



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863



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Vice Rector for Digital Infrastructures
and Services at the Politecnico di Milano

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Gianpaolo Cugola is Vice Rector for Digital Infrastructures and Services at the Politecnico di Milano, where he is also a Full Professor of Information Processing Systems in the Department of Electronics, Information and Bioengineering (DEIB). His education and key stages of his academic career took place at the same institution, where he earned his degree in Electronic Engineering and his PhD in Information and Automation Engineering, both with honours.

He has held numerous institutional roles at the Politecnico di Milano, including teaching positions, such as Coordinator of the Computer Engineering Program and member of the Alta Scuola Politecnica Board. Other roles relate to service management, such as serving on the University's Energy Commission, where he was responsible for developing monitoring systems for facilities and buildings.

His research interests focus primarily on the study of methodologies, technologies and software tools for the development of complex distributed systems featuring elevated dynamics. Specifically, his recent research has concentrated on middleware infrastructure for complex event processing and data streaming.

The author of numerous articles in journals, books and international conference proceedings, he is listed in the World's Top 2% Scientists ranking compiled by Stanford University.



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Vision

“Digital technology serving university and society”. This is Gianpaolo Cugola’s perspective, viewing digital technologies as the driving force behind the development of modern society and seeing the university as the ideal setting for these technologies. Here, they achieve their fullest potential in supporting education, research and the overall growth of students, researchers and technical and administrative staff.

At the Politecnico di Milano, a premier technical university, this vision is fully realised, making the institution a place where digital technologies in general, and information technology in particular, are increasingly developed and used to support other disciplines, from all types of engineering, to architecture and design, ultimately permeating and finding applications across society.

Within the “Politecnico machine”, Cugola believes that digital services should act as an engine for development. It should be powerful yet unobtrusive, enabling all members of the university community (students, faculty and staff) to fully express their potential, free of repetitive tasks that digital technology can and should automate or simplify.

This vision aligns with the path the university has followed thus far, aimed at digitising the services offered to students and staff to streamline and enhance the efficiency of three main areas of the Politecnico: education, research and social responsibility. In this process, Cugola acts as a liaison between stakeholders within the university and the ICT Services Department, ensuring the strategies and policies defined by the Academic Senate are implemented effectively.

In a world where advanced computing technologies (such as artificial intelligence) are sometimes perceived as serious threats, Cugola views the Politecnico di Milano as a trailblazer, demonstrating how these technologies can instead serve as a means through which society can overcome the challenges it faces, contributing to the wellbeing of all.

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