Stefano Ruffo to replace current Director Guido Martinelli as of November

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Wednesday February 25th the elections of the new Director of the International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA) in Trieste were held on the School premises. Stefano Ruffo, professor of Structure of Matter at the University of Florence will be replacing Guido Martinelli, who has led the School for the past five years, and will take up office at SISSA on November 1st 2015.

Born in Tuscany in 1954, an expert of statistical physics and complex systems and with extensive research experience in Italy and abroad: this is Stefano Ruffo, the new future Director of the International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA) of Trieste. Ruffo will be leading the School for the next six years starting on November 2015, taking over from the current Director Guido Martinelli who has ended his term.
Ruffo was appointed last February 25 through regular elections that involved representatives of the whole school (from scientific staff to administrative staff).

“It’s a prestigious appointment and I’m honoured. I’ll try to do my best: when I’m committed to something I put all my time and energy into it”, says Ruffo who has an important scientific background, with different positions as an international coordinator. And internationality is the aspect he intends to work on without, however, neglecting the important “local” assets of a city like Trieste: “I’ll try to preserve the excellence of this School, and to increase its visibility, even though it already has plenty. My goals also include strengthening relationships with the local research centres and consolidating existing relations with other universities as far as teaching and scientific research are concerned”.

“The election of Stefano Ruffo consolidates SISSA’s tradition of choosing Directors from outside the School”, commented current Director Guido Martinelli. “We will use the coming months before the incoming Director takes office to ensure a smooth handover so that the School will suffer no delays in implementing its ongoing projects, from mechatronics, to genomics to supercalculus. I extend my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the new Director” concludes Martinelli.

More in detail...

Stefano Ruffo is full professor of Condensed Matter Physics at the University of Florence (Department of Physics and Astronomy). His fields of interest are statistical physics and complex systems. He has supervised numerous PhD students in Italy and abroad and mentored 15 post-doctoral students. He has published more than 160 research papers in specialised journals and has earned more than 3800 citations. He has had numerous positions as visiting professor outside of Italy including at the University of Oxford, the École Normale Supérieure de Lyon, the University of California-Berkeley, and the University of Kyoto. He is editor of the journal Communications in Nonlinear Science and Numerical Simulations (Elsevier) and a member of the editorial board of Physica A (Elsevier).
More information about SISSA: [www.sissa.it](http://www.sissa.it)