Departments of excellence according to MIUR: clean sweep for SISSA

The Institute’s areas of physics and mathematics will receive funding to consolidate and enhance the best research conducted in Italy

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Great success for SISSA (International Advanced Studies Institute) in the selection of the 180 best university departments in Italy which will receive valuable funding to strengthen the quality of research in Italian academia. In the list published yesterday by MIUR (Ministry of Education, University and Research), and based on a list drawn up by ANVUR (National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research), the physics and mathematics areas of the Trieste Institute were chosen among the departments of excellence which will share the 271 million euro to be allocated annually from the 2017 budget law over the five-year period 2018-2022. This funding is aimed to strengthen and enhance the excellence of research, with investments in human capital, infrastructures and high-qualification teaching activities.
The selection process, carried out by a commission of seven high-profile scientists and led by Professor Paola Severino, occurred on the basis of the projects submitted. The intent of the two projects presented by SISSA, which both won awards, «was to raise the quality of research and strengthen the educational offer» explains Stefano Ruffo, the Director. He goes on to say: «These results are an important acknowledgment of the quality of the research and education offered by the Institute which, once again, confirms its leading role in the national and international academic sector». The projects presented for the mathematics area include the opening of four new lines of research and the purchase of scientific equipment for the Mathlab laboratory, as well as a programme of fellowships to conduct special research and attract the best international researchers to SISSA. For the physics area, the project aims to implement the activity of the Data Science field – the sector of study which targets the comprehension of complex systems – also through the recruitment of three new professors and researchers. The total amount assigned to the mathematics area is € 6,650,000 in the five-year period to which another € 1,111,500 is added, already allocated by SISSA. For the physics area, the overall budget will be € 7.9 million, with 6.6 million to be allocated by the Ministry.

USEFUL LINKS:
Full list of departments of excellence: [http://www.anvur.it/attachments/article/1205/All6DElenco18oAmmessi.pdf](http://www.anvur.it/attachments/article/1205/All6DElenco18oAmmessi.pdf)

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