

Dear Students, Dear Colleagues,

for more than a year now, our community has shown great resilience and flexibility, sincere passion and motivation, while facing an unexpected and disruptive emergency. We must start the new academic year with the same strength and motivation.

The start of the new academic year, which is just around the corner, will depend to a large extent on the spread of the pandemic variants and our ability to contain them. This uncertainty cannot be denied. Nonetheless, I think it is important to give a clear commitment to recovery, given the efforts made in terms of vaccination and our university investments in overcoming this difficult time.

We have learned the lessons of the past months and are all more aware of the potential of digital technologies, as well as the need to adopt a responsible behaviour. We have launched a number of experimental and innovative projects to further provide added value to teaching in the post-Covid-19 era. First and foremost, we have recognised the value of presence for the learning process and personal growth, that comes from personal interactions and dialogue.

Therefore, I consider crucial that all teaching activities at our university should restart in presence on campus from September.

I can therefore confirm that lessons, curricular activities, laboratory activities and exams will take place on our campuses, adapting the occupation of our classrooms to respect the need for social distancing, maintaining a reduced number of online lessons and designing a timetable that allows for the least possible impact on the transport system during the most critical timeframes. The detailed information will be available shortly.

Of course, the university is ready to accept any differing provisions, to revise this approach in the face of urgencies and limitations provided by the health authorities or to implement more openings through the Covid-19 green pass, if authorised.

I am confident that the Politecnico community is ready to return, with new enthusiasm, to fill our campuses on a daily basis and to fully live the university experience.

Best regards, Ferruccio Resta