

CINECA

Technology powering the future of micro-credentials

A view on Blockchain and Open Badges for Higher Ed

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The main consortium of Italian universities

Born in 1969, CINECA provides technological support for Italian universities and research entities, and the Ministry for Education and Research

67

UNIVERSITIES

9

**RESEARCH
ENTITIES**

3

**UNIVERSITY
CLINICS**



**Ministero dell'Istruzione
dell'Università e della Ricerca**

BUILDING A DIGITAL CREDENTIALING PLATFORM FOR ITALIAN HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

Bestr: An experience starting in 2015

.Bestr

Today Bestr is a [Digital Credentialing](#) platform
to valorize Lifelong & Lifewide Learning
in and around [Universities](#)
[integrated with SIS and other University IT systems](#)



EDCI - European Digital
Credentialing Initiative

WHAT'S NEXT?

What should we expect (or promote) about microcredentialing and blockchains for education?

WHAT THE TECH COMMUNITY AND THE PIONEERING UNIVERSITIES ARE DOING IS **ALREADY THE FUTURE**

It is either going to consolidate or fail (or change).

- **Highlighting and making readable** abroad experiences, extracurricular competencies, in-company training, language proficiency...
- **Recognizing credits** for microcredentials through **system integration**
- **Securing** credentials through blockchain
- Expressing credentials in different **digital** formats

OPEN BADGES OPENED PERSPECTIVES

Stackable degrees



DIGITIZING THE UNIVERSITY DEGREE:
HOW BLOCKCHAIN IS GOING TO
REDEFINE BACHELORS

<https://blog.bestr.it/en/2019/09/23/digitizing-university-degree-how-blockchain-going-redefine-bachelors>

A vision by Paolo Cherubini, Vice-rector for Teaching and Education at the **University of Milan-Bicocca**, and Daniela Mapelli, Vice-rector for Teaching and Education at the **University of Padua**



CHALLENGES FOR OPEN BADGES / MICROCREDENTIALING

- Standards
- Content readability by humans and by machines
- Trust
- Adoption rate

CHALLENGES FOR BLOCKCHAIN IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Beyond notarization

- **Blockchain as a Learning Record Store**
- Automation through **smart contracts** leveraging machine-readable **standards** integrated with **Student Information Systems**
 - European Blockchain?
 - Educational Blockchain?
 - ! Identity
 - ! Privacy
 - ! Sustainability



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Consorzio interuniversitario per il calcolo automatico

Thank you
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