
ITALIAN SCIENTISTS DOWN UNDER



Embassy of Italy, Canberra
27 – 28 November 2014

The first meeting of Italian scientists in Australia 'Italian Scientists Down Under' was held on Thursday 27th and Friday 28th November 2014 at the Embassy of Italy, Canberra. The meeting was organized by the Office of the Science and Technology Attaché of the Embassy of Italy. His Excellency Pierfrancesco Zazo, Ambassador of Italy to Australia, opened the meeting with a speech that summarized the excellent state of bilateral cooperation in science and technology.

The meeting brought together Italian scientists working at Australian universities and research centres and provided an opportunity for these scientists to present their latest research in subject areas as diverse as geoscience, energy and climate, radioastronomy, space science, cultural heritage, synchrotron radiation, photonics, quantum computing, nanotechnology, psychology, oncology, veterinary science and biomedicine.

The meeting also provided an opportunity for representatives of Australian research organisations to highlight their roles and opportunities for scientific collaboration with Italy. Speakers included the CEO of the Australian Research Council, Professor Aidan Byrne, the CEO of the National Health and Medical Research Council, Professor Warwick Anderson, as well as representatives from the Department of Industry, the Australian Academy of Science, the Mathematical Sciences Institute, CSIRO and the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organization.

Opportunities for EU-Australia collaboration under the European Commissions Horizon 2020 program were presented by the Delegation of the European Union in Australia. The Department of Industry also gave a presentation of the Connecting Australian European Science and Innovation Excellence (CAESIE) program created and administered by the Delegation of the European Union in Australia and the Department of Industry. At the conclusion of the meeting a lively and well attended roundtable discussed the feasibilities and possibilities of creating a national network of Italian researchers in Australia.

PROGRAM

Thursday 27th November

- 08.30 – 09.25 Registration
- 09.25 – 09.30 Opening and welcome from H.E. Pier Francesco Zazo, Ambassador of Italy to Australia
- 09.30 – 09.45 *Italian-Australian science and technology collaboration* **Cameron Slatyer**, International Science Strategy Section, Science Policy Branch, Science Policy and Governance Division, Department of Industry
- 09.45 – 10.00 *The Australian Research Council's role and opportunities for collaboration and engagement with Italy* **Prof. Aidan Byrne**, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Research Council
- 10.00 – 10.15 *Role of the Australian Academy of Science and activities with Italy* **Nancy Pritchard**, Director International Programs, Australian Academy of Science
- 10.15 – 10.30 *Italian-Australian cooperation in mathematics: a partial viewpoint* **Prof. Thierry Coulhon**, Director of the Mathematical Sciences Institute, The Australian National University
- 10.30 – 10.45 *CSIRO's engagement with Italy* **Juliet Bell**, Executive Manager, CSIRO International
- 10.45 – 11.00 *The opportunities for EU-Australian collaboration under Horizon 2020* **John Tuckwell**, Delegation of the European Union in Australia
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- 11.00 – 11.30 Coffee
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- 11.30 – 12.00 *The power of international science collaboration* **Prof. Marcello Costa**, FAA, Matthew Flinders Distinguished Professor and Professor of Neurophysiology, Department of Physiology, School of Medicine, Flinders University
- 12.00 – 12.15 *Plate tectonic processes in a grain of sand* **Prof. Daniela Rubatto**, QEII Fellow, Research School of Earth Sciences, The Australian National University
- 12.15 – 12.30 *Why should we be concerned about meteorological impacts on energy systems* **Dr. Alberto Troccoli**, CSIRO Oceans & Atmosphere Flagship, Canberra
- 12.30 – 12.45 *An Overview of ANSTO as a Space for Science and More in Australia* **Dr. Paolo Imperia**, The Bragg Institute, Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organization
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- 12.45 – 14.30 Lunch
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- 14.30 – 14.45 *A new view of the radio polarised southern sky to study magnetism and structure of the Milky Way* **Dr. Ettore Carretti**, Senior Systems Scientist, Parkes Lead Scientist, CSIRO Astronomy and Space Science, Epping, NSW
- 14.45 – 15.00 *The Square Kilometer Array view of Gamma-ray Bursts* **Dr. Davide Burlon**, ARC Centre of Excellence for All-Sky Astrophysics, The University of Sydney
- 15.00 – 15.15 *A comparative planetology approach to the investigation of solar system formation and evolution* **A/Prof. Graziella Caprarelli**, Division of IT, Engineering and the Environment, The University of South Australia
- 15.15 – 15.30 *Development of innovative methodology for non-invasive characterization of metal artefacts of archaeological, historical and industrial interest, through neutron imaging techniques* **Dr. Filomena Salvemini**, The Bragg Institute, ANSTO

- 15.30 – 15.45 *From the synchrotron to the lab: x-ray microscopy on a compact setup* **Dr. Daniele Pelliccia** ARC DECRA Fellow, School of Physics, Monash University
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- 15.45 – 16.15 Coffee
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- 16.15 – 16.30 *Quantum Information Science in Integrated Photonics Technology* **Dr. Alberto Peruzzo**, ARC DECRA Research Fellow, School of Physics, The University of Sydney
- 16.30 – 16.45 *Controlling electrons through a single atom one at a time* **Dr. Giuseppe Tettamanzi**, ARC DECRA Research Fellow, School of Physics and Australian Centre of Excellence for Quantum Computation and Communication Technology, The University of New South Wales
- 16.45 – 17.00 *Microfabrication technologies for advanced porous materials* **Dr. Paolo Falcaro**, CSIRO Manufacturing Flagship, Clayton, VIC
- 17.00 – 17.15 *Uniform graphene on silicon wafers as metal replacement* **Dr. Francesca Iacopi**, ARC Future Fellow, Queensland Micro and Nanotechnology Centre, Griffith University
- 17.15 – 17.30 *Synthesis and application of new carbon nanostructures for future energy generation and storage* **Prof. Nunzio Motta**, Principal Research Fellow, School of Chemistry, Physics, and Mechanical Engineering, Queensland University of Technology
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- 19.00 – 21.30 Reception, Residence of the Ambassador of Italy, 78 National Circuit, Deakin, ACT
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Friday, 28th November

- 09.30 – 09.45 *The role of the NHMRC, opportunities for international researchers and statistics regarding NHMRC's engagement with Italy* **Prof. Warwick Anderson**, Chief Executive Officer, National Health and Medical Research Council
- 09.45 – 10.00 *Contribution from Italian-Australian led research on the psychology of intergroup relations* **Dr. Stefania Paolini**, School of Psychology, The University of Newcastle
- 10.00 – 10.15 *Bio-inspired Functional Surface Coatings* **Dr. Chiara Neto**, Senior lecturer and Brown Fellow, School of Chemistry, The University of Sydney
- 10.15 – 10.30 *Engineering Bioresponsive Systems using DNA, RNA, Polypeptides and Synthetic Polymers* **Dr. Francesca Cavalieri**, ARC Future Fellow, Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, The University of Melbourne
- 10.30 – 10.45 *Respiratory Technology: bridging basic, applied and clinical science* **A/Prof Daniela Traini**, Woolcock Institute of Medical Research, ARC Future Fellow, Sydney Medical School, The University of Sydney
- 10.45 – 11.00 *The fight against cancer: from test bench to bed* **Dr Susanna Guatelli**, Centre for Medical Radiation Physics, School of Physics, The University of Wollongong
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- 11.00 – 11.30 Coffee
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- 11.30 – 11.45 *Modelling human motion and skeletal bio-mechanics for better health services* **Dr. Saulo Martelli**, ARC DECRA Fellow, Medical Device Research Institute, School of Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics, Flinders University and North West Academic Centre, The University of Melbourne
- 11.45 – 12.00 *Breaking bones: combining 3D biomedical imaging, micro-architectural characterisation, mechanical testing, and 3D modelling, for studying bone loss and fracture* **Dr. Egon Perilli**, Senior Research Fellow, Biomedical Engineering, Medical Device Research Institute, School of Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics, Flinders University

- 12.00 – 12.15 *An innovative potential treatment against neuroblastoma* **Dr. Orazio Vittorio**, Senior Research Officer, Children's Cancer Institute, Lecturer (Cojoint) School of Women's and Children's Health, Lowy Cancer Research Centre, The University of New South Wales
- 12.15 – 12.30 *Oxidative stress in domestic animals: enhancing health and productivity through antioxidant supplementation* **Dr. Pietro Celi**, Faculty of Veterinary Science, The University of Sydney and Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences, The University of Melbourne
- 12.30 – 13.15 *Roundtable on creating a national network of Italian researchers* - Chaired by **Dr. Toni Patti**, Dept. of Chemistry, Monash University, **Dr Guglielmo Gottoli**, Deputy Provost, Newman College, The University of Melbourne and **Dr. Antonio Dottore**, The University of Adelaide and President of the Association for Research between Italy and Australia-SA
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- 13.15 – 14.00 Lunch
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