



Activity Report 2018

In 2018 ASLERD the growth of the association suffered a slowing down as far as both activities and members number. The only activity increase has been achieved by the local Italian branch.

Nevertheless ASLERD has successfully organized its third International Conference in Aalborg and, colocated, the second International Student Contest on “People Centered Smart Learning Ecosystems”, together with the corresponding exhibition of student projects.

They have been both successful but we registered also a decrease of participation for both the events. This last issue has been discussed in the General Assembly and it has been tentatively ascribed to the geographical position and the living cost of Aalborg. Doubts have been raised on the effective capability of the Association to attract and aggregate stakeholders. A more detailed analysis has been postponed to the end of next SLERD edition that will be hold in Rome.

The 2018 SLERD edition has been marked by

- the participation, as keynote, of John Carroll, one of the most prominent researcher in the field of HCI, and Patrizia Marti from Siena and Eindhoven University.
- the publication of the conference proceeding with Springer
- the win of the Student Design Contest by Blbeg Limbu della Open University NL
- the exhibition of prototypes realized by the student of the Aalborg University.

The contraction of attendance to SLERD conference has been counterbalanced by the number of submissions to the special issue of IxD&A journal, n. 39, that is expected to be published soon. This may indicate that the core vision of ASLERD is slowly attracting more people but that the face to face events may suffer a crisis due also to lack of economical resources.

The organization of forth yearly conference, SLERD 2019, and the third edition of the International ASLERD Student Contest has been started by the University of Rome Tor Vergata in collaboration with ITD-CNR, Quasar Design University and ISIA Rome. Proceedings will be still published by Springer and a special issue of IxD&A journal will be also organized.

For the first time a SLERD conference will be open to the territory by means of the organization of workshops targeting school principals and teachers and an open debate aimed at attracting local stakeholders (industries, politicians, ecc.).

Thanks to Matthias Rehm and the Aalborg University ASLERD had the possibility to take part in the resubmission of an ETN project. The report was quite positive but not enough to be selected for funding.

The communication activities on the social has been reorganized. Gabriella Dodero has created and managed the ASLERD Facebook page. Carlo Giovannella has reactivated the LinkedIn page and enlarged the number of followers. At present the Facebook page has 72 followers and the LinkedIn



page 243 members. The goal for next year is to increase substantially these figures also with the aim to attract new ASLERD members and disseminate further the ASLERD vision.

Unfortunately we have not been able to:

- make growth the level of joint researches, although some results have been obtained jointly by Aveiro and Tor Vergata University;
 - support the preparation of further joint scientific proposals;
 - make increase substantially the “consolidated memberships” that both at individual and institutional level remained more or less constant. The increase of consolidated members continues to be a goal also for 2019 and for the years to come.
 - complete the renewal of the ASLERD website currently underway;
- for the next future the opening of the website of ASLERD Italian Chapter and the publication on the activities of ASLERD members are foreseen.

Regional activities

The Italian branch of ASLERD has increase substantially its activity and, for this particular year also the amount of incomes in favor of the Association (basically are only incomes in addition to the membership fees).

ASLERD has continued to support schools in participatory monitoring and evaluation processes .

The questionnaires to support participatory evaluation have been translated also in Portuguese and Brazilian and has been distributed in schools of the Aveiro district and other districts.

ASLERD has also increased the efforts to develop high quality alternance schemes and competence certification. Small contracts has been vested by the association and more are expected to be vested in the future. On this theme continued the collaboration with Unindustria (the association of the entrepreneurs of the Lazio region) that involved ASLERD in a local project with the Chamber of Commerce.