

English summary

Robert D. Anderson

The Funding of British Universities in Historical Perspective

This article traces the evolution of university finance in the United Kingdom, assessing the balance between student fees, state support, and endowment. Direct support by the state grew slowly in the nineteenth century, but by 1914 all universities except Oxford and Cambridge depended on it, and it was generally a larger share of their income than student fees. This balance did not change fundamentally before 1939, but in the early twentieth century public support for poorer students, and public and private funding for scientific research, added to universities incomes. After the Second World War, university expansion led to almost complete dependence on the state. From the 1980s, this trend was reversed, as the cost of mass higher education became difficult to sustain, and market solutions gained wide political support. In recent years, student fees have increased steeply, but the issue remains politically contentious.

Keywords: Universities, United Kingdom, student fees, university finance, University Grants Committee, scientific research

Christophe Charle

*The Academic Policy in France of Third and Fifth Republic and its limits.
Science, democracy and elites*

After the Franco-prussian war, the republican governments tried to reform higher learning in order to follow partially the Humboldtian model based on a link between research and teaching. Another aim was to enlarge the recruitment of elites to give birth to a meritocratic democracy inspired by the Republican and revolutionary tradition. These two aims were more or less pursued during the seventy years of Third Republic. But important lacks of radical decisions hindered to obtain a coherent transformation of the universities: centralization in Paris of the best students and professors, persistence of an elitist sector, the *grandes écoles*, inequality between faculties, backwardness in research investment due to the financial crisis of state finances after WWI. These lacunae explain the persistent unease of French higher Learning in the second half of XXth century.

Keywords: higher learning, universities, Third Republic, meritocracy, elites, science, democracy.

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William Zumeta
*U.S. Higher Education Finance:
Decentralization and Diversity*

This article surveys the history of U.S. higher education finance with an emphasis on the post-World War II period and particularly developments in recent decades. The U.S. system's constitutionally based delegation of responsibility for education to the states ensures great diversity across fifty states in a large country and this is described, along with the variables associated with key state differences. The article also examines recent developments, including the general reduction in state budgetary support for institutions, the shift in state support toward student grants relative to institutional support, and the rise of the performance accountability movement tied to state funding. American governments are seeking more than ever from higher education while providing lower levels of financial support.

Keywords: United States, higher education, finance, decentralization, diversity, decline.

Andrea Mariuzzo
*Myth and reality from overseas.
Italy and the American academic model in the twentieth century*

For almost a century several critics of Italian university system have been looking at the United States, the emerging world-leading model in higher education policies, as an ideal point of reference for substantial reforms based on decentralization, deregulation, and "meritocracy". The essay clarifies some aspects concerning the origins and the development of such image of American university model in Italy. It starts from some significant moments of intervention in Italy of American agencies of cultural diplomacy for the establishment of mutual exchanges, such as the first U.S.-funded programs of international mobility of young scholars between the two Wars and the missions of American advisers for the education reforms in the 1960's. It shows that, though following American stimuli, in Italian debates the example of U.S. universities acquired different meanings according to the contexts and the political objectives of its advocates.

Keywords: History of universities, public and cultural diplomacy, higher education reforms, contemporary Italy, United States, cultural and academic exchanges.

Francesco Marin
*Science, freedom and competition.
The influence of the German academic model in Liberal Italy*

This article deals with the perception of the German academic model in 19th and early 20th century Italy. The high popularity of the model up to the first world war was based upon a selective perception of its constituent parts: the freedom of teaching and learning, the idealized role of the *Privatdozent*, the competition in and among the universities, the prevalence of scientific aims over educational ones. The debate in the press, in parliament, university journals and the academic world shows that the German model, although generally well known, was often exploited. In fact, even if many authors warned of superficial comparisons and the difficulty of an application to the Italian situation, the

model supplied arguments for nearly each participant in the Italian university reform debate since the middle of the 19th century.

Keywords: Germany, science, model, perception, Italy, university.

Mauro Moretti

The “principle of our university public law”.

Encyclopaedic items on Italian University in the early twentieth century

This article examines some legal and pedagogical encyclopaedic items. The items were published in the early years of the twentieth century, and they were devoted to Italian university. This coherent corpus of texts highlights the general characteristics of the Italian university system fifty years after the birth of the Italian national state, also with reference to the international framework of higher education. The general assessment proposed by those qualified observers had many critical points, around which several prospects for an university reform took shape. The constraints imposed by the encyclopedic media did not conceal the strong political implications of public discourse on the university. The Italian university system was born from the combination of very different university experiences; it had gradually gained its recognizable appearance. The encyclopaedic items examined in this article expressed a general awareness of the institutional consolidation of the Italian university system.

Keywords: university, Italy, XIX-XX centuries, encyclopaedias, national models, public law

Carmine Cassino

The Italian Community in Portugal:

between Revolution and Political Repression (1820-1828)

The purpose of this study is to reconstruct and analyze individual and political episodes of the Italian community living in Portugal (with special regard to the community living in Lisbon) in the first half of the Nineteenth century. This paper outlines a brief profile of the above-mentioned community during the second decade of the century, by referring to two emigrations environments which together delineate the “Italian nation” in Portugal: a first one, strictly political, characterized by the *Risorgimento* exile, and a second one properly social. The political events that take places in Portugal are the context in which these two lines develop and interact; these events involve a large part of that community. Keywords: Portugal, exile, emigration, Italian *Risorgimento*, Italians abroad, Nineteenth Century.

Lorenzo Ettorre

The Catholic Religion and the Italian Communist Party

The article analyses the attention and the interest the Italian Communist Party showed towards the Catholic religion, from 1944 to 1954. The considered diachronic development – intentionally widened to a ten years period – enabled an overall view of the Communist attitude towards the Catholics and let interruptions and continuities appear. Among them, the last ones prevailed. The Turning Point inaugurated by Togliatti in Salerno, in

fact – although conditioned by the Cold War national and International changes, that accelerated or slowed it according to the occasions – could be considered irrevocable, laying the basis for the following years Communist politics, culminating, after two decades, in the “Historic compromise”.

Keywords: Communist Party, Christian Democracy, Catholicism, Catholic question in the Italian Communist Party, Togliatti, De Gasperi.

Gianluca Scroccu

*Civil religion and political religion in Barack Obama:
continuity, innovation, realism and rhetoric*

The article considers how Barack Obama has utilised civil religion in his political career since the election to the White House, with particular attention to his religious formation. Through exploration of Obama’s writings and speeches, the paper analyzes how in the political debate, and especially in his reflections on the dilemmas and contradictions of international relations, Obama has used religion to assert and claim a midline approach of government. It focuses on the influence of his political theology by Rev. Jeremiah A. Wright and the black church, white liberal Protestantism, his mother Ann Dunham’s skepticism, the pragmatism and the Niebuhr’s work. One aim of this paper is to underline how the religious impulse, in the Obama’s political views, has become consistent with the ethics of a pluralistic democracy. But these innovative, inclusive and national vision did not obtain all of his objectives, especially in the second presidential term because of international instability and the weakening of its leadership.

Keywords: civil religion, Barack Obama, United States, Pragmatism, pluralistic democracy, Reinhold Niebuhr