The Assessment for Research Quality issued by ANVUR awards the School

17 July 2013

The Assessment for Research Quality published by ANVUR confirms SISSA in the first place with all its three research areas. An unparalleled result in Italy which proves the high quality level of scientific publications issued by the School.

The National Agency of Assessment for University and Research (ANVUR) issued yesterday 16 July the much-awaited Assessment for Research Quality (VQR) for the 2004-2010 period that shows the excellent results achieved by the International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA) of Trieste.

It is a performance ranking that so far had never reached such a level of in-depth analysis, and is the result of a unique assessment activity not only in Italy but in the world. The report addresses
14 scientific research areas, and is divided into three categories (small, medium, large), which corresponds to the size of the departments. The three research areas of SISSA (mathematics, physics and neuroscience) have been incorporated, respectively, into the three research areas of mathematical and computer science, physical science and biological science.

SISSA earned the first absolute position among all universities for mathematics and neuroscience. In the field of physical science the School came first among medium-sized department and is the sixth absolute winner.

The result obtained for mathematics is quite remarkable, with a coefficient of 1.64 (a value higher than 1 indicates a level of quality superior to the national average) well ahead of the second place holder.

“The en plein success by SISSA, which we are particularly pleased with, doesn't come as a surprise”, declared Guido Martinelli, the School’s Director. “This is the result of years of rigorous policies regarding recruitment guidelines and cautious investments of resources in cutting-edge research infrastructures. Our thanks go to the previous Director, Stefano Fantoni, who was in charge of SISSA for the period under examination.”

Yesterday the Italian Minister of Education Maria Chiara Carrozza expressed her deep satisfaction regarding the operation carried out by ANVUR, which means that also Italy is adopting a modern assessment system in Europe and that at last shows to the general public the results of the research conducted in our country.

The consequences of the assessment are important also from the practical point of view. The Minister has in fact declared that Universities will receive a considerable part of the research funding proportionally to the merits that emerged from the assessment. “We hope for a policy that will actually award merit”, concluded Martinelli. “This will be a spur for the whole research system and for higher-lever education.”

Contacts:

Communication Office:
pressroom@sissa.it
Tel: (+39) 040 3787557 | (+39) 340-5473118, (+39) 333-5275592
via Bonomea, 265
34136 Trieste

For further information on SISSA: www.sissa.it