

4. End users are asked not to publicise their presentations and are given the right to refuse any questions from the audience that may be considered confidential.
5. End users will be asked not to publicly disclose or thank their equipment manufacturer (e.g., 'Thank you, Muegge, for the generators...').
6. The Industry Day's will have two chairs (Marilena Radoiu & Philippe Bergonzo at AMPERE2025).
7. A one-hour panel discussion will be organised at the end of the Industry Day oral presentations. All Industry Day speakers and the three keynote speakers are invited to participate, but are under no obligation to do so.
8. A Scale-up Award to be given at the end of the panel discussion, and the audience will be asked to vote using an app. Instruction for voting distributed directly inside the conference room on the morning and during the Industry Day.
9. To end the Industry Day, a few very short presentations (10 minutes each) are scheduled after the panel discussion in the 'Emergent Applications' category.
10. A get-together buffet party ends up the day.

Personal reflections of AMPERE25

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The 20th in the series of AMPERE conferences was held in Bari, Italy during 15 to 18 Sept 2025.

Prior to the start of the conference a welcome party was held at the splendid restaurant 44 Gatti in downtown near the polytechnic.



Welcome party at the 44 Gatti restaurant.

The venue was the magnificent Villa Romanazzi Carducci Conference Centre comprising

a large lecture theatre holding up to 250 persons supported by three smaller lecture rooms enabling four parallel sessions covering the many diverse topics.



View of the venue.

The plenary sessions were all held in the large lecture theatre starting on Tuesday by a talk from Christopher Brace about microwave ablation

describing the advances in cancer therapy using both RF and microwave energy. It was followed by Sandra Costanzo describing the multifarious microwave technologies for sensing and diagnostics.



The large lecture theatre (1/2).



The large lecture theatre (2/2).



Coffee break.

After a brief coffee break the participants had the option to remain in the main lecture theatre where three sessions on Medical and Biological Applications concluded the first day. In parallel delegates could proceed to the other three smaller rooms where sessions on Chemistry/Biochemistry and Processing, Dielectric and Material Processing,

Biomass and Waste Processing, Material Interactions and Plasma Phenomena and Processing took place.

Switching from the various sessions it was interesting to note that the delegates were evenly split between these smaller rooms. Each session started with a keynote lecture and a nice gesture by the organisers was to present each plenary and keynote speaker with a certificate signed by the conference chairman, Prof. Paolo Veronesi, as a token of appreciation for their efforts.



The exhibitors area.

A unique feature of AMPERE25 was the decision to dedicate the whole of Wednesday to an “Industry Day” without any other topic being aired. This will be described in this Issue by Dr Marilena Radoiu the principal prime mover behind this initiative.

Thursday reverted once again to a similar format to that of the first day starting with two plenary sessions. The first was presented by Prof Satoshi Horikoshi who focused on Solid state Generators as Enablers of the Next Generation of Microwave Applications. The talk started with solid state transistors of a few Watts influencing the growth of plants to describing the potential of far larger applications not necessarily replacing the high power magnetron but working alongside it. It was embarrassing to me when Satoshi ended his talk showing a video of myself singing well known Italian songs such as “O sole mio” and “Volare” accompanied by the very accomplished guitarist Antonino Rizzuti which was recorded at a dinner hosted by Cristina Leonelli for short course lecturers the Sunday preceding AMPERE25. Recovering from the initial shock and influenced by the increasing murmur and clapping of the audience I stood up and bowed encouraging even louder cheers.

Some delegates remained in this lecture theatre to attend to sessions on Biomass and Waste Processing and Measurements and Metrology while the other parallel sessions focussed on Process Intensification and Food Processing, Industrial Equipment and scale up, EM Modelling and Numerical Techniques, Design of Applicators and Components, Material Interaction and Measurements and Metrology concentrating on THZ and Millimetre Wave Applications. The Posters were well displayed in an adjacent courtyard next to the main lecture theatre and were well attended.



The Posters session.

The Gala Dinner was held at Masseria Cariello Nuovo a 17th century country House located approximately 25 km from Villa Ramanazzi. Being in Italy we were “en plein air” under a cloudless sky with tables of ten people spaced around a magnificent courtyard. We were greeted by the spectacle of a band playing Italian songs along with a traditional dance group and individual kiosks offering little pre-dinner snacks. Drinks of prosecco, beer and refreshments were on offer as well as a variety of Italian hors d'oeuvres such as bruschetta, antipasto, prosciutto, mozzarella, cheeses or fried cheese curds which were crispy on the outside and gooey on the inside.

The hors d'oeuvres were continuously being placed at the tables while we were entertained by the band. After an hour or so the delicious aromas of barbecued food wafted from various corners of the courtyard. Sausages, pork and a variety of other meats completed the meal.



The Gala Dinner (1/2).



The Gala Dinner (2/2).

It was then time for the Awards Ceremony which was conducted by the President who asked the AMPERE25 Chair Prof. Paolo Veronesi to present various student awards. These were as follows:

- BEST POSTER award (700 euros):
 - Carmen van Poelgeest, Faculty of Engineering, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK
- BEST ORAL presentations:
 - First PRIZE (1000 euros): Lucas Briest, Institute of Process Engineering, Otto-von-Guericke-University Magdeburg, Germany
 - Second PRIZE (800 euros): Ryo Ishibashi, School of Engineering, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
 - Third PRIZE (500 euro): Parvathi Vasudevan, Department of Materials, Loughborough University, Loughborough, UK
- Travel grants (500 euros) were awarded to:

- Muhammad Usman Azam, Cardiff University, Cardiff, UK
- Marco Di Cristofano, Department of Information Engineering, Electronics and Telecommunication, Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy
- Aleksandra Sierakowska-Byczek, Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Technology, Cracow University of Technology, Cracow, Poland.



The Awards Ceremony.

Finally, the president together with Dr Metaxas presented the following AMPERE25 awards:

- The Fellowship was bestowed on our Treasurer Koen van Reusel who has conducted so adroitly the transition of our operations to France and has liaised with the appropriate authorities in Paris making sure that our Statutes are kept in order.
- The recipient of the coveted AMPERE Medal was Prof Jose Manuel Catala-Civera the Director of Itaca Institute in Valencia alas in absentia. Due to unforeseen circumstances Jose could not be with us so the Medal was received by his colleague Felipe Peñaranda Foix.
- The Ricky Metaxas Young Researcher award was offered to Dr Cecilia Mortalò, who is affiliated with the Institute of Condensed Matter Chemistry and Technologies for Energy (ICMATE), National Research Council, Padova, Italy.

The Chair was then offered speciality pens with the AMPERE Logo to a number of persons who contributed to the organisation of AMPERE25, not least Cristina Leonelli and representatives from the Polytechnic University of Bari and of Digilabs the Technical Secretariat. I also received such a pen in recognition of my continuous support and for attending every single one of these biennial venues.



Koen van Reusel awarded with the AMPERE Fellowship.



Dr. Cecilia Mortalò awarded with the Ricky Metaxas Young Researcher award.



Cutting the cake.

The evening wound down by a magnificent display of rock and roll and disco dancing while I was given the honour of the first cut of the splendid cake celebrating 40 years of AMPERE.

As the President reminded us it was a double celebration as 20 years ago we were in Modena and it was 40 years since the inaugural conference at St John's College, Cambridge.

The overall consensus of AMPERE25 was that it was run extremely well with everything going according to plan: the coffee breaks accompanied by an assortment of cakes, the dinner at the Tabula Rasa for the short course lecturers and the dinner at the 44 Gatti for all participants as well as the lovely lunches at the garden of Villa Ramanazzi. An evening walk exploring interesting aspects of the city of Bari was also enjoyed by all.



AMPERE President with the local organizing committee.

Poster Sessions were well attended displaying a variety of topics in our field of activity. Of course it is worth pointing out that the excellent weather averaging of 26°C and uninterrupted sun helped enormously. For all concerned there was also swimming pool for a quick dip and some relaxation.

In September 2027 we will meet again for the 21st conference in the series hosted by Prof Georgios Stephanidis and his colleagues of the Polytechnic in Athens. The conference venue will be the Zappeion

complex which is a magnificent looking building next to the National Gardens in the heart of Athens. In 1869, the Greek Parliament allocated 80,000 square metres of public land between the Palace Gardens and the ancient Temple of Olympian Zeus, and also passed a law on 30 November 1869, "for the building works of the Olympic Games", as the Zappeion was the first building to be erected specifically for the revival of the Olympic Games in the modern era.



See You in 2027.

A selection of the hundreds of photos taken by our colleague Vladimir Bilik are shown below:



Conference site.



Scientific sessions (1/3).



Scientific sessions (2/3).



Scientific sessions (3/3).



Exhibition (1/2).



Exhibition (2/2).



Coffee break (1/8).



Coffee break (2/8).



Coffee break (3/8).



Coffee break (4/8).



Coffee break (5/8).



Coffee break (6/8).



Coffee break (7/8).



Coffee break (8/8).



Bari old town tour (1/4).



Bari old town tour (2/4).



Bari old town tour (3/4).



Bari old town tour (4/4).



Take a drink (1/9).



Take a drink (2/9).



Take a drink (3/9).



Take a drink (4/9).



Take a drink (5/9).



Take a drink (6/9).



Take a drink (7/9).



Take a drink (8/9).



Take a drink (9/9).



"The industrialists".



Gala Dinner (1/13).



Gala Dinner (2/13).



Gala Dinner (3/13).



Gala Dinner (4/13).



Gala Dinner (5/13).



Gala Dinner (6/13).



Gala Dinner (7/13).



Gala Dinner (8/13).



Gala Dinner (9/13).



Gala Dinner (10/13).



Gala Dinner (11/13).



Gala Dinner (12/13).



Gala Dinner (13/13).