



# Accademia Giuseppe Aliprandi

Multimedialità della scrittura e dell'informazione

*Ente Morale (D.M. 3 agosto 1992 - G.U. 20.10.1992, N. 247)*

Florence, 5 May 2003

## ADDRESS

I am honoured to hold the title of President at the Giuseppe Aliprandi Academy, an Italian institution which has a long history and a great richness worthy of preservation and development.

The Academy was founded in 1925 by Ferruccio Stazi and for the next 50 years was directed by the great Italian historian of stenography and typing, Giuseppe Aliprandi, an academic who was also well-known abroad as the Italian representative of Intersteno.

The Academy has been named after Giuseppe Aliprandi since 1980, five years after his death. At this point, the Academy's development was taken up again, thanks to the work of the EUSI (Ente Unitario del Segretariato Italiano), presided over by Angelo Quitadamo and a group of other notables in the field of Italian stenographics: Flaviano Rodriguez, Pietro Vercesi, Mario Spigoli, Ileana Giusti Costa, Oreste Cappellari, Gian Paolo Trivulzio. These people recognised in Aliprandi a common master and decided to continue to develop his work, by restoring to our country an important cultural institution which would be open-minded, capable of overcoming the limitations and the ancient divisions between different stenographic schools and systems, and able to adapt to the coming age of the computer.

Under the presidency of Flaviano Rodriguez the Academy gradually fulfilled many important goals, (following in the footsteps of Giuseppe Aliprandi and the other aforementioned persons who had provided such great example), bringing the organisation to where it is today. Through comparison and debate, it has continually proved itself capable of reacting to new stimuli and challenges.

Today, the Giuseppe Aliprandi Academy is an organisation officially recognised by the Italian state (Ente Morale). It has eighty-two members, both Italian and foreign, and twelve honorary members, with eight more soon to be named during the course of today's congress.

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Presidenza e Segreteria: via Ricasoli, 22 - 50122 Firenze - Tel. 0552.39.86.41 - Fax 055.28.97.19

Sala Riunioni e Biblioteca: piazza Duomo, 6 - 50122 Firenze - Tel. 055.28.94.96

[www.accademia-aliprandi.it](http://www.accademia-aliprandi.it)

E-mail: [info@accademia-aliprandi.it](mailto:info@accademia-aliprandi.it)

Registro delle persone giuridiche N. 873 del Tribunale di Firenze – C.F. 94041610489

The Academy boasts a library containing over 5000 titles, donated by Flaviano Rodriguez, Aldo Marras, Giuseppe Prete, the sons of Giuseppe Aliprandi, Raffaele Palandri, Cornelio Bisello and others. The library catalogue can be consulted on the internet by accessing our web site ([www.accademia-aliprandi.it](http://www.accademia-aliprandi.it)), which naturally also gives more details about the life of the Academy. Also available for consultation are the details of the studies that our members present at each annual assembly, which is always dedicated to the development of a particular scientific, didactic or cultural theme.

To ensure the continued development of the Academy, the founding members have provided the institution with a social fund of over 50,000 euros.

Since 1997 the Academy has adopted the phrase: "Multimediality of writing and information", in recognition of its capacity to look to the future. The Academy has accepted the often demanding trials that have faced it throughout the years and has refused to be hindered by the obstacles thrown up by turbulent modern developments.

This Intersteno Congress in Rome is the fourth Intersteno Congress to take place in Italy, following the Congresses of Milan (1926 and 1957) and of Florence (1987). Today, in front of this audience, it is my pleasure to pay witness to the participation, the warmth and the dedication that all our members show in feeding and enriching the life of the Academy with their contributions which come from multiple social and business sectors and above all from the school and the professional sector: journalists, lawyers, magistrates, politicians and transcribers.

It is to these people that we owe the life of the Academy which breathes and grows in constant remembrance of the masterful work and the example of great authors such as Enrico Noe, Giovanni Vincenzo Cima, Erminio Meschini, Abramo Mosciaro, Flaviano Rodriguez, Andrea Innocenzi and Matteo Graniero; of great technological creators such as Ravizza, Michela, Cappellari, Pioletti and Melani, and of great academics and professionals from Boaga, Giulietti, Prete to Bruccoleri, Ramondelli, Trivulzio, Fabi and Oreste Cappellari, to name but a few, all of whom have been united by a natural vocation and a willingness to open to the international scene.

The founder of the Academy was one of the first Italian representatives of Intersteno, and he was later to be succeeded by Flaviano Rodriguez, Angelo Quitadamo, Gian Paolo Trivulzio, Fausto Ramondelli and Giacomo di Piazza, all of whom were permanent members of the Academy, and therefore our links to Intersteno have always been strong. I have no doubt that these links will be strengthened by this conference, which expresses the need for a positive 'globalization' of cultural exchanges in the field of the registration and diffusion of information.

In recent years the development of the disciplines taught both in this field in general, and in the Academy itself, has been characterised in my opinion, by two principle factors; on the one hand by the employment of various methods of adaptation, and on the other by the push for radical innovations.

In reference to the methods of adaptation, I would like to highlight as examples the study of new stenographic systems, the revision and improvement of

existing systems and the research into alternative methods of abbreviated writing, above all those with a different aim than simply that of rapidly transcribing the spoken word. All of these developments have been conceived as alternatives to the ordinary written word, for use in fulfilling our most common day-to-day needs in the home and workplace.

As far as the most radical and innovative thrusts are concerned, I would like to quote the application of new, digital technologies as a solution to the classic problems posed by stenography and typing. Computers, stenographic machines and their application represent a completely new concept, and even if their field of application has widened (or developed alongside) that of typewriters and traditional stenographic methods, nevertheless the origin of digital technologies does not lie in electronic machines. In the same way, the new systems of recording speech do not derive from the Gabelsberger or Cima Method, or from other methods which differ from country to country. However, it is possible to search out a common root, an inspiration which is that of the ancient culture of the word and of how to record it. (In this context it is worthy of noting an important study conducted by Flaviano Rodriguez on the frequency of words in the Italian language, based on 2 million words taken from the minutes of judicial and political assemblies).

In the most recent phase, the Academy is evaluating the possibility of promoting and reviving (from as early as primary school) the culture of writing with the functional use of a keyboard. This culture has been lost in Italy, but now its' revival will see a transition from typewriters to PCs, which is a different approach with respect to many other countries.

The most ambitious objective that faces the Academy today is that of becoming a point of reference for all those who operate in both social and professional environments, through the use of the cultural, technical, methodological, organisational and educational instruments that have shaped its history. Modern expressions such as 'continuous education' and 'lifelong learning' describe a reality whose roots are to be found far back in time, but which today can make use of a further powerful instrument: the network of collaboration and contact that the Academy already has (and intends to further develop) with foreign countries, academics and cultures, reaching far and wide.

It has been said that man always wants to leave his mark on the world. In his continuous search for a way to make his mark, man displays inventiveness and creativity which provide a deep hope for the future, a hope which the Academy, for its' part, (open to collaborate with all, members and non, Italians and foreigners, without exception or exclusions of any kind), will make every effort to nurture.

President

prof. Carlo Rodriguez