

## **Alberto Conte,**

Accademia delle Scienze, *The scientific and cultural aspects of the SMART Project*

Alberto Conte explains that the Accademia delle Scienze have decided to be a component of the SMART Project partnership because they have been collaborating with schools for a long time and they strongly believe in the necessity of a European exchange and confrontation of good practice.

Within the partnership, the German and the Hungarian schools have shown to be very interesting, even though rather different, offering some very good cues.

There has also been a qualitative collaboration with the two foreign universities, TU Delft and Chalmers University.

TU Delft is the second biggest world provider of MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) after the American MIT: this method of learning is going to revolutionize the education field in the future.

Chalmers University is a polytechnic which is interesting for the Sommercourses that they offer, some summer courses for students who need to refresh their Maths knowledge before enrolling at university after a gap year or some working experience abroad.

The methodology chosen within the SMART Project has carefully been discussed and shared with the partnership components: it implies the use of platforms and e-learning. The long experience of the University of Turin in this field has been exploited: the first e-learning platform has been in use here since 2006.

The problem solving methodology has found full agreement and approval in the partnership. For Science the laboratorial methodology with the use of poor materials has been chosen. The experiments proposed have given very good results: the greatest appreciation has come from the students and teachers for experiments like the Seismo Box and the Photovoltaic Cell, prepared by the University of Roma Tre staff.

Finally, the international SMART partnership has been interesting and gratifying also because the confrontation with other European experiences has allowed us to verify that the Italian *Linee Guida* for Mathematics and Science are fully appropriate.

Anna Brancaccio informs the participants that the two following speeches will be focused on the third SMART intellectual output, which is the production of two Open Online Courses (OOCs), one for Mathematics and one for Science.