value. Together, they represent the richness and diversity of the University: from teaching and research through to public engagement, with a strong international vocation and a strong focus on social inclusion issues. The projects have included, in particular, the restoration of the inner courtyard of the Ca' Bottacin,

which has recently been completed, the archaeological digs on the island of Torcello, the sensory platform for deaf people, the Ice Memory research project, which takes ice samples from melting glaciers in order to preserve the DNA of our planet, the Kids University Venice and, lastly, a scholarship for a student to attend the Amharic language course, the 41<sup>st</sup> language taught at Ca' Foscari.

### **To the origins of Venice. The island of Torcello: a heritage to safeguard**

Of the islands in the Venetian lagoon, Torcello was one of the first to be inhabited, even before Venice itself was founded. Torcello is the Late Ancient-Early Medieval port of the lagoon area, and studying its archaeology offers a unique opportunity to discover how the future Serenissima was established.

Torcello is therefore a historical heritage that must be safeguarded, which is why Ca' Foscari University, together with the Municipality of Venice, has launched a project of shared and participatory archaeology called "Torcello Abitata". The project involves researchers and scholars from all over the world, who rediscover the history and cosmopolitan nature of the town, with the aim of conducting digs that will bring to light the findings preserved in the extraordinary archaeological context of the northern part of the lagoon. During the research, archaeologists take the public inside the site to discover the life of the ancient Venetians, collecting data on building techniques, the environment, culture and eating habits.



→ Event of the shared archaeology project "Torcello Abitata"

# The third mission



→ Art Night Venice 2018

## The university actively participates in the life of local society

Ca' Foscari encourages and promotes third-mission initiatives by actively contributing to the life of society in many ways, with events that provide important social and cultural effects.

Ca' Foscari's cultural output leads to an average of 250 events per year, attracting over 50,000 participants and visitors. The exclusive venues of Ca' Foscari, its gardens and courtyards host exhibitions, events and conferences to create highly engaging experiences in such a unique location as is Venice, a meeting point for cultures, perspectives and people.

### The Center for the Humanities and Social Change: partner for a major artistic event

Edmund de Waal, world-famous English artist and writer, has chosen Ca' Foscari and its Center for the Humanities and Social Change to organise the rich cultural programme accompanying the exhibition *Psalm*. Supported by the Gagosian Gallery, the exhibition was held in Venice from 8 May to 29 September 2019 and then continued to Dresden and the British Museum in London.

At the Ateneo Veneto, de Waal created the "Library of Exile", a temporary structure covered in liquid porcelain applied onto gold leaf, housing a collection of small ceramics and almost 2,000 volumes by authors who have experienced exile, from Ovid to the present day. At the end of the exhibition, the collection of the Exile Library was donated to the National Library of Iraq in Mosul.

The cultural programme linked to the themes of the exhibition (exile, the persecution of writers, the importance of words) from May to September included a series of readings, performances, conferences, seminars, concerts and other events in the exhibition spaces and at the headquarters of the Center for the Humanities and Social Change at Ca' Bottacin, in the presence of prestigious guests.

The programme was made possible thanks to the generous support of [The Blavatnik Family Foundation](#), [Debbi and Richard Burston](#), [Suzanne Deal Booth](#), [Maryam and Edward Eisler](#), and [The Prism Foundation](#) and was supported by Beit Venezia and the Venice Center for International Jewish Studies.



### Intesa Sanpaolo joins forces with Ca' Foscari to promote Russian art

[Intesa Sanpaolo](#), which has always had an interest in the field of Russian art as the owner of one of the most important collections of Russian icons in the West, has found in Ca' Foscari and its Centre of Studies of Russian Arts (CSAR) an ideal partner to jointly promote research activities and the appreciation and dissemination of the extraordinary cultural heritage that Russia has developed over history.

Intesa Sanpaolo's contribution in 2019 went to support not only teaching and research activities, but also to staging two major art exhibitions:

- "Gely Korzhev. Back to Venice" (10 May — 3 November 2019) held in Venice at the Ca' Foscari Exhibition Spaces, curated by Faina Balachovskaja, Giuseppe Barbieri, Silvia Burini and Nadezhda Stepanova. Gely Korzhev (1925-2012), one of the most eminent figures on the painting scene, first Soviet and then Russian, of the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, has thus returned to Venice with a substantial and significant sequence of works, 57 years after his participation in the 31st edition of the Biennale.
- "Kandinsky, Gončarova, Chagall. Sacred and beauty in Russian art" (5 October 2019 — 26 January 2020) held in Vicenza at the Gallerie d'Italia — Palazzo Leoni Montanari, Intesa Sanpaolo's museum venue. The exhibition celebrated twenty years of work at the Vicenza museum centre and gave a new perspective to the extraordinary collection of ancient Russian icons, one of the most important in the West that are part of the Bank's artistic heritage.
- The exhibition explored the dialogue between icons, late 19<sup>th</sup> century art movements and the avant-garde which, just over a century ago, contributed to profoundly shaping Russia's contribution to international contemporary art.

As well as the partnership with Intesa Sanpaolo, the Centre of Studies of Russian Arts has also signed a three-year agreement with the [Lepercq Charitable Foundation](#), which will support the educational workshop C'arte Lab in the University's exhibition spaces, making it a permanent feature in relation to exhibitions and other events of particular importance, such as "Incroci di civiltà" and "Art Night", establishing procedures and achieving results to be made available to other initiatives in the city, networking with other institutions, with a particular focus on making the training and development of the experience of Cultural Mediators more organic and systemic, and promoting further professional figures in the fields of history and art, such as registrars, project managers, multimedia archivists, designers and developers of multimedia content.

In 2019, also [The Russian Art Newspaper](#), [The Kroll Family Trust](#) and [DMP Kultura](#) contributed to the activities of the CSAR.



### Science Gallery Venice: a space of engagement between the local community and the best talents from the worlds of art and science

Science Gallery Venice, a third mission project born within Ca' Foscari University, is the Italian node of an international network of art and science galleries among universities.

This unique project in Italy is made possible thanks to the valuable support of the project partners: the [Venetian District for Research and Innovation \(DvRI\)](#), the [North Adriatic Port Authority](#) — which has also generously made available the space for the Gallery's future location — the [Fondazione di Venezia](#), [Intesa Sanpaolo](#) and [Ca' Foscari's Alumni Association](#).

During 2019, the contributions of our partners and some donors who have collaborated on specific projects, made it possible to hold a series of "firsts", with a rich programme of exhibitions, activities and events, aimed at involving the public in the great questions coming from encounters between art and science.

It was thanks to the shared support of the network of Venetian cultural institutions belonging to DVRI that it was possible to organise Science Gallery Venice's first pop-up exhibition entitled "Connected — Hello Machine". The exhibition and related events revolved around a "Hello Machine" by media-archaeologist Rachel Hanlon. Around the interactive work, hosted at CFZ, at M9, at the [Fondazione Querini Stampalia](#) at the [Biennale](#) during the children's carnival, several workshops were held by Ca' Foscari and other researchers that gave unique

opportunities to allow the public to actively take part in the debate on the theme of man-human and man-machine communication.

Also in 2019, the first winning artist of the 'Earth Water Sky' art residency was selected. Made possible thanks to the contribution of the [Martine et Didier Primat Foundation](#), the residency involves creating a work of art inspired by the efforts of Ca' Foscari researchers on the theme of the environment. The 2019 winner Emma Critchley worked with Professor Carlo Barbante's research team on the international project "Ice Memory", dedicated to the memory of glaciers.

2019 also witnessed for the first time a number of initiatives entirely dedicated to Young Voices, the non-formal education programme of Science Gallery Venice that actively involves young students from Ca' Foscari and the Accademia di Belle Arti di Venezia in conceiving and developing events and activities. During the year, with the contribution of our partners and in particular with the support of [Intesa Sanpaolo](#), the Young Voices of Science Gallery Venice were able to participate in international training events such as the Global Science Gallery Network Youth Symposium in London and the Erasmus+ exchange in Dublin, dedicated to co-creation, climate change and sustainability, active citizenship, diversity, accessibility and inclusion, as well as the importance of skills such as creativity, critical thinking and emotional resilience. In Venice, they instead took part in training sessions dedicated to podcasting and scientific communication.

May 2019 saw the opening of MENTAL RECYCLING, an interactive exhibition organised by Science Gallery Venice aimed at promoting socially responsible art and science projects inspired by the Ethical Art Manifesto, Arte Può (art can) whereby artists can have important effects on society by being advocates of ethical, social and human thoughts that can help to build a better world. MENTAL RECYCLING is a project promoted by the Movimento di Arte Etica and artantide.com Gallery.

Lastly, 2019 saw the organisation of another exhibition, this time dedicated to chemistry and held to mark the anniversary of the invention of the periodic table of elements: "Elements — Needed or nasty: your choice". With the involvement of leading sector companies of the area such as [BASF](#), [Allnex](#), [San Marco Group](#), [F/ART](#) and [Space World Air](#) and in collaboration with the Department of Molecular Sciences and Nanosystems, and the Venice Roll of Chemists and Physicists, it was possible to exhibit works of art, hold workshops for children, a photographic competition and an interactive itinerary for reflection how much the goodness or otherwise of chemical elements lies in the elements themselves or in the use made of them.

In 2020, the exhibition "ILLUSION: NOTHING IS AS IT SEEMS", first staged by Science Gallery Dublin in 2013, came to the Science Gallery Venice after travelling the world, and is reintroduced to the area with a belief "Illusions help us strengthen critical thinking". The exhibition was made possible thanks to the contribution of the Founding Partners of SGV, the partners [Vela S.p.A.](#), [the Municipality of Venice — Città in Festa](#), [EU BIVIUM project](#), and [Fondaco dei Tedeschi](#), with [Carpenè Malvolti](#) s opening sponsor.



*"At Science Gallery Venice, we believe that the most provocative and exciting ideas come about when people from different backgrounds and with different perspectives tackle a common challenge together. Our aim is to open the doors of university research, giving rise to a lively and effective exchange of ideas among academics, artists, scientists, designers, engineers, students and citizens so as to tackle the most urgent challenges from different perspectives." — [Neal Hartman](#), Director of Science Gallery Venice*

### Ftp Industrial brings Ca' Foscari "Cornucopia", an opportunity to reflect on environmental sustainability

An installation by American artist Christian Holstad, who created a work inspired by the theme of protecting the seas from pollution from plastic waste entitled *Consider you as a guest* (Cornucopia), backed by [FTP Industrial](#), azienda del gruppo a company of the CNH Industrial group, leader in the manufacture of industrial engines and main sponsor of the Italian Pavilion. *Consider yourself as a guest* (Cornucopia) was staged from 9 to 11 May 2019 on a raft on the Grand Canal in front of Ca' Giustinian dei Vescovi and in the University's courtyard from 12 May to 12 June 2019.

A cornucopia, an ancient symbol of good fortune and abundance, made entirely from plastic waste, provides an opportunity to reflect on the urgency of confronting the issue of river and sea pollution. The conventional meaning of this iconic image is thus overturned by the artist and acquires the unprecedented negative sense of "excess".

*Consider yourself as a guest* (Cornucopia) set out to raise public awareness in a clear and immediate way, literally "bringing to the surface" a very topical issue, not leaving it hidden in the depths of the sea.

The presentation of the work in the areas of Ca' Foscari University further confirms the project's ethical vocation. Since 2010, through Ca' Foscari's "sustainability programme", the University has indeed been committed every year

to encouraging actions and behaviours that reduce the effects the University has on the environment and natural resources, and to promoting community well-being, social equity and economic development.



### The cultural productions of Ca' Foscari

Ca' Foscari and its Fondazione contribute to putting on over 200 cultural events in the fields of theatre, music, cinema, literature, art and sport, involving more than 50,000 visitors and participants per year. Among the main ones are Art Night, Incroci di Civiltà, Short Film Festival, MusicaFoscari, Teatro Cafoscari, Venetonight, which benefited from the sponsorship of Amundi, Anpal, Associazione Culturale Nina Vola, Bauer Hotel, Consorzio Concave, Grafiche Veneziane, Libreria Cafoscarina, Maliparmi, Neotech, Nevis, NH Hotel, Obag, S&P Global Market Intelligence, Pixartprinting and Venini.



→ Installation from the exhibition "ILLUSION: NOTHING IS AS IT SEEMS", Science Gallery Venezia

# **Fondazione Università Ca' Foscari and its partners**

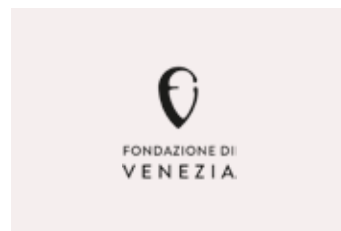
Playing an active part  
in the growth  
of the local area

The institutional participants of Fondazione Università Ca' Foscari, an instrumental body of the University, are institutions and companies that contribute to pursuing its statutory purpose through contributions in cash or in kind, and through cooperation in projects and initiatives of specific interest to the University that are implemented in respective area or sector, sharing principles and values with Ca' Foscari.

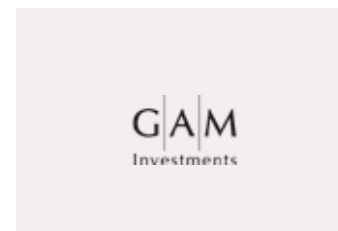
The institutional participants of the Fondazione:



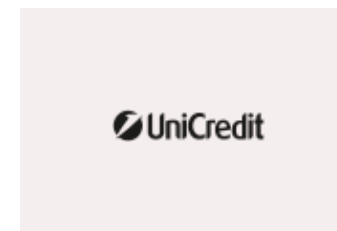
The [Chamber of Commerce of Venice, Rovigo, and the Lagoon Delta](#) has been working with Ca' Foscari since 2012 on projects for the development and evaluation of emotional and social competences within the school-work alternation courses in high schools, on projects that support business innovation, and on the enhancement of cultural heritage through innovative and multidisciplinary teaching workshops.



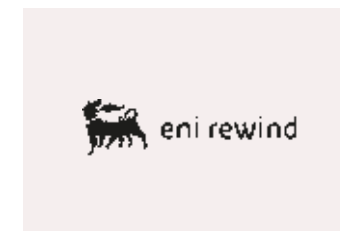
[Fondazione di Venezia](#) has been contributing since 2015 to creating a creative and dynamic cultural environment which enriches the curriculum of young university students, and which stimulates cultural production also through innovative methods.



[GAM \(Italia\) SGR S.p.A.](#) has been contributing since 2016 to the work of the Center for Experimental Research in Management and Economics (CERME) in the field of behavioural finance by supporting the creation of an innovative web platform dedicated to measuring and analysing financial uncertainty in civil society.



[Unicredit S.p.A.](#) has been contributing since 2018 to supporting studies in human capital development, entrepreneurial skills and managerial competences of small- and medium-sized enterprises as strategic factors for the sustainable economic and social development of North Eastern Italy.



[Eni Rewind S.p.A.](#), which officially started on 9 April 2020, in line with the principles of the circular economy, contributes to the enhancement of land, water and industrial or reclamation waste through sustainable reclamation and recycling projects, both in Italy and abroad.



## Fondazione di Venezia together with Ca' Foscari to create a creative and dynamic cultural environment

Fondazione di Venezia chose to strengthen its cooperation with Ca' Foscari in 2018 through a Memorandum of Understanding that renewed its commitment to supporting the University's efforts to disseminate culture in education and training, and scientific and technological research.

The activities carried out, which are open to the local area, are designed to involve students and teachers to foster the creation of a creative and dynamic cultural environment that may enhance the curricula of young university students and stimulate local cultural production, also by using innovative methodological tools..

The contributions referring to the specific sectors mentioned above were structured for 2019 into projects and initiatives such as an active learning workshop for young people at the service of *Food* companies; a workshop for companies and businesspeople on "nautical supply chain" and "sustainability"; a research project on "The future of finance"; some cultural initiatives including the *Waterlines* project in cooperation with the Ca' Foscari International College, initiatives of Science Gallery Venice, the Ca' Foscari Short Film Festival 2019, the festival Incroci di Civiltà 2019, and Ca' Foscari Theatre.

## The "Contamination Lab — Food"

Il CLab — Food is an entrepreneurship education and mentoring project in which 40 university students and young graduates from Ca' Foscari University and the University of Padua worked in interdisciplinary teams towards translating ideas, analyses and insights into innovative projects and scenarios using new methods

The CLab — Food was aimed at developing products and services to protect the identity and traceability of Italian agri-food products in contexts where such a culture is not yet developed, in cooperation with companies, institutions and leading sector operators. In particular, taking part were: Fondazione Qualivita, Sistema Prosecco, Consorzio Olio Toscano IGP, Consorzio Grana Padano, Consorzio Vini del Trentino, and Consorzio delle Valli e delle Dolomiti Friulane. Within the workshop, groups of students carried out 8 projects to meet the common needs of the Consorzi di Tutela (protection consortia), including the development of application prototypes, commercial solutions, business models with scalability potential, social-media contests and social initiatives. The winning group was awarded a study trip to Bordeaux with the opportunity to learn about the world of incubators and start-ups in the flourishing French city.



## "Waterlines Literary and artistic residences in Venice" with Ca' Foscari International College

*Waterlines* engages writers and artists of international renown by offering them a 4-month residential experience in Venice with the aim of creating cross-pollinations, exchanges and debates, and of involving the artists in public meetings international in scope to encourage the birth of joint projects.

The artists-in-residence are asked to share their personal experiences at public meetings attended by international exponents, sharing with the city reflections and insights on their works, culture and countries of origin. They also work in contact with the students of the Ca' Foscari International College by taking part in workshops and debates in the spaces of the institutions involved. As well as the contribution of the Fondazione di Venezia, the project also benefits from the collaboration of San Servolo Servizi Metropolitan di Venezia.

## UniCredit teams up with Ca' Foscari to promote the development of human capital as a strategic factor in sustainable economic and social development

UniCredit has been contributing since 2018 to supporting studies in human capital development, entrepreneurial skills and managerial competences of small- and medium-sized enterprises as strategic factors for the sustainable economic and social development of North Eastern Italy. The current demands related to both globalisation and the technological revolution require workers to make broad and quick changes in key competences and skills, including their soft skills.

In this context, the research firstly aimed to identify guidelines, teaching methods and ideal training procedures, models of collaboration between training institutions and the business system. Secondly, it addressed the issue of territorial growth, with a focus on the North East, investigating the conditions for rebuilding the confidence — especially among businesses — needed to restart investment and growth initiatives. It emerges that to meet the current challenge, there needs to be greater collaboration between business, finance and the centres that produce new knowledge. Knowledge in the broadest sense of the term — its depth, quality and speed of spreading — is the critical success factor in today's globalised, technological, 'financialised' and accelerated competitive environment.



*"The partnership with Fondazione Università Ca' Foscari is highly important to us as it allows us to intercept and investigate — with a prestigious partner with proven expertise — the dynamics and trends relating to the highly topical issue of Human Capital.*

*Human Capital, its involvement in business dynamics and value enhancement are key factors for companies of North-Eastern Italy and beyond, to continue to compete successfully in international markets, regardless of their turnover or sector. This assumption is truer in the light of the current harsh economic situation, which has brought us up against wholly new scenarios and situations. Take for example the much-talked-about "smart working" which has hitherto involved few resources yet which has suddenly become a necessity for many companies and countless people.*

*We have witnessed this directly at UniCredit and see it in the many companies we deal with on a daily basis. To manage global competition, cope with digital transformation and innovate products and business models, people are required who are focused, competent and passionate. We want to contribute with determination and commitment and go a step further than provided just financial services, by supporting our clients strategically. We can do this more effectively by having partners such as Fondazione Ca' Foscari." — Luisella Altare, Regional Manager North East, UniCredit*

## The Venice and Rovigo Chamber of Commerce come together with Ca' Foscari to promote the digital transformation of SMEs

Among the many projects the Venice and Rovigo Chamber of Commerce and Ca' Foscari were involved in, 2019 saw the completion of an important project: "Enterprise 4.0 and Digital Transformation for SMEs of Venice and Rovigo (PID)", an initiative that introduced and guided local businesses towards digital transformation through training, mentoring and open-innovation initiatives.

The project was carried out by a team of Ca' Foscari professors and researchers, and representatives of the Chamber system, and Digital Specialists and Ambassadors.

The Fondazione managed training and innovation for companies through workshops, pilot projects and some outreach events. Some 78 companies from the provinces of Venice and Rovigo were helped in their digital transformation, supported by scholarship holders and researchers from the University's management and IT area. The results of the project were presented in the event "PIDday: Enterprise & Digital" on 14 November 2019 at the M9 Museum in Mestre, attended by 20 prominent speakers on the topics of digital transformation and more than 200 professionals and entrepreneurs.



→ Entrepreneurs during a *design thinking* session of the PID project

## Eni Rewind teaming up with Ca' Foscari for environmental research

Following a long-standing collaboration between Fondazione Ca' Foscari and [Eni Rewind S.p.A.](#), that has gained increasing importance and resulted in significant research projects, studies and analyses, Eni Rewind S.p.A. became an institutional partner in April 2020. The initiatives planned by the partnership are part of Ca' Foscari's newly-established Center for Sustainability — C4S, a permanent reference point for knowledge-exchanging between the academic-scientific world and the economic-social fabric on a local, national and international scale in the field of sustainability and the circular economy in support of businesses. In particular, the projects concern the sector of regeneration of contaminated sites and models for assessing the sustainability of regeneration and value-enhancement interventions, in terms of both ecological risk analysis, and of an impact analysis of the local area through the assessment of ESG (Environmental, Social and Corporate governance) impacts.

Eni Rewind S.p.A. is Eni's environmental company that operates in line with the principles of the circular economy to enhance the value of land, water and waste — whether industrial or from reclamation projects — through sustainable remediation and recovery, both in Italy and abroad. Eni Rewind S.p.A. has also launched projects for the treatment of the Organic Fraction of Municipal Solid Waste (OFMSW) through the construction of industrial plants that apply Eni's proprietary Waste to Fuel technology to transform OFMSW into bio-oil and water.



*"In 2018, we launched an important collaboration with Ca' Foscari University of Venice to implement research into the circular economy and environmental remediation. This is a virtuous example of synergy between industry and the world of academia with the aim of defining new integrated models for reclaiming contaminated areas in a sustainable way, by using innovative low-impact technologies to reclaim soil and water.*

*The institutional partnership with the Fondazione Università Ca' Foscari is thus a great opportunity to enhance the work started by Eni Rewind towards creating a new model of sustainable development that is more attentive to social effects, environmental- and raw-materials regeneration, and energy efficiency." — [Paolo Grossi, Managing Director, Eni Rewind](#)*

### **Toyota teams up with Ca' Foscari for environmental sustainability**

Always attentive to issues of environmental sustainability, Ca' Foscari has formed a partnership with Toyota, leading brand in the process of vehicle electrification that aims at shared and sustainable transport.

The collaboration with Toyota, which began with the concession of a Full Hybrid company car to Ca' Foscari University for the Rector's institutional travels, is part of the University's path of social responsibility and environmental sustainability.



→ Rector Michele Bugliesi together with Maurizio Marchesini, Mobility & Innovation Manager of Toyota Italia

## Strategy Innovation Hub. The community for strategic innovation

The Strategy Innovation Hub was set up as a physical and virtual space, within the San Giobbe Economic Campus in an innovative and technologically advanced venue with the aim of connecting students and local and international entrepreneurs, established and new businesses, the academic world of science and humanities, and the B2B and B2C sectors to foster the generation and sharing of innovative ideas and their transformation into successful business models. The hub aims to create a community of entrepreneurs and managers who, together with the academic world, develop strategic innovation projects, training events, conferences and workshops to influence the entire industrial and business community in the area in taking on the challenges of the changes in environmental, economic and social contexts. The Strategy Innovation Hub was inaugurated in December 2019 and is funded by Ca' Foscari and partner companies: [Alf Da Frè](#), [Arper](#), [Axians](#), [Cisco](#), [Electrolux](#), [Foscarini](#), [Intesa Sanpaolo](#), [Kpmg](#), [Man at Work](#), [ORS Group](#), [Sharp](#) and [Valdesign](#).

This is the context for the Strategy Innovation Forum (SIF), the annual event dedicated to scientific debate on a research topic. The fifth edition, held on 4 September 2020, involved a network of over 850 companies, speakers and national and international speakers, who discussed the effects of artificial intelligence and the blockchain on business models.

The following partners and sponsors have joined SIF 2020: [Intesa Sanpaolo](#), [Kpmg](#), [ORS Group](#) and [Sharp](#) as Exclusive Partner; [Alba Leasing](#), [Axians](#), [Cisco](#), [Cortellazzo&Soatto](#), [Dedalus](#), [Engineering](#), [Man at Work](#), [TIM](#), [Siemens](#), [SMACT Competence Center](#) as Premium Partner; [Datev Koinos](#), [Electrolux](#), [Veneto Lavoro](#), [Humco](#), [PromoTurismo Friuli Venezia Giulia](#) as Partner; and [Alilaguna](#), [Arper](#), [Farmaka](#), [Hausbrandt Trieste 1892](#), [Loison](#), [Maxfone](#), [Pasin Bags](#), [San Benedetto](#), [Tessitura Monti](#) as technical sponsors.



→ Strategy Innovation  
Workshop 2019

# Ca' Foscari Alumni for fundraising



Ca' Foscari Alumni is the network that adds value to Ca' Foscari's identity, acting as a catalyst for new projects by drawing on the skills and relationships of the countless graduates of our University. Following a long tradition, the Association has thousands of members in over 90 countries around the world and more than 70,000 contacts with current students and staff.

Ca' Foscari Alumni is consistently at the forefront in supporting Ca' Foscari's fundraising efforts by acting as a point of contact and bridge for funding numerous projects: from scholarships, research projects and crowdfunding through to community projects, cultural productions and public engagement initiatives.

Ca' Foscari Alumni can also count on a large group of supporting companies that translate the fruits of our Alumni network of people and skills into reality by creating an organic relationship with the Association. By joining Ca' Foscari Alumni, these businesses and institutions can dialogue with the Alumni network and the University.

Ca' Foscari would like to thank all the companies that support Ca' Foscari Alumni — [Banca Generali](#), [Interlogica Group](#), [Banca Mediolanum](#), [Venicecom](#), [InfinityHUB](#), [Azimut Kalibra](#), [Ascotrade](#), [ATLANTIS by Master Italia](#), [NaturaSi](#) and [Carpenè Malvolti](#) — as well as its board members: [Monica Boccanegra](#) (President), [Christian Sottana](#) (Vice-President), [Paolo Costa](#), [Massimo Buseti](#), [Doriana Visentin](#), [Andrea Dalzovo](#).



## Alumni Stories

### The “Bruna Grandese Carlotti” scholarships

Thanks to the valuable contribution of the Carlotti family, the “Bruna Grandese Carlotti” scholarships have been awarded annually since 2011 for enrolment in the Bachelor of Business Administration (for the curricula of Business Administration and Management). All the winning students receive a grant for the following three academic years. The 2019 and 2020 scholarships were awarded to Giulia Bettio and Emma Bellentani, respectively.



*My mother Bruna was a woman who belonged to another era, an era when even upper-school education was a privilege and the idea of going to University was only for the few. Her conviction, related to her times perhaps and strongly rooted in her, was that to get an education was the best way to face the world; that it was a basic tool for gaining the confidence to face life's problems.*

*She found herself having to cope with three children to raise and many sacrifices to make to allow them to study, depriving herself also of small pleasures. Thanks to her, I was able to enrol at Ca' Foscari, where I graduated in Business Administration. Then, after graduating, I moved to Milan, where I started the journey that brought me to have had many personal and professional fulfilments. I've been lucky enough to do the job I like, and to enjoy experiences I would not even have dreamed of in my youth. I met Monica, my wife — also a Ca' Foscari graduate — and with her I shared the desire to establish the scholarship named after my mother.*

*Both of us aware of our luck in being able to graduate from a prestigious university like Ca' Foscari. Rather than a strong desire to give something back, we felt it was our duty to do so according to the logic that those who have the skills but not the financial resources should be granted the right to that same opportunity which Bruna wanted her children to have. Since 2011, the Bruna Grandese Carlotti Scholarship has supported nine students in their three-year studies at the Department of Management.*

*The best way to describe the value of a merit scholarship is to use the words that these same students have used over the years to share their feelings with us. Having financial support means you can study with peace of mind without having to ask your family to make additional sacrifices. Studying, going to university and graduating are not to be taken for granted. Receiving help is a great opportunity for setting out on the journey to finding a good job with the dignity of being able to deserve it by rising to the challenge.*

*Over the years, each of them has gone their own way, always with confidence and determination because, as we call them affectionately, they are all “thoroughbreds”; and, for the future, we are sure they can only improve. But they have never forgotten the bond that has been created with us and, above all, between them. We write to each other regularly and with pleasure for updates on their studies and careers, and also sometimes on their personal lives: a new flat to furnish, the first car they just bought, the announcement of an engagement or wedding... all of this makes us feel like we're part of a sort of great extended family. We also try to create opportunities to meet them and for them to be together to share their experiences. Such moments are opportunities as much for them as for Monica and me, as we get to see the fruits of their great efforts. They give each other advice and support, and are already laying the foundations for becoming accomplished and good-hearted men and women who, by recognising the importance of these university years, we are sure will not lose track of each other. — Matteo Carlotti*

**Alumni Stories****BV TECH for smart contracts research**

A personal bond between Ca' Foscari graduate Andrea Ossato, Business Consultant Manager of BV TECH Group, and the University led Andrea and his company — a well-established player in the Management Consulting and Information & Communication Technology field — to fund an analysis of the state-of-the-art of smart contracts, the “intelligent” or “automatic” contracts based on the blockchain which facilitate the negotiation or execution of contracts, and which sometimes allow the partial or total exclusion of a contractual clause.



*“In Ca' Foscari we found the legal expertise needed to test new business models that leverage smart legal contracts, especially for the security and non-repudiation aspects of automated transactions. Special thanks are due to Prof. Andrea Minto, who guided us through the complexities of the issues with great professionalism and competence. Apart from the personal connection I have with the University and the Alumni as a Ca' Foscari graduate, Ca' Foscari has unique expertise. I think this really is the beginning of a long-lasting collaboration.” — Andrea Ossato, Business Consultant Manager, Gruppo BV TECH*

**Alumni Stories****The Ca' Dolfin Alumni**

The “Cadolfianiani” are a large group of the University’s graduates who in the 1960s and 1970s lived as students of excellence at the Ca' Dolfin college.

As a sign of gratitude to Ca' Foscari, since 2012 the Cadolfianiani have been supporting current Ca' Foscari students and every year, through Ca' Foscari Alumni, they promote an event to raise funds to use for important University projects. Several scholarships have been supported over the years for deserving students of Ca' Foscari International College. In 2019, contributions from the Cadolfianiani supported the “SOS International College” project, after the high-water emergency of November 2019.



**Alumni Stories****Federica Gasparet**

Federica Gasparet graduated in 1994 from the Faculty of Oriental Languages and Literature and is now a Chinese teacher.

Concerned about the flooding that stuck Venice in November 2019, Federica invited friends to make a donation to Ca' Foscari on her birthday. .



*In 1988, captivated by Far Eastern culture and Chinese writing characters, I enrolled in what was then called the Faculty of Oriental Languages and Literature at Ca' Foscari.*

*I was lucky enough to have very good teachers, especially of classical Chinese, and of Chinese and Japanese philosophy, which were the subjects I was most interested in. There were only a few of us students at that time, which enabled us to follow the lessons well; plus, there was a very cooperative spirit and relationship between us and the teachers.*

*I fondly remember the places I studied at: the lecture halls of Cinema Italia, those of the main building, the libraries of Ca' Soranzo and Ca' Cappello. During the periods when we had to study in more depth and intensely, I would use the libraries of the Querini Stampalia, the Fondazione di S. Giorgio and the Marciana. I felt so lucky to be studying at a university like Ca' Foscari. I would come out of lectures happy with what I had learnt and, walking home through Venice, would take different routes to explore new alleys and discover the beauty you can breathe in everywhere in the lagoon.*

*The memories of those unique moments arouse deep feelings in me, tinged also with a sense of infinite nostalgia.*

*Over the years I continued to frequent the faculty, keeping updated on the changes going on. Over time, some of my former professors retired while others are still there today. When I would contact them, they always helped and counselled me regarding my teaching career.*

*This strong connection with Ca' Foscari and Venice led me to experience the high water of 12 November 2019 and the ensuing days with great concern. This time, my Venetian friends were disconsolate: although their ancestors had coped with high water for centuries before, and they too in recent years, it was the frequency of these events that was disheartening. I was moved by the scenes of students admirably helping tradespeople salvage their damaged shops, and of those carrying books from the university libraries to safety. I wanted to be there with them to help too.*

*So in December, which coincided with my 50th birthday, I asked my friends to grant my wish to help the university. I knew that many books had been damaged and would need looking after properly. I spoke to the Head of Department, who explained how to act, and I naturally followed her advice, remembering a phrase by the writer Mao Dun: "When you experience life, you should live with all your heart ( 全心全意 )".*

*At that moment, I felt that was the only gift I wanted to give: an act of gratitude towards a city that has given me so much; a seed of kindness sown, expecting nothing in return.*  
— Federica Gasparet

# 5x1000

Ca' Foscari's 5x1000 donation initiative aims at offering students scholarships for the International College and guaranteeing them new educational and training proposals.

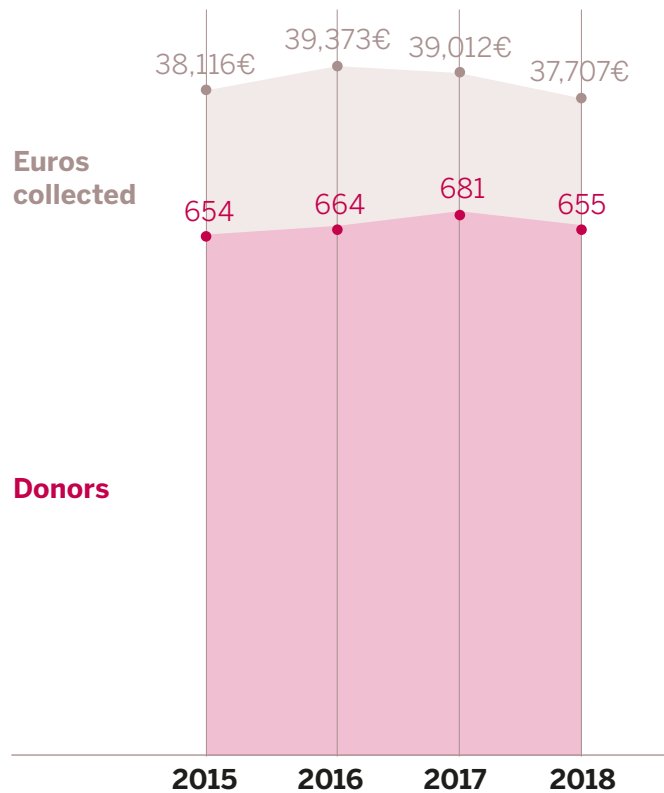
Between 2015 and 2019, we received 193,105 euros from 3,330 donations for our University, which were used to provide activities for students and teaching services for the Ca' Foscari International College.

**Funds raised between 2015-2019**

# 193,105 euros

**Ratio between euros raised and number of donors**

**Donations made**



**3,330** between 2015 and 2019



Massimiliano Braghin, who graduated in Business Administration at Ca' Foscari in 1999, chose to make his tax-deductible donation under the 5x1000 scheme to Ca' Foscari, to support the students of the International College.

*With its academic relationship with young people, the University can be a very important driver of synergies!*

**Why donate "5x1000" to Ca' Foscari University?**

*Out of gratitude and justified hope. Studying in the world's most beautiful city gives you a great deal. Venice is at once fragile and complex, but throughout history it has also been an incubator for innovative technological and organisational solutions to challenges: from navigation systems, building experiments and construction methods in the Arsenal to trade organisations, the spread of double-entry bookkeeping, and the first patent laws, the thousand-year history of Venetian civilisation has been dotted with inventions and made fertile by cross-pollinations between different areas of knowledge. If, to this context, we add in the academic quality of the courses, Ca' Foscari gradually increased my desire to test myself to improve, and then to add up the disciplines so as to make room — as is often the case — for the miracle of sustainable and ethical innovation to the benefit of all. Today the drive for innovation must be facilitated and studied in order to make it happen. But it must also connect to things that make sense.*

**What is Ca' Foscari about for you?**

*It is an excellent tool for studying, analysing and disseminating new economic models and paradigms of sustainable development and teamwork, where help and positive cooperation between all players is not merely ethical but quite simply a part of the game. I'm seeing the rapid emergence of operating models evolving win-win sustainability where everyone wins and everyone works towards the same good.*

Massimiliano Braghin, who has been in the renewable energy sector since 2008, is today president and founder of Infinityhub S.p.A., the first portal for social energy conversion. The innovative start-up connects property owners with professionals, companies and investors, allowing them to multiply and share energy sustainability projects. INFINIT(Y)HUB uses crowdfunding to finance its community projects. It has already validated the model 9 times, thus becoming the first Italian ESCo to use equity crowdfunding in project companies in different sectors.

# Our supporters

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→ Inauguration  
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Thank you for your loyalty  
and generosity.

Together we have  
accomplished many  
projects and together  
we will make many more  
blossom.

— The Rector,  
Michele Bugliesi

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