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EDITORIAL: A LOOK TO THE PAST AND TO THE FUTURE OF THE APP JOURNAL FOR PHYSICAL, MATHEMATICAL AND NATURAL SCIENCES

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(Chairman of the Editorial Board)

The Atti della Accademia Peloritana dei Pericolanti - Classe di Scienze Fisiche, Matematiche e Naturali is a serial publication issued by the Accademia Peloritana dei Pericolanti (APP), a scientific society formed at Messina (Italy) in 1729. The current APP transactions started out as periodic news sheets containing the notes and reports presented by the members of the divisions ("Classi") into which the Academy has been and still is organized, according to subject areas. The more recent historical thread of the present publication can be traced back to the Atti della Reale Accademia Peloritana (ISSN 0365-592X), regularly published with annual frequency from 1878 [1, 2]. In 1936 this publication split into five sections, one of which was the Atti della Reale Accademia Peloritana. Classe di Scienze Fisiche, Matematiche e Biologiche (ISSN 0365-5520). Then, in 1943 the Division of Physical, Mathematical and Biological Sciences was separated into two autonomous divisions: "Physical, Mathematical and Natural Sciences" and "Medical and Biological Sciences". Correspondingly, two new publications stemmed from the former one, one of which was the Atti della Accademia Peloritana dei Pericolanti - Classe di Scienze Fisiche, Matematiche e Naturali, whose printed version (ISSN 0365-0359) was replaced by the current online version (ISSN 1825-1242) in 2004.

Since its very appearance, the online version has been promoted and qualified as a peerreviewed open access (OA) journal. As such, it has been included in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), a service hosted at Lund University in Sweden which provides access to quality controlled OA journals [3]. Now, in order to adhere in a still more transparent and unambiguous way to the currently defined OA standards also in matter of copyright, this journal will start publishing under a Creative Commons (CC) [4] license. In particular, we shall adopt the 3.0 "unported" version of the "attribution" (BY) license which "... lets others distribute, remix, tweak, and build upon your work, even commercially, as long as they credit you for the original creation." [5] This specific license, while guaranteeing the correct and explicit attribution of rights ownership to the authors, does not in any way hinder the dissemination or "usefulness" of the published research and allows, among other things, for long-term preservation and text- and data-mining. In this respect, the BY license is the CC license which more closely corresponds to the ethos of the Budapest OA Initiative [6] as well as to the successive Bethesda [7] and Berlin [8] OA definitions [9]. In this rapidly evolving context of novel rules and publishing paradigms for scholarly literature, it may be also appropriate to note here that even on the local institutional side the editorial and licensing choices made by this APP journal fully comply with the indications set forth in the Messina Declaration (2004) [10], with which most of the Italian universities formally agreed to the principles stated in the Berlin Declaration.

The presently announced change in the licensing protocol is effective with the first issue of Vol. LXXXVII (2009). The note at the bottom of this page, regarding the CC license that is being adopted, will appear from now on at the end of the published text of each article. The same information will also be embedded in the form of metadata onto the associated PDF document.

References

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- [4] Creative Commons: http://creativecommons.org/.
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