

Dear Students

“The age of the heroic inventor is over” This is the title of an opinion paper published in the IEEE Spectrum journal of Sep 2018 (slide 396 in the presentation PDF file)

<https://spectrum.ieee.org/at-work/innovation/the-age-of-the-heroic-inventor-is-over>

“Everyone knows the great electrical inventors of the past, such as Alexander Graham Bell of the telephone, Marconi of the radio, and Edison of the incandescent light. But few know who invented the transistor, laser, integrated circuit, optical fiber, stored-program computer, GPS, or Internet. Yet these are probably the most significant inventions of the last century, and I wonder: Why this disparity? Perhaps it is because the world of the past was a simpler place and there was magic in the air.”

And I say, let's bring this magic back! ... who is your heroic inventor? Why is he your hero? Is it because of what he invented? what he represents? Other reason?

As a summarizing assignment for the course we have just had together, please write an academic essay where you present your heroic inventor and explain why, in your opinion, there is magic in the air because of him/her.

I Am very much looking forward to reading your essays and learn about your heroes... I am sure that you will inspire me to include some of your heroes and their inventions in my next course.

Assignment is due by the end of January 2019. Please limit yourself to no more than four pages.

It was my great pleasure spending wonderful two weeks with you in the magical Villa Guastavillani and the Bologna Business School

Yours

Alon Wolf

