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Article 1

The call for admissions is now open for doctoral degree programs (31st cycle) at the *School of Advanced Studies* (hereinafter SAS), for both citizens of the European Union and non-citizens, in the following areas of scientific research.

a) Chemical and Pharmaceutical Sciences and Biotechnology:

1) Chemical Sciences;
2) Pharmaceutical Sciences.

b) Legal and social sciences:

1) Civil Law and Constitutional Legality;
2) Fundamental Rights in the Global Society.

c) Life and Health Sciences:

1) Molecular Biology and Cellular Biotechnology;
2) One health (integrated approach to health focused on interactions between animals, humans and their diverse environments);
3) Ecosystems and biodiversity management.

d) Science and Technology:

1) Mathematics;
2) Computer science;
3) Theoretical and experimental physics;
4) Physical and chemical processes in Earth systems.

The programs will begin on or before the date of 30 November 2015 and will conclude on 31 October 2018, with the submission of an original doctoral dissertation in English. In addition to the preparation of the dissertation, all candidates are required to participate in a series of courses conducted in English as organized by the School of Advanced Studies. Candidates are also encouraged to participate in residency programs at other universities in Italy or abroad.

Scholarships may be awarded based on demonstrated academic merit and can be renewed for the three year period of the program after annual review. A minimum of forty scholarships will be made available for the aforementioned programs.

Externally funded scholarships may also be awarded. They are funded through programs, projects and conventions with outside institutions which foresee research activities on specific topics that the awardees are bound to undertake. Each candidate can apply for two externally funded scholarships when applying for admission.

In detail, the scholarships available for this call for admission are:

- 6 scholarships for citizens of Costa Rica within the ambit of the following project, "Evaluacion y caracterizacion de la raza Brahman en Costa Rica para su comercializacion en el mercado internacional."
- 1 scholarship through the partnership agreement between the University of Anversa (Belgium) and the University of Camerino, with the awarding of a Ph.D. Degree.
- 26 scholarships funded through the Eureka Project. The Eureka project funds Ph.D. scholarships through a joint program between the Marches Region and universities and businesses in the Marches. The purpose of the project is to promote higher education and research for the development of new scientific knowledge and innovation. The scholarships funded through the Eureka Project are subject to the procedures set forth in the Memorandum of Understanding

between the Marches Region and the universities present in the region, Rep. No. 142 of 21/05/2015.(http://www.unicam.it/impresa/bandi_fse.asp). The Eureka scholarships are awarded following the procedures set forth in this call for admissions. The awarding of said scholarships is subject to the finalizing of the agreements with the outside business partners funding the research. Candidates must conduct part of their research at the partner businesses' facilities, although at least half of their work must be done at the university.

The scholarships are awarded following the procedures set forth in this call for admissions. The definitive number of scholarships available will be published on the university website at the following address, isas.unicam.it. All scholarships are renewed on an annual basis by the Board of the SAS, after review by the Doctoral Advisory Committee of the work done by the awardees during the previous academic year.

Based on the admissions rankings, at least 9 places in the doctoral programs will be made available without scholarships. Candidates admitted without a scholarship must indicate whether they can find funding from public and/or private institutions other than the University of Camerino. The work done by candidates without a scholarship is also subject to review by the Doctoral Advisory Committee.

In order to stimulate vision and support independent research, the SAS makes funding available for doctoral candidates during the course of their Ph.D. programs. To qualify for research funding, students must submit project proposals which are then evaluated based on merit. The 3 best projects will be selected by a panel of outside experts and the funding is subject to review by the panel.

Article 2

Admission to the doctoral programs is open, regardless of gender, age, religion, nationality, sexual preference, political orientation, financial condition or disability, to all candidates in possession of a master's degree (second cycle) or its equivalent which has been accredited. In the event the degree has not yet been accredited, the Board of the SAS will rule on its validity for the sole purpose of allowing participation in the admissions process.

Admission is also open to candidates who do not already possess the required degree, provided that conferral takes place by October 31, 2015. In this case, admission will be conditional, and the candidate will be required, in accordance with Italian law (D.P.R. No. 445/00 art. 47), to present the degree certificate or a notarized copy before November 12, 2015.

Article 3

All applications must be submitted before 12 September 2015 using the online form available at http://web.unicam.it/laureati/dottorato/CallforApplication. Applications submitted in any other manner will be excluded from the admissions process. As indicated on the application form, candidates must provide at least three references (professors/researchers) who will then be contacted by e-mail by the admissions office and requested to provide a letter of recommendation using the form available on the university website. Letters of reference must be submitted before the deadline for the admissions process.

Candidates must ensure that at least one letter of reference is submitted. Failure to do so will result in the application non being considered for admission to the program.

Application forms which do not provide all of the required information will not be considered in the application process. Applications made by fac-simile or with hard copy attachments will not be considered.

Within 15 days after the application deadline, candidates will be notified whether their candidacy has been accepted for consideration. If it has not been accepted, the admissions office will explain why it is not eligible for consideration.

Candidates should pay special attention when drafting their research proposal in English since it is one of the main criteria used to evaluate the research potential of the candidate. In addition, candidates must indicate 2 research topics from those listed on the website (isas.unicam.it) in order of priority. In the case where candidates would like to apply for an externally funded scholarship, they can indicate up to a maximum of two. With the exception of research proposals for externally funded scholarships, the research topics are not binding as regards the definitive choice of the research project for the doctoral degree.

Article 4

The evaluation of the applications for admission will be conducted by an Admissions Committee made up of the Director of the SAS, as president, the coordinators of the 4 research areas (or their delegates) and 4 outside experts. The committee will decide upon a short list of eligible candidates, the number of which will be 3 times that of the scholarships available for each area.

Each coordinator will propose the names of three outside experts, along with their CVs. The Director of the SAS will then choose the experts, taking into account the need for balance in the committee. Up to a maximum of two experts can come from the private sector.

The names of the experts and their respective CVs will be published on the university website at isas.unicam.it

In the first phase of the evaluation, the research proposal will be checked for plagiarism using a special software package; any infractions will result in the application being excluded from further evaluation. Based on the documentation produced by the candidate, especially as regards the research proposal, the Admissions Committee will apply the criteria set forth in the European Framework for Research Careers (http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/pdf/research_policies/Towards_a_European_Framework_for_Research_Careers_final.pdf) for profile R1 (*First stage researchers*), and specifically:

- Carry out research under supervision
- Have the ambition to develop knowledge of research methodologies and discipline
- Have demonstrated a good understanding of a field of study
- Have demonstrated the ability to produce data under supervision
- Be capable of critical analysis, evaluation and synthesis of new and complex ideas
- Be able to explain the outcome of research and value thereof to research colleagues

When deciding upon the short list of candidates, the Committee will also take into consideration the following: score for previous degrees, other degrees earned, scientific publications and presentations at conferences, awards and acknowledgments. The letters of reference will also be evaluated.

The list of eligible candidates will be published on the university website at isas.unicam.it and each candidate will be informed via e-mail.

The eligible candidates, included in the s*hort list*, will be invited for an interview in order to complete the final rankings for each area. The interviews will be online and conducted in English by a Committee appointed by the Doctoral Advisory Committee for each doctoral program. Candidates will be notified of the date of the interview by e-mail, with advance notice of a minimum of 10 days. The approximate dates will be from the 20th to the 31st of October 2015.

In this case as well, the evaluation will be based on the recommendations in the European Framework for Research Careers per il profilo R1 (First stage researchers).

The final list of rankings will be published on the university website at isas.unicam.it, and all accepted candidates will be notified of their admission to the doctoral program. Candidates who did not gain admission will receive a concise evaluation of their performance in the selection process from the Admissions Committee.

All candidates involved in the selection process will have 30 days to submit complaints to the following address: postlaurea@unicam.it.

Article 5

Candidates admitted to the doctoral programs must send a letter of acceptance by e-mail (postlaurea@unicam.it) within 10 days of notification of admission.

In order to attend the doctoral programs, candidates must complete an enrollment form, which must be submitted with a photocopy of a valid ID and duly signed.

Prior to the start of the academic year, candidates who are not citizens of the EU must complete their application process and send the following documents to the admissions office either by fax (0737/402099 – 0737/403350) or e-mail (postlaurea@unicam.it):

1. A declaration of equivalent value of their degree with the relevant Italian degree ("Dichiarazione di valore") issued by the Italian Embassy or Consulate for the country of residence;
2. A certificate attesting the original degree certificate with a list of exams and scores translated into Italian and authenticated by the Italian Embassy, Consulate or Diplomatic representative in the country of the university that issued the degree;
3. A photocopy of a valid passport.

Article 6

In order to qualify for a scholarship, candidates must have obtained a degree that is valid for admission to the doctoral program no more than six years prior to the expiration date of this call. The time limit is eight years for those who had attended a post-graduate course, and may be extended for another year for each pregnancy.

The minimum gross amount of the scholarship is € 1,137.00 per month, or higher based on current regulations. For research mobility periods abroad the amount is increased by 50%. Mobility periods abroad are mandatory and cannot exceed a total of 18 months. Doctoral candidates from other countries can spend their mobility periods in Italy, as long as they are with internationally renowned universities or research institutes.

After the first year of the doctoral program, all candidates, with or without a scholarship, are entitled to a *budget* for their research in Italy or abroad, which will be no less than 10% of the scholarship award.

In order qualify for a scholarship, candidates must not have a personal gross income of more than € 8,000.00 per year if employed and € 4,800.00 for freelance work. Candidates are prohibited from working under a permanent contract for the entire duration of the doctoral program. Candidates must certify their income for the calendar year in which the scholarship is to be paid, using the appropriate form. Said certification must be submitted to the SAS on or before July 31 each year. The University administration reserves the right to verify the correctness of said certifications.

In the event that the student's income exceeds the limit, said student shall retain the status of Ph.D. candidate, but the payments for the scholarship will be revoked and the student must reimburse all payments received up to that point.

Scholarship monies are disbursed at the end of each month for a total of 36 months.

Candidates who have been awarded a scholarship and received funding for at least one year cannot apply for a second scholarship.

Scholarships cannot be held in conjunction with any other scholarship, apart from those awarded by national or foreign institutions for the purpose of funding residency abroad for training and research.

Qualified candidates who benefit from a University Research Allowance (Assegno di Ricerca, according to the definition by Italian academic rules) will be admitted as additional entrants even if they do not appear among the winners.

All non-EU candidates are entitled to the same health care coverage as EU citizens. However, an annual fee of € 150.00 must be paid. In addition, non-EU candidates must apply for a residence permit upon enrollment. The total cost for the residence permit € 154,50, and must be renewed each year.

Article 7

Annual tuition fees for attendance of doctoral programs is € 1,000.00, along with a regional study fee of € 140.00.

There are two installments:

1st installment of € 640.00 (at the time of enrollment and at the start of each subsequent academic year);

2nd installment of € 500,00 (by the 30th of June each academic year).

Candidates who have been awarded a scholarship, as well as those who qualify for an ERSU award, are exempt from paying the annual tuition fees. However, they must pay the regional study fee for each of the three academic years. The amount of said fee may vary year to year. For the 2014-15 academic year the fee was € 140.00. Doctoral candidates with ERSU scholarships must also pay the regional study fee.

Article 8

Candidates enrolled in the doctoral program cannot be enrolled in another undergraduate or graduate program at the same time. A concession can be granted if, at the time of enrollment, the candidate must complete only the final exam for the other degree program which was to be completed the academic year preceding that for enrollment in the doctoral program.

Candidates must attend courses, follow the doctoral study program and conduct research without interruption in compliance with the regulations set forth by the Doctoral Advisory Committee. In the case of non-performance, the Doctoral Advisory Committee may, after six months from the start of the program, submit a request to the Board of the SAS to expel the candidate, who will then lose any scholarship that has been awarded. Expulsion takes effect on the date the candidate is notified of the decision made by the Board of the SAS.

Within the context of the activities foreseen by the Doctoral Advisory Committee, candidates can engage in internships at public or private institutions that are not part of the University.

After the first year of study, candidates can engage in tutoring and teaching activities, which may include the assignation of specific course modules. Said activities are subject to the approval of the Doctoral Advisory Committee and will not alter the monetary amount of the scholarship awarded. The faculty in the specific doctoral program where the candidate is studying must oversee said activities to ensure that they do not negatively impact the candidate's research, and, in any case, the total number of hours spent tutoring/teaching may not exceed 40 hours per academic year.

Teaching activities will not constitute the right for compensation from the University and must be agreed upon by the candidate; said activities must not interfere with research training.

Article 9

Upon successful completion of the dissertation defense, the title of Ph.D. is conferred by the Rector of the University of Camerino, as well as by those academic institutions involved in any joint degree programs.

In order to make their dissertation defense, all doctoral candidates must submit a copy of their dissertation to the SAS in electronic form (Compact Disk), along with the overall evaluation made by the Doctoral Advisory Board.

The dissertation consists of a written thesis or graphical work and must be accompanied by a report concerning the work done by the candidate throughout the entire doctoral program, including any publications.

The dissertation is evaluated by at least two outside evaluators who must be highly qualified professors, preferably from foreign institutions. They may not, in any case, be professors who had an advisory role in the drafting of the dissertation. The outside evaluators express their assessment in writing and propose that the candidate either be admitted to the dissertation defense or to postpone the dissertation defense for a period of no longer than 6 months if they believe that substantial work must be done to revise the dissertation.

The Doctoral Defense Committee is appointed by the Director of the SAS upon recommendation by the Doctoral Advisory Committee for the candidate's area of research. The committee is made up of full

professors and associate professors working in a field related to the topic of the dissertation. The majority must not be members of the teaching staff at the University of Camerino, with the presence of foreign experts.

Candidates must send a copy of the dissertation (either a hard copy or in electronic form) to the members of the Committee, along with the overall evaluation of the Doctoral Advisory Board. The assessment made by the outside evaluators must also be sent to the Committee.

If there exist grounded reasons for a candidate's inability to present the doctoral dissertation within the deadline, the Director of the SAS, upon request by the Doctoral Advisory Committee, may grant an extension until the end of the subsequent cycle.

Article 10

For any and all matters not expressly treated in this call, implicit reference is made to current regulations governing Ph.D. programs.

Article 11

All news and notices regarding the selection will be published at: isas.unicam.it.

Article 12

An excerpt of this call is published on the following site, http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/index.cfm/jobs/index

In light of the commitments undertaken by the University of Camerino in terms of the Human Resources Strategy for Researchers, the University has the right to use the HR-Excellence in Research logo.