STEM Degrees: A new challenge to support the training of future-generation AI managers

This is the new fundraising project by Fly University Project, an association established in 2019 with the aim of supporting the education in STEM subjects of deserving young individuals. The association aims to raise 120,000 euros for a total of 40 scholarships.

Among the objectives is not only to provide financial resources to disadvantaged students but also to reduce the gender gap in these fields of study, which are traditionally male-dominated.

The challenge is open to students from the Polytechnic University of Turin, the University of Milano-Bicocca, the University of Bologna, the University of Pisa, and the University of Calabria. Donations can be made until December 31, 2023.

Milan, July 3, 2023 - In Italy, only 24.5% of graduates have STEM degrees, and of these, only 14.5% are women. These low and discouraging figures are in line with the rest of Europe, where the percentages are also quite low, with 25.8% for France, 26.2% for the United Kingdom, and 27.3% for Greece. Germany leads the way with 36.8% of graduates, of which 19.2% are women. But why do young people still struggle to embark on a STEM degree? Certainly, the costs can be a deterrent, especially for modest-income families who cannot afford the thousands of euros typically required for a degree in these subjects.

To assist young talents in pursuing studies in these fields and provide support where the financial barrier may otherwise impede the choice of the educational path, a challenge has been launched with the goal of helping 40 deserving students with scholarships totaling 120,000 euros. Contributing to the education of young people today enables the qualification and talented managers of tomorrow.

Driving this ambitious project is Fly University Project (https://www.flyunipro.org/), an association established in 2019 with the aim of raising funds to provide financial assistance to students facing difficult or disadvantaged situations through university scholarships in the fields of Artificial Intelligence, Management, and Economics, based on the fundamental principles of merit and talent. Another goal of the association is to connect companies with talented young individuals through the awarded scholarships, providing opportunities for internships, classroom speeches, and experimental theses, even on an international level.

A challenge to help 40 students from all over Italy: donations are open until December 31.

"With this new challenge, we want to promote education and research in the field of Artificial Intelligence by supporting deserving university students who aspire to pursue a career in this rapidly evolving field," explains Ing. Massimo Penzo, President and founder of the association. "We have set an important goal of raising 120,000 euros through donations. While the objective is ambitious, we are confident that there are private donors and companies interested in supporting this cause because the students we assist today will be the difference-making professionals of tomorrow."

The challenge is open to students from the Polytechnic University of Turin (Bachelor's Degree in Data Science and Engineering), the University of Milano-Bicocca (Master's Degree in Theory and Technology), the University of Pisa (Master's Degree in Computer Engineering), the University of Bologna (Master's Degree in Business Management), and the University of Calabria (Master's Degree in Computer Engineering).

The initiative aims to collect scholarships for students currently enrolled in STEM degree programs with a strong focus on education and research (including international) in the field of AI. It promotes academic excellence and innovation while addressing the gender gap in STEM subjects.

Challenge 2023 focuses on fundraising but also offers various opportunities to scholarship recipients. Fly University Project will support students even after graduation, providing guidance and assistance in their job search aligned with their field of study. Additionally, thanks to the numerous companies in the Fly University Project network, students who receive scholarships may be directly selected by partner companies to start their career there. Prominent figures in the AI sector who have willingly shared their experiences with students include Massimiliano Nicolini, R&D Director at Olimaint, and Paolo Brera, Executive Director at DisruptiveS.

To participate in the challenge, simply visit the website https://www.flyunipro.org/challenge-2023-eng/, choose the university to support (and the number of students if desired), and proceed with the donation. It is possible to support multiple students from different universities.

Fly University Project

Fly University Project is an association established in 2019, born from the combination of the founder Ing. Massimo Penzo's passion for new technologies and

his desire to support young individuals facing challenging economic and social situations. With ongoing assistance, these individuals can express their talents and become valuable assets for society in the future. The association's mission focuses on three main aspects: providing scholarships to deserving and proactive students in STEM, economics, and management, with a particular focus on artificial intelligence (AI) and closely related fields; promoting progress through active participation and community engagement in scientific and technological dissemination events; and, last but not least, providing concrete support for students' entry into the workforce, acting as a bridge between the younger generation and companies, with the aim of reducing current difficulties. To learn more, visit: https://www.flyunipro.org/

Press contacts: Disclosers

Valeria Volpato: valeria.volpato@disclosers.it (348 9263279)
Caterina Vertaldi: caterina.vertaldi@disclosers.it (348 5441424)
Daniela Monteverdi: daniela.monteverdi@disclosers.it (349 3192268)