DIDA
RESEARCH WEEK
BOOK 2018

A walk through the research paths of the Department of Architecture of Florence
In February 2018, the Department of Architecture of the University of Florence (DIDA) promoted an open and public analysis and evaluation of the research carried out by the Department during its first five years of existence in order to define its strategy, the relationship with third and second cycle education, the role of experimental research and the DIDA-LABS laboratory system, as well as of research units and inter-university research centers.

The objective of the DIDA Research Week, through the documentation, communication and evaluation of the activities carried out by the Department in national and international research projects or in individual or exploratory projects, is an analysis and an in-depth reflection on the research activities at all levels carried out during the first five years of the Department: a wide and transparent reflection which communicates what the research carried out by DIDA is in all its different forms, calling the most qualified colleagues in Florence, Italy and abroad to discuss and to evaluate it and to contribute to the identification of future goals, strategies and actions.

The transparency strategy in scientific communication developed by the Department plays a central role not only concerning the dissemination of knowledge but above all for the effective evaluation by the entire scientific community, certainly more effective than the current assessment procedures. The increasingly international dimension of research and education requires the maximum possible transparency and accessibility of research results.

The Department’s commitment to supporting scientific journals, the DIDAPress publishing, the Communication Laboratory and the first DIDA Research Week itself aims to meet this need.
INTRO

DIDA Research Week. Overview of DIDA research environment from 2013 up to 2018  
Saverio Mecca

DIDA RESEARCH STRATEGY | A general view

Projects and relations between fields of knowledge  
Giuseppe Lotti

Towards an innovative doctorate  
Giuseppe De Luca

Didalabs. Clusters and applied research  
Giorgio Verdiani

Understanding research through communication. Concept, methodologies and tools of DRW  
Susanna Cerri

Setting Connections. Inter-university Centres  
Roberto Bologna, Paola Gallo

DIDA RESEARCH MAP | 2013-2018

DIDA Research Systems  
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Inter-university centres ABITA_CIST_TESIS  
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ABITA

TESIS

Laboratories  
97

A&P - Architecture & Project cluster  
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Architecture and Auto-construction | LAA

Prato Laboratory | Laboratorioprato

Technologies for the Mediterranean Area Laboratory | TAM Lab

Theatre | Architecture Laboratory | TEARC Lab

Urban Design Laboratory | UD

AHCV - Architectural Heritage Conservation and Valorisation cluster  
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Architectural Heritage Restoration and Conservation | LARC

Architectural Survey Laboratory | LRA architecturalsurveylab

Cultural Heritage Management Laboratory | CHM_Lab

Heritage City Laboratory | Heritage City_Lab

Materials and Structures Testing Laboratory | LPMS
DSI - Design and Sustainable Innovation cluster
Communication Laboratory | didacommunicationlab
Design for Kids
Italian Design for the train | DIT lab
Ergonomics & Design Laboratory | LED
Modelling Laboratory for Design | LMD lab
Multimedia Architecture Interaction Laboratory | mailab
Reverse Engineering Interaction design | Rei Lab
Sustainable Design Laboratory | sustainabilitylab

ICT - Information Communication Technologies cluster
Informatic Laboratory of Architecture | informaticlab – LiA
Cartography Laboratory | LCart
Photography Laboratory | Lfa
Architectural Model Laboratory | LMA
Architecture Video Laboratory | VI.D.A. lab

TEL - Territories, Ecosystems and Landscapes cluster
Critical Planning & Design
Laboratory of Sociological Research on Design, Architecture and Planning | LabSo
Landscape Design Lab
Laboratory of Ecological Design of Settlements | LaPEI
Plans and Projects for the City and the Territory | PPCT
Regional Design Lab

PhD Programs
Architectural and Environmental Survey and Representation
Design
History of Architecture and the City
Landscape Architecture
Technology of Architecture
Urban and Regional Planning and Design

Research Units
Cities and Regions Across Local Boundaries | A.VAST Area Vasta
COMMunities REsilience | CORE
Documentation and Management of Small Historical Settlements | DM.SH5
Exploring Landscape Architecture | ELA eu.med.
Florence Accessibility Lab | FAL
Heritage and Euro-Mediterranean Design | Dar_Med
International Group on Urban and Architecture Design | INTEGRO_UAD
Landscape, Cultural Heritage. Project | PPCP
Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Innovation | INN-LINK-S
Projects on Environment, Cities and Territories in the South | ProjectS
Urban Bioregion Project | PROBIUR
Sustainable Urban Projects & Research | SUP&R
Technology for the Project | TxP_R
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The “Architettura e Autocostruzione” Lab, belongs to the DIDALABS net, and is focused on research development and students training. The Lab is aimed at developing, increasing and promoting the culture of auto-construction in the architectural design. This cultural activity comprehends all the experiences, at the different scales, including all the steps of the objects fulfilment, from the conceptual design to the final realization. The research activities are made on real models, prototypes and 1:1 scale systems, which are both the final product of the work and in-progress subject of study.

The proposed procedure, based on the adoption or models in the design developing and optimization, can be applied from the urban scale, such urban staging and temporary constructions, to the detail scale, such as structural nodes or single components.

The “Architecture and Auto-Construction Lab” supports all activities where the adoption of 1:1 models is an essential part of the students training, or research and integrative activities.
DIDA, the Department of Architecture of the University of Florence, performed an open and public analysis and evaluation of the scientific research carried out during the first five years of activity since its establishment, in order to define its research strategies, their relationship with the 2nd and 3rd cycle education, the role of experimental research and the system of labs at DIDA (DIDALABS), as well as the role of research units and interuniversity research centers.

The aim of the DIDA Research Week Book 2018 is to communicate the results of such research, in all the aspects which were carried out at DIDA during its first five years of activity.