

Editorial

Bioarchaeology is present in the universities, in research and in teaching, but it is present above all in the territory.

Because bioarchaeology, through the planning actions of excavation and study of the finds, not only researches but transforms the areas on which it intervenes: from unexplored places to valorized sites.

And in this way, bioarchaeological research has gained growing attention and credibility outside the academic circuits.

In recent years, in fact, it has been the institutions, territorial administrations, and banking foundations who believe in our projects as they are perceived not only as research products but also as strategic interventions in the field of landscape redevelopment.

In Italy and also abroad, bioarchaeology has faced many difficulties in asserting itself in the academic field but today the incredible discoveries on hybridizations in the history of ancestral humanity - and the recognition with the Nobel Prize for medicine to Svante Pääbo for research in paleoanthropology- and recent investments in funerary archeology are helping to make our discipline competitive in the world of science. Nevertheless, we are still in the early stages. The biological history of humanity cannot remain on the margins of university teaching...

We think of the relevance in the biomedical disciplines of the study of the evolution of locomotion and of all those physical-cognitive processes that have determined the shape and being of anatomically modern man; to the need to acquire notions of evolutionary anthropology within a biological, cultural, and literary background and to the opportunity to enrich one's cultural background through the study of man.

The bioarchaeological courses at universities spreading anthropological research in Italy and the direct participation in analysis activities in the bioarchaeological field offers our students the opportunity to share experiences not only with academic researchers but also with professionals in the sector and thus also to understand all those aspects related to the entrepreneurship of knowledge and the dissemination of knowledge in the bio-cultural fields.

Our experience shows this: without scientific (*financed*) projects there can be no research, and without research, there can be no teaching.

University teaching is special because it allows us to share and disseminate the research carried out in our daily life.

In addition to welcoming some articles concerning the project of the bioarchaeological path of the Valcuvia, that we are realizing thanks to the contribution of Cariplo and the Varesotto Community Foundations, this issue presents studies regarding the analysis of mummified finds, the entomological approach in the study of bioarchaeological contexts and the botanical analysis in archaeological finds.

In addition, an important issue for anthropologists will be presented, namely the legislative boundaries in Europe between the archaeological-anthropological and forensic fields.

We hope that, through this editorial channel, meeting points can be found that can implement bioarchaeological research and teaching both in the academic field and outside to create new professional profiles as is evidently necessary to protect our immense and precious bioarchaeological heritage.

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Editorial in Chief

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