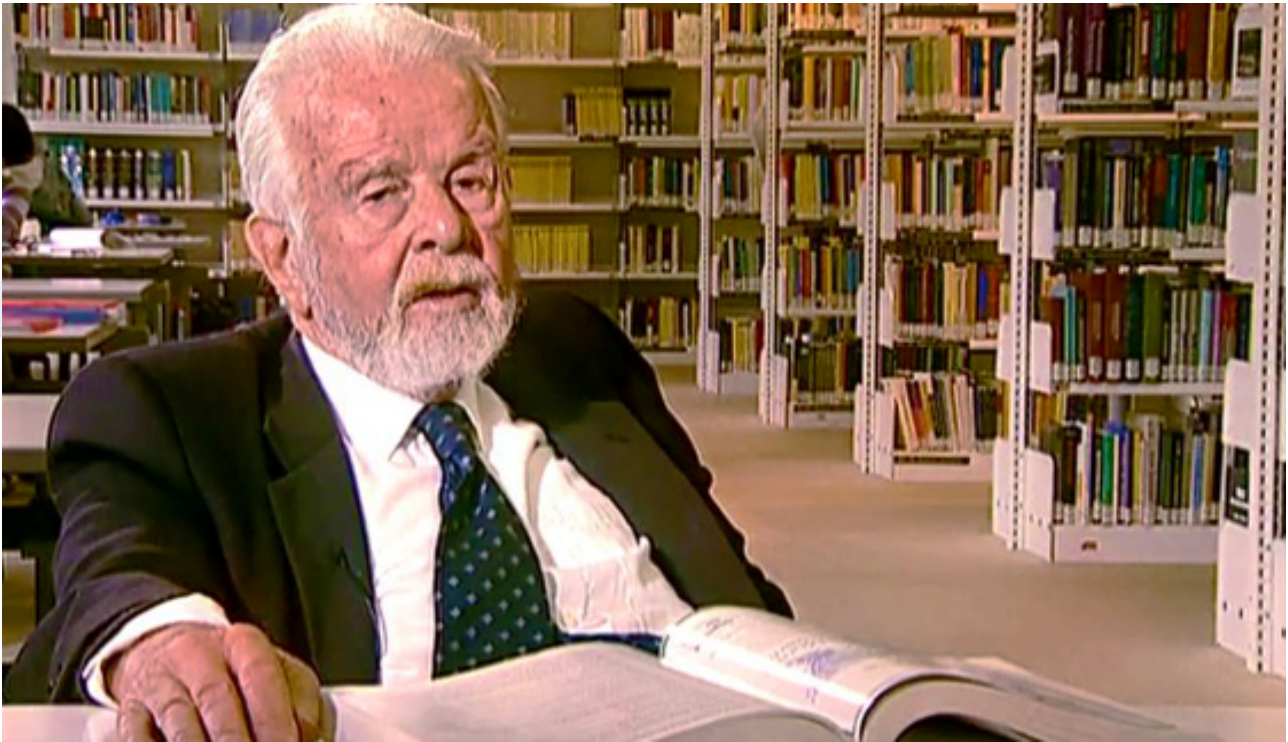




Farewell to the father of Trieste City of Science



Paolo Budinich, founder of SISSA, ICTP and Elettra passed away

15/11/2013

Paolo Budinich, founder of SISSA and creator of the "Trieste System", which made the city a centre of excellence in the international science scene as well as an important beacon for science education in developing countries, died on November 14, 2013. SISSA, the International School for Advanced Studies pays tribute to this great man, who will also be celebrated on the occasion of the Welcome Day, the annual public event to welcome new students, which will be held on November 20.

Trieste "City of Science" owes much – if not everything – to Paolo Budinich, who died yesterday, 14 November 2013. SISSA today pays tribute to its founder, an innovator without whom we would never have had the "Trieste System", which put this city at the leading edge of scientific research, making it an example at the international level. The Trieste System also supported scientific education in developing countries by welcoming, over the past 50 years, thousands of young



students from all over the world, like many of those who are attending the School today, so they could take the knowledge acquired back to their countries of origin.

In 1964, together with the Pakistani Nobel prize, Abdus Salam, Budinich founded the International Centre for Theoretical Physics ICTP of Miramare, the first block of Trieste City of Science. In 1978 he founded SISSA and contributed to the creation of Elettra Sincrotrone Trieste. Budinich was also active on the front of science promotion, founding the *Immaginario Scientifico*, the science center of Trieste.

His intense activity stimulated the creation of an international research hub that today extends to ICGEB, CBM, Area Science Park and much more, to the point of making Trieste a scientific excellence, among the cities with the highest density of research scientists per inhabitant. In the words of Daniele Amati, who collaborated with Budinich since the early days: "I always considered him to be an enthusiastic and determined friend. He was a convinced advocate of the role of science as a tool for development, a farsighted promoter of initiatives of the highest high scientific level and global reach, which he associated with scientists of outstanding prestige. At the International Center for Theoretical Physics – the first building block of this architecture he was promoting in Trieste – he attracted not only Salam as the director, but also personalities of high standing like Dirac, Oppenheimer, Schrieffer, Kastler and others who participated actively in the Center's life". Amati arrived in Trieste in 1986, to replace Budinich as the director of SISSA.

"We were very sorry to hear this news", commented Guido Martinelli, director of SISSA. "Our School has received an important legacy from its founder, and still today it reflects his spirit. Budinich was instrumental to bringing to Trieste prominent figures of leading-edge research. If SISSA is today a center of excellence, we owe it to a large extent to Budinich. The international profile that Budinich gave to the city of Trieste is also reflected in the daily life of our School, which counts large numbers of boys and girls from all over the world among its students. He was a man who by virtue of his determination and enthusiasm succeeded in setting up new institutions we can take pride in, and he will remain as an example for future generations".

"The news of the Paolo Budinich's death comes at an important time in SISSA's life. Wednesday, November 20 is day of the Welcome Day, the ceremony with which we welcome new students. It will certainly be an occasion to remember such an important man", Martinelli concluded.

IMAGE:

- *Paolo Budinich (credits: SISSA)*



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