



FONDAZIONE  
EDISON

## Fondazione Edison Conference on Fundamental Science

FABIOLA GIANOTTI

CERN

7 November 11.00 Fundamental research and much more: CERN's example

Introduction

### Investing in science for an Expo follow up and for Milan techno-science growth

The idea behind the conference "Fundamental Science" differs from the cycle of conferences on "political economy" in two main ways.

The first is that Fondazione Edison is taking this opportunity to draw attention to a world famous Italian woman scientist, Fabiola Gianotti, who completed her education including Ph.D. studies at the University of Milan, in such way demonstrating the high quality of education at an Italian state university.

On the occasion of EXPO 2015, this aspect highlights the city of Milan's potential to grow in the field of scientific and technological research, given adequate financial resources. Milan's universities can combine fundamental scientific and technological applications for industry, thus emerging as a solid European center with increasingly strong international links.

The second reason is that Edison and Fondazione Edison trace their roots back to Carlo Cattaneo and Giuseppe Colombo, 19th and 20th century Milanese personalities, who throughout their lives emphasized the importance of education, science and technology over the long term, sometimes without an immediate return on investment but as fundamental contribution to development.

For this reason we consider that Fabiola Gianotti is the best Italian scientist to close Edison and Fondazione Edison's Expo Conferences and at the same time to launch a Mission for investing in science and technology in Milan and in Italy in the coming decades.

*Alberto Quadrio Curzio*

*Marco Fortis*



## FABIOLA GIANOTTI



Fabiola Gianotti received a Ph.D. in experimental particle physics from the University of Milano in 1989. Since 1994 she has been a research physicist in the Physics Department of CERN, the European Organisation for Nuclear Research, and since August 2013 an honorary Professor at the University of Edinburgh. She is also a member of the Italian Academy of Sciences (Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei).

Dr Gianotti has worked on several CERN experiments, being involved in detector R&D and construction, software development and data analysis.

From March 2009 to February 2013 she held the elected position of project leader (“Spokesperson”) of the ATLAS experiment. The ATLAS Collaboration consists of 3000 physicists from 38 countries. On 4 July 2012 she presented the ATLAS results on the search for the Higgs boson in an historic seminar at CERN. This event marked the announcement of the discovery of the Higgs boson by the ATLAS and CMS experiments.

Dr Gianotti is the author or co-author of more than 500 publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals. She has given more than 30 invited plenary talks at the major international conferences in the field.

She was/is a member of several international committees, such as the Scientific Council of the CNRS (France), the Physics Advisory Committee of the Fermilab Laboratory (USA), the Council of the European Physical Society, the Scientific Council of the DESY Laboratory (Germany), the Scientific Advisory Committee of NIKHEF (Netherlands). She is a member of the recently set-up Scientific Advisory Board of the UN Secretary-General, Mr Ban Ki-moon.

She received honorary doctoral degrees from the University of Uppsala, the Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, McGill University (Montreal) and Oslo University.

Dr Gianotti was awarded the honour of “Grande Ufficiale dell’ordine al merito della Repubblica” by the Italian President Giorgio Napolitano. She received the Special Fundamental Physics Prize of the Milner Foundation (2012), the Enrico Fermi Prize of the Italian Physical Society (2013) and the Medal of Honour of the Niels Bohr Institute of Copenhagen (2013).

She was included among the “Top 100 most inspirational women” by The Guardian newspaper (UK, 2011), ranked 5th in Time magazine’s Personality of the Year (USA, 2012), included among the “Top 100 most influential women” by Forbes magazine (USA, 2013) and considered among the “Leading Global Thinkers of 2013” by Foreign Policy magazine (USA, 2013).

In 2016, she will become the first female Director-General of CERN.

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