

STUDENT POPULATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MILANO, ITALY

Patrizia A. Caraveo

The Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy includes curricula on: Law, Political Sciences, Literature and Arts, Philosophy, Foreign literatures, History, Medicine, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Biology, Geology, Computer Science, Pharmacy, Agronomy, Veterinary Medicine (*i.e.*, almost everything except engineering, done at the Politecnico, and economy, done at the Bocconi and Cattolica Universities).

Figure 1 shows the evolution of the University of Milano total number of students vs. time since the A.Y. 1924–1925, when the University was founded. In 75 years the number of students went from 1,100 to 82,955 and the percentage of women students arose from $1/5$ to more than $1/2$.

Figure 1

Since A.Y. 1987–88 women outnumber men at the Università degli Studi while they are still a minority at the Politecnico and Bocconi. During A.Y. 88–89 female students accounted for 51.55% of the total student population. Their distribution throughout different curricula, however, is pretty much uneven going from vast majority in Foreign Literatures, Literature and Arts, Mathematics, Biology, Natural Sciences, Philosophy and Pharmacy, to $\sim 50/50$ in Law, Medicine, Chemistry, Veterinary Medicine, Political Sciences and History to a clear minority in Physics, Geology, Agronomy and Computer Sciences. Figure 2 gives the distribution of male and female students for the different curricula ordered following their percent of women students decreasing from left to right. The actual values of the percent are given under each curriculum name.

For completeness, one should add that the percent of women studying engineering at the Politecnico is 13%.

Figure 2

Patrizia A. Caraveo: Istituto di Fisica Cosmica del CNR, Via Bassini, 15 - 20133 Milano, Italy