

Feliciano Benvenuti for the centenary of his birth

Display objects - case 1



1. August 7th, 1974 - Letter from Minister of Education Malfatti to appoint Feliciano Benvenuti as rector

Feliciano Benvenuti was appointed Rector of the Ca' Foscari University of Venice on August 7th 1974, for the 1974-1977 triennium. The appointment as Rector was then confirmed for the next two mandates, the three-year periods of 1977-1980 and 1980-1983. During the nine years of rector Benvenuti, Ca' Foscari went through a period of historical development of its Faculties and degree programmes, accompanied by a major expansion of services and building renewal with the acquisition of new locations, conducted in the framework of detailed planning of the city, as decided by the city of Venice at the end of 1974. The attention that was paid by the rector and the Board of Directors aims to reaffirm the idea of "the absolute necessity that the link between University and city is both active and ongoing "(Resolution of the Board of Directors in January 1975, and Rector's report for the academic year 1974/75).



2. September 12th 1975 - project by Carlo Scarpa for the restoration of San Sebastiano attached to the minutes of the Board of Governors

The restoration project of San Sebastiano, curated by Carlo Scarpa, was presented to the city of Venice on June 5th 1975, and approved by the Board of Directors on 12th September 1975. The project "prefigures ample space for scientific research and educational exercise, planning an important positive contribution for the city " for the redevelopment of the port area," by reviving the entire interior of the complex : the eighteenth-century house, the Gothic building, the part constructed in the late eighteenth and nineteenth century "(from the Rector's report for the academic year 1974/75). The theca exposes the Minutes of the Board of Directors, where lies the San Sebastiano Restoration Project (attached to the minutes of the meeting on September 12th 1975).



3. Entrance gate of San Sebastiano designed by Carlo Scarpa

The portal, which was the project of Carlo Scarpa, was created by architect Guido Pietropoli. It consists of a frame made of Istria stone with a ladder trim. The fifteenth-century statue of St. Sebastian is inserted in a special niche of circular shape formed in the top margin. Some of the other buildings which were developed during these years include: Santa Marta, Ca' Garzoni and Moro, Ca' Bembo, the Celestia, the sports facilities of Calle Guardian, the transfer of the law seminar to Ca' Bottacin, the arrangement of the Ca' Bernardo General Library ("a modern and functional structure, capable of realizing the meeting point between the past and present scientific cultural needs which makes up a university Library", Rector's report for the academic year 1974/75). The photograph was taken in 1991 (Photo: The Ca' Foscari University of Venice).



4. April 6th, 1976 - Ceremony of dedication of the Great Hall to Silvio Trentin, Ca' Dolfin (Photo AFI Venezia)

In 1975, in occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Resistance and the Liberation, rector Benvenuti remembered the professor Silvio Trentin, who also taught in these classrooms, "and that in them, always, even in the darkest times, freedom celebrated its moments of progress", recalling "the value for the free institutions of the struggle and sacrifice of those who fought for justice and freedom "(Rector's report for the academic year 1974/75). On April 6th 1976 the main hall of Ca' Dolfin was dedicated to Silvio Trentin. During the ceremony, chaired by the rector, present among the guests were Ugo La Malfa and Franca Trentin, portrayed in photographs on display. Silvio Trentin (1885-1944) was professor of administrative law at Ca' Foscari University between 1923 and 1926. He was also a lawyer and member of parliament and was active in the anti-fascist resistance and the partisan struggle in the Veneto.



5. 1981 - Publication by the Head of Administration with foreword by Rector Feliciano Benvenuti

During the years that Benvenuti served as rector, the University was faced with a period of major reforms on democratization of the university's governing bodies (such as the Decree-Law no. 580 of October 1st 1973 and the Law no. 525 of 1974), and Presidential Decree no. 382/1980, which involved the professors' careers and determined a new organizational structure for universities. In particular, skills related to educational activities were attributed to the Faculties, while departments were entrusted to research and given the budgetary, financial and administrative autonomy. The volume exposed testifies to the profound involvement of Ca' Foscari, in particular Stumpo, Head of Administration, and Rector Benvenuti in implementing university reform.

Display objects - case 2



6. Libri di testo del corso di Istituzioni di Diritto Pubblico di Feliciano Benvenuti, anni '50 - '80

Feliciano Benvenuti insegnò all'Università di Padova tra il 1951 e il 1954 e all'Università cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano tra il 1954 e il 1969.

A Ca' Foscari fu docente dal 1951 al 1989 (professore fuori ruolo dal 1986), e assistente del Seminario di diritto dal 1956, per poi diventarne direttore dal 1983; si dedicò ai seguenti insegnamenti:

- Istituzioni di diritto pubblico (incaricato dal 1951 al 1964, ordinario dal 1969 fino al 1982, come supplente nel 1988/1989)
- Diritto amministrativo (incaricato dal 1965 al 1981, ordinario dal 1982 fino al 1985)
- Scienza dell'amministrazione (incaricato supplente dal 1984 al 1986).

I libri di testo esposti (nelle loro quinte edizioni aggiornate) sono da considerarsi tra i più significativi dei suoi corsi: “Appunti di diritto amministrativo” (1. ed. 1952) e “L’ordinamento repubblicano” (1. ed. 1961).



7. January 22nd, 1992 - Minutes from the Faculty Board of Economics: proposal to award the title of professor emeritus to Feliciano Benvenuti.

On January 22nd 1992, the Faculty Board of Economics and Business approved the proposal to confer the title of Professor Emeritus to Feliciano Benvenuti, "for educational, scientific and administrative activities at Ca' Foscari".



8. 16th June 1992 - Minister Ruberti (Ministry of University and Research) on conferring the title of professor emeritus to Feliciano Benvenuti

June 16, 1992 - The minister of the University and of Scientific and Technological Research, Antonio Ruberti, announces to the rector of Ca' Foscari (Giovanni Castellani) that he has given the title of professor emeritus to prof. Benvenuti, "with the hope that his work as a scholar can still contribute to the further development of the discipline professed in years to come".



9. “Remembering Feliciano Benvenuti”, Istituto Veneto di Scienze Lettere ed Arti, 1999

Feliciano Benvenuti was also owner of a law firm specializing in administrative law, and assumed important roles in various Venetian institutions, including:

- President of Palazzo Grassi (Fiat management) 1984-1999;
- President of the Istituto Veneto di Scienze, lettere ed arti from 1991 to 1997;
- Member of the Cini Foundation Council since 1962, and then president from 1997 to 1999 (he had previously refused the role of president offered to him by Vittorio Cini in 1976, since otherwise engaged as rector of Ca' Foscari).

He was also the first president of the ISAP-Institute for Public Administration Science, Milan (from the foundation in 1959 until 1972), and has held various positions in numerous financial and economic institutions. The volume exposed collects the speeches of Vittore Branca and Leopoldo Mazzaroli in memory of Feliciano Benvenuti, that were held at the Istituto Veneto di Scienze, lettere ed arti on October 23rd, 1999



10. Venice, 1999 - Proceedings of the Conference “The science of administrative law in Feliciano Benvenuti thought”

The scientific work of Feliciano Benvenuti took place from 1951 until his death in 1999, and helped to renew studies on public administration and administrative law. The documents exhibited here concern a conference organized by Ca' Foscari colleagues in December 1999, with the intent to "rebuild the scientific thought [of Benvenuti] in cultural contexts that have seen him form and then evolve" in order to "draw a faithful portrait of the professor, as a scientist [...], and to create a new opportunity to reflect on the administrative law today, and to project the memory into the future ", with speakers that “shared the extraordinary experience of building the science of administrative law with the professor”(Carmelita Camardi, presentation, p. VII).