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The Lorenzoni-Abetti Correspondence: Insights into Italian Astronomy and Social Context Post-Unification

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The friendship between Giuseppe Lorenzoni (1843-1914) and Antonio Abetti (1846-1928) represents one of the most important and enduring relationships in Italian astronomy of the late 19th century. Although they were almost the same age, Abetti always regarded Lorenzoni as his Master, a respect that did not prevent the development of a fruitful scientific collaboration between them. The emotional bond they formed, which extended to their wives and Abetti's children, makes their correspondence one of the most valuable sources for understanding not only Italian astronomy in the period after the unification of Italy but also the social context of its development. This talk will explore the relationship between the two astronomers, with a focus on the previously unseen aspects that emerge from the reading of their correspondence.

Primary author: ZANINI, Valeria (Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica (INAF))

Co-author: GASPERINI, Antonella (Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica (INAF))

Presenter: ZANINI, Valeria (Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica (INAF))

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