
Eu-SPRI ECC (Early Career Researcher) Conference

“Sowing the seeds of the future: The financing of tomorrow’s innovations”



Bergamo (Italy)

24-26 June 2015

Sowing the seeds of the future: The financing of tomorrow’s innovations



CRUI

Conferenza dei Rettori
delle Università Italiane

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The Knowledge Society

- Knowledge society is reshaping social relations and interactions and is coupled to the rhetoric of competitive advantage and post-fordist society
 - Knowledge production and information processing for competitive purposes
 - Wider and faster flow of communications
 - Shift in occupational structures from manual workers to highly educated and flexible knowledge workers
 - Role of educational institutions to form the human capital fitted

New University

- We need to acknowledge that we are in a context that has dramatically changed in the last few years
- Society requires a continuous renewal of its knowledge base and of the scientific system supporting it (Paleari et al. *forthcoming*)
 - PhD research is precious assets in knowledge economy and society
- The university needs to adapt to the society it belongs to
 - Need to link up educational supply to economy and labour market dynamics

Which career opportunities for PhD students today?

- Problem was less relevant in a framework with growing resources
 - PhDs were employed within the Higher Education systems
- What should PhD holders become?
 - Within academia: Academic researchers
 - In Italy
 - Abroad
 - Outside academia
 - Applied researchers
 - Researchers in companies and research centres
 - Executives
 - Entrepreneurs or self-employed

Which opportunities for PhDs in the Italian academia?

- In the past, PhDs were employed within the HE system
- Today, Italian universities award about 11.000 doctorates per year
 - BUT no intake from the system: about 400 new positions per year

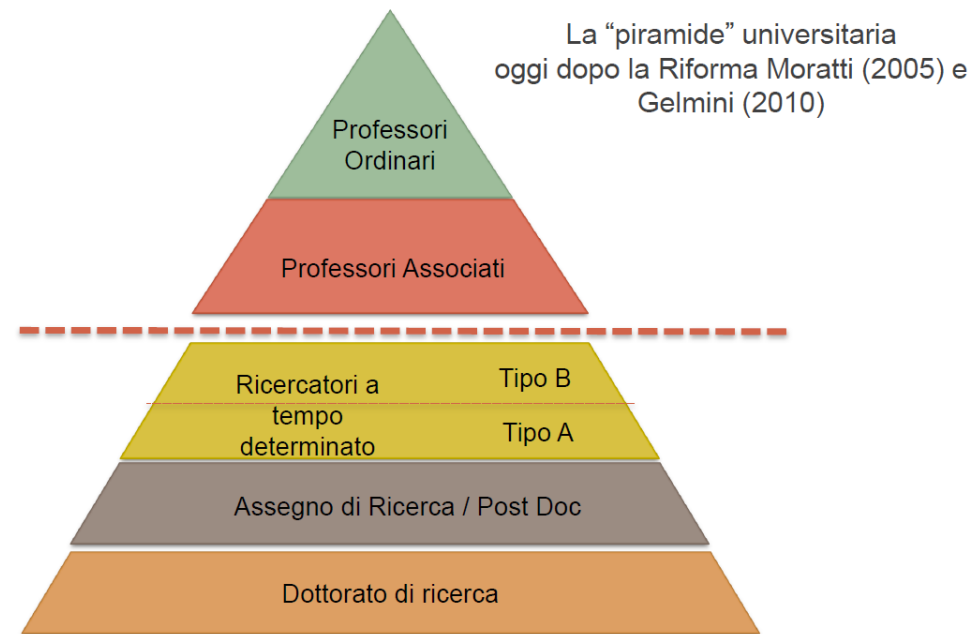
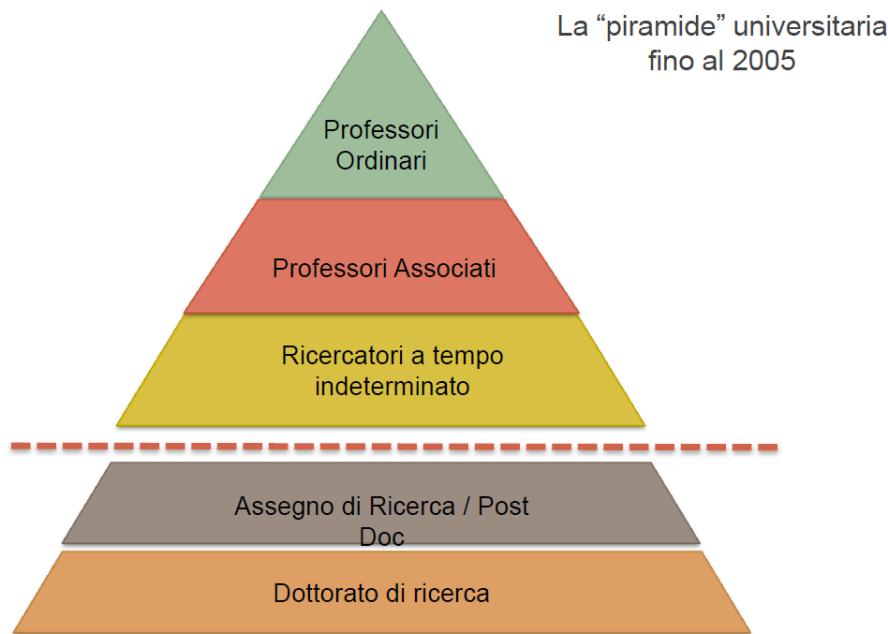
Atenei Statali	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Δ	Δ %
Docenti	60.557	58.716	55.940	54.953	54.239	53.342	52.092	-8.465	-14,0%
Docenti di ruolo	60.246	58.298	55.192	53.893	52.448	51.008	49.436	-10.810	-17,9%
Professori ordinari	18.210	17.165	15.162	14.524	13.833	13.219	12.530	-5.680	-31,2%
Professori associati	17.547	16.858	16.229	15.884	15.435	15.106	16.242	-1.305	-7,4%
Ricercatori a tempo indeterminato	24.489	24.275	23.801	23.485	23.180	22.683	20.664	-3.825	-15,6%
Docenti a tempo determinato	311	418	748	1.060	1.791	2.334	2.656	2.345	754,0%
Straordinari a tempo determinato	7	10	16	15	21	18	16	9	128,6%
Ricercatore a t.d. (art. 24 comma 3-a L. 240/10)			3	140	997	1.725	2.101	2.101	
Ricercatore a t.d. (art. 24 comma 3-b L. 240/10)				2	13	91	218	218	
Ricercatore a t.d. (art.1 comma 14 L. 230/05)	304	408	729	903	760	499	321	17	5,6%

Data al 31 December of each year. For the year 2014, data at 3 December

Source: HERe4I - Elaborazione su dati Statistica MIUR e CINECA

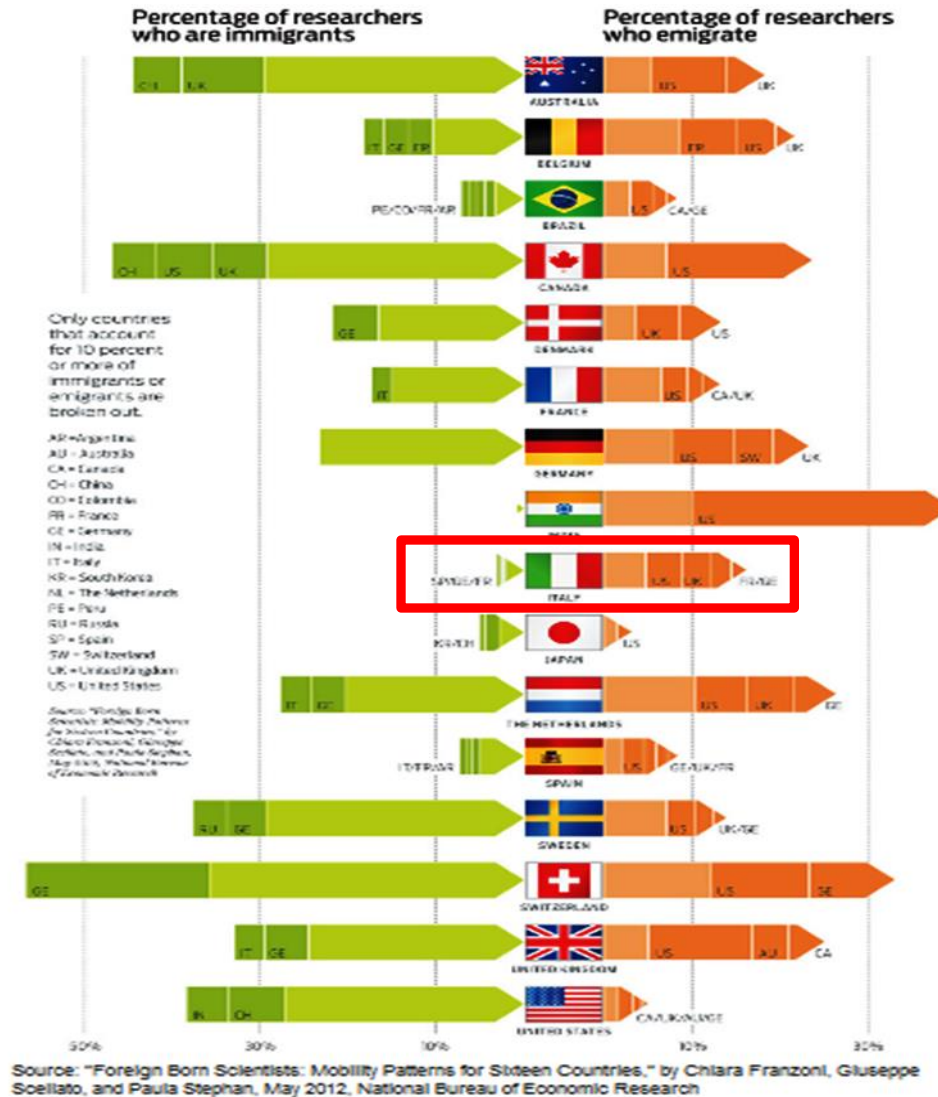
Academic staff: Temporary employment contract

- Insecurity of job positions for young academics



Fonte: FLC CGIL, Ricercarsi (2014)

Outward flow from Italy



Financing young researchers at Unibg

- 16 Interdisciplinary Research centers
- ITALY® - Italian TALented Young researchers
 - Grants for Visiting Professor and Scholar
 - Funding post-doc positions
 - Interdisciplinary research projects
- «Adotta il talento» (adopt the talent)
 - Fund raising program
- TOP 10 Program
 - For the TOP 10% students unibg is free of charge