

Final Report for the Assistant Professor Call of Academic Year 2017-18

Department of Decision Sciences

Università Bocconi

General Application deadline: January 7th, 2018.

1. Candidates whose fields of interest were in the broad area of Operations Research and Management Science (OR) and wished to be considered for an interview at the 2017 INFORMS meeting in Houston had October 15th, 2017 as deadline.
2. Candidates whose fields of interest were in Decision Theory and Game Theory (theoretical and experimental) and related fields had December 1st, 2017 as deadline, but later applications were considered as well because the Committee decided to interview such candidates via Skype conference call rather than at the ASSA meeting.

Junior Hiring committee: Pierpaolo Battigalli (chair); Emanuele Borgonovo, Alessandra Cillo, Simone Padoan, Igor Pruenster.

Interviewing committee in Houston: Emanuele Borgonovo and Alessandra Cillo, who also interviewed some candidates via Skype conference call.

Interviewing committee via Skype for the Economic Theory area: Sarah Auster, Pierpaolo Battigalli, Simone Cerreia Vioglio, Miaomiao Dong, Satoshi Fukuda, Massimo Marinacci, Paolo Pin, Fernando Vega Redondo.

Number of valid applications: 93

Number of scheduled interviews in Houston: 2

Number of scheduled interviews via Skype: 8 in Economic Theory, 4 in OR

Number of invited flyouts: 5

Number of offers: 0

Summary: At the very beginning of the Fall semester the Department posted a call for assistant professors, with an application deadline fixed at January 7th, 2018. We received 93 valid applications. Applications covered all the three major research fields of the Dept., namely, Economic Theory, OR, and Statistics. The majority of applications was received by the Economic Theory group (roughly, 53) and the rest was more pertinent to the two other fields. We targeted applicants who had in our view excellent prospects of publishing in top international research-oriented journals and develop a high-profile career path. We interviewed 14 candidates, 2 at the Informs meetings in Houston and the others via Skype. We invited 5 candidates for a visit to the Department and JM seminar presentation.

INFORMS, OR: Emanuele Boronovo and Alessandra Cillo interviewed 2 candidates (OMISSIS). Four other candidates (OMISSIS) not present at Informs were interviewed via Skype conference calls. Based on the CV, the interview and the fit with the Decision Sciences area, the Department decided to fly out one candidate (OMISSIS) for an assistant professorship. This candidate had a full day of interviews and presented his/her research, here at Bocconi.

Candidates in Decision Theory, Game Theory, and related fields: We scheduled 8 Skype interviews. The candidates (OMISSIS) were interviewed by Sarah Auster, Pierpaolo Battigalli, Simone Cerreia Vioglio, Miaomiao Dong, Satoshi Fukuda, Massimo Marinacci, Paolo Pin, Fernando Vega Redondo. Based on the CV and the outcome of the interviews, and given the high standards of the Department and the current job market situation, the Committee decided to fly out 3 of these candidates (OMISSIS). As for these remaining candidates (OMISSIS), each had a full day of interviews and presented his/her research,

here at Bocconi. The Department faculty was positively impressed by all of them, but we had to consider the interaction with ongoing search for candidates in other fields and candidates for tenured positions, which prevented immediate offers. Furthermore, one of the candidates shortly after her/his visit received an offer from a top North American university and accepted it.

Other candidates: The Department decided to fly out a candidate in Statistics (OMISSIS). He had a full day of interviews and presented his/her research, here at Bocconi. Also in this case, the Department was positively impressed by the candidate. But, for the reasons mentioned above, the decision about a possible offer was postponed.

The Executive Committee of the Department had to take a joint decision for candidates across all fields as only one position was available and the simultaneous ongoing search at the tenured level allowed only sequential offers. In conclusion, despite the favorable impression, none of the candidates could muster sufficient consensus to overcome the unusually high opportunity cost of filling a position at the junior level, and the call for Assistant Professorship in Decision Sciences was closed without any position being filled.

Signed on behalf of the Decision Sciences Assistant Professorship Recruitment Committee of Bocconi University.



Pierpaolo Battigalli
Bocconi University
Milano, 10 April 2018