

In memory of **Luigi Colazzo**

We dedicate the issue of Je-LKS to the memory of our Director, Prof. Luigi “Gino” Colazzo.

Gino left us suddenly on the afternoon of Friday, the 6th of September. It was a bolt from the blue. The news caught us all by surprise, and filled us with a sense of sadness and solitude.

This is therefore the last issue of the journal signed off by Gino, which I have the honour of closing and passing into the hands of our readers. However, before we turn our attention to all the interesting articles of this month’s issue, I would like to say a few words in memory of our Director.

Certainly, others could write, and have written, much better than me of his career, his important role within the University, in particular the University of Trento, and even more so as one of the pioneers of distance learning in Italy.

This is why, in his memory, I would like to say a few words about our shared experience.

I met Gino as a graduate student in 2004; we immediately developed a great mutual understanding that grew over time. After graduating and starting work at the University, Gino chose me as his research collaborator; indeed, one of his great merits was to believe in young people, to the point of remaining in the background to help them grow.

Our professional relationship quickly turned into a deep friendship.

We assembled the management of Je-LKS together in 2010 when Gino became its Director; his objective from the start was to open up the journal to the world even more, transforming it into an independent, scientifically strong publication. He wanted to grow it into a familiar point of reference in the national and international context.

I like to remember his first editorial, when he introduced himself as Director with the following phrase:

[...] First of all I would like to be a discreet director. So I will not use the editorials to tell you what I think except in exceptional cases. This because the journal, and in reality also the editorial project is made by the authors. Without good articles one cannot make a good journal and one cannot write good articles if these are not preceded by good research. Therefore everything depends on the quality of the research of the authors. Task of the Scientific board, of the editorial board, of the friends who have accepted to review the papers and of the director is to publish the best of what the authors will want to present us. [...]

He respected this commitment throughout his tenure, linking the journal's quality exclusively to the quality of the published works, without any imposition and based only on their contents.

I also like to recall how he ended his piece:

[...] In conclusion I would like to do this job with many friends, with those who are already here and with those who I hope will join in. [...]

I would say that, thanks to his vision and commitment, we have successfully achieved these and other objectives in almost ten years of dedicated work; a quality journal published by a group of good friends.

I will always remember Gino not only for his competence, knowledge and honesty, but above all for his kindness, his irony and his engaging laughter.

I will forever be grateful to Gino for believing in me, for helping me to grow, for the hundreds of hours we spent writing at the PC and for the good times spent talking about politics and history.

Gino is someone who is difficult to forget, who enriched all those who have had the good fortune and the pleasure of meeting him.

Thank you Gino, also from all the editorial staff, for giving us the opportunity to know and appreciate you, and for all the gifts of knowledge and wisdom that you have given us.

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