

Press Release

MUNER announces the constitution of the Gender and Diversity Empowerment Committee

Modena, 13th February 2024- MUNER - Motorvehicle University of Emilia Romagna, together with the founding partners, universities and regular partners, is pleased to announce the establishment of the Gender and Diversity Empowerment Committee, officially operational as of February 2024. The Committee, dedicated to gender issues in the automotive and engineering education sectors, was formally established during MUNER's Board Meeting on December 5, 2023, on the joint initiative of all partners.. Elena Bassoli, a professor at MUNER and Unimore, has been appointed coordinator, supported by Vittorio Ravaglioli, a professor at MUNER and Unibo, in the role of vice-coordinator.

The Committee **actively involves** all of MUNER's partner companies and universities with the aim of initiating joint initiatives related to gender balance, equal opportunities, workforce inclusion, and more.

In a field characterized by significant gender disparity, gender disparities, addressing these issues is not only important but crucial. The pursuit of concrete goals and the creation of a fair and inclusive working and learning environment are essential to promote greater representation of women and to ensure that the talents and skills of all individuals, regardless of gender, are fully recognized and utilized.

The Committee **is actively committed** to pursuing a series of key objectives, including promoting an inclusive corporate and academic culture that respects gender diversity, actively including all interested parties in decision-making processes and job opportunities, disseminating and sharing best practices and successful experiences in gender equality, and finally, implementing targeted educational programs to raise awareness and educate on gender equality issues. These objectives are essential to promote sustainable cultural and structural change in the automotive and engineering sectors, thereby contributing to the creation of a more inclusive, fair and respectful working and learning environment for all involved.

In previous years, the MUNER Association **has developed and promoted** a number of activities related to gender equality, which will now be continued and promoted by the Committee:

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- MUNER Summer School "Women in Transport": A training program specifically designed for female engineering students, supported by Women in Transport - EU Platform for Change, offering an immersive experience in the automotive world.
- Participation in the international "Women in Motorcycling" campaign promoted by the FIM: This international promotional campaign aims to highlight the personal stories of pioneers in the world of motorcycling.
- F1 Scholarships: MUNER, in collaboration with Formula 1, offers scholarships for students in the Advanced Automotive Engineering course.
- Eco-Certification Scholarships: Designed to support and encourage female presence in STEM and AAE disciplines.

In 2024, the Committee **will focus** on various initiatives, including a training program for teachers and students, promoting and organizing the Summer School "Women In Transport," and guiding both university and high school students. Through active collaboration with companies and academic institutions partnering with MUNER, efforts will be made to achieve real cultural and structural change, inspiring a new generation of professionals and leaders committed to creating a fairer and more sustainable future for all.

The main goal is to promote a more balanced and inclusive environment in the automotive and engineering education sectors, working closely with companies and academic institutions partnering with MUNER.

Automobili Lamborghini, Dallara, Ducati, Ferrari, Haas F1 Team, HPE Group, Marelli, Maserati, Pagani, Visa Cash App RB Formula One Team, together with the University of Bologna, the University of Ferrara, the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia and the University of Parma, are the founding partners of MUNER, which has been joined over the years by eight other companies: ART spa, AVL, Bosch, CNH, Danisi Engineering, MAHLE Aftermarket, Pirelli, St microelectronics.

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