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NOTES FOR THE

possible future development of the CO.AS.IT. Italian Language, Culture and Heritage Department

An International Specialised Skills Institute Fellowship.

FERDINANDO COLAROSSO AND PAOLO BARACCHI

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i. Executive Summary

Note: this report is commercial in confidence.

THE CONTEXT

The **CO.AS.IT. Italian Language, Culture and Heritage Department** (the Department), now in its fourth decade of activity, is the peak body for the promotion of Italian language and culture in Victoria and the peak cultural body nationwide in the field of the history and culture of Italian Australians. The Department is growing in visibility, prestige and community support and extending and consolidating its liaisons with Government, universities, museums and other cultural organisations in Australia and internationally.

The present of **the Italian Australian community** is characterised by three main dynamics:

1. The Italian-born cohort of historical migrants is waning as the bulk of the community enters the third and fourth generation.
2. The community is increasingly interested in preserving and rediscovering its language, culture and heritage. (1,000,013 Australians declared Italian ancestry in the 2016 census.)
3. A new wave of Italian migrants and prospective migrants has been arriving since the turn of the century.

Interest for Italy and things Italian is also growing within an increasingly well-educated and well-travelled wider **Australian society**. *This is crucially also a result of the successful integration of the Italian community in this country within the multicultural policies of the past 40 years.*

AIM

The Department is well situated to expand and focus its activities, thus playing a pivotal role in supporting the Italian Australian community become a leading voice in the multicultural Australia of the 21st century.

THE FELLOWSHIP

During their travels in Italy and the United States, the Fellows visited prestigious migration museums and study centres, took part in conferences and cultural events, met with key scholars in the burgeoning field of Italian migration and diaspora studies and liaised with Italian politicians and Government officials.

1. The Fellows noted that **the Department compares favourably to analogous bodies abroad**, and is therefore in the position to be an important interlocutor and a driver in international collaborations in its field.
2. The Fellows noted their interlocutors' **interest and appreciation for the Department's activities**, and general eagerness to collaborate with it.

3. The Fellows accordingly initiated conversations on several **international collaborations**, including:
 - a. The **international conference *Diaspore italiane*** – *Italy in movement*, in collaboration with the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute (part of City University, New York) and the Galata Museo del Mare e delle Migrazioni (Genoa), which will host the Italian National Emigration Museum;
 - b. The Memorandum of Understanding whereby the Department's **Italian Historical Society (IHS) will provide the content for the Australian section in the Italian National Emigration Museum**;
 - c. An **exhibition swap with the Ellis Island Museum** in New York.

Note: The Department's Museo Italiano (MI) and IHS were also invited to join the prestigious AEMI (Association of European Migration Institutions) network.

As for the **strategic development** of the Department, the Fellows found the conversations that they had during their journeys to converge in the directions sketched below.

The American context was instructive especially because the Italian American community is older than ours. The vibrancy and sheer volume of the Italian American cultural production, the advanced state of Italian American studies (with 5 dedicated chairs in Universities) are signals of a direction we too might take. It is therefore with optimism that the Fellows propose that

FOCUS

The Department focus especially on young people.

RECOMMENDATIONS

MISSION: ITALIAN AUSTRALIAN CULTURE

The Department assists the Italian Australian community develop a rich and strong cultural identity – Italian Australian culture – as an integral part of Australian culture.

Note: An Italian Australian community that is, as well as socially and economically successful, also culturally conscious and proud, is the strongest ambassador for Italy and all things Italian in this country.

Italian Australian culture is the creation of a diasporic community, which embraces, from a modern Australian standpoint, both its migrant (“folk”, working class) heritage and (“high brow”) canonical Italian culture.

1. The connection to migrant heritage, through memory and imagination is rich in values and emotions. It is the pillar of Italian Australian culture (“heritage with a heart”; “*cultura con il cuore*”).
2. Canonical Italian culture (including the Renaissance, Opera, contemporary design etc.) is integral to Italian identity in general and therefore also to Italian migrant identities.



INTEGRATING MIGRANT HERITAGE AND CANONICAL ITALIAN CULTURE

The operational pivot of the Department's activities is the integration of migrant heritage and canonical Italian culture.

This integration has only recently started occurring in the academic world, where Italian and Italian diasporic cultures are no longer seen in oppositional (higher-lower) terms and increasingly reciprocally recognised as complementary and conducive to one another.

This integration has been a feature of the Department, especially since the foundation of the IHS in 1981 and of the MI in 2010. This is one of several points of strength inbuilt into the Department's structure and activities.

In practical terms:

1. The Department will continue to **promote canonical Italian language and culture through high quality programs** aimed at schools and the community, *as a means of aiding the development of Italian Australian culture.*
2. The Department will increasingly seek to **integrate Italian Australian content in its educational and other activities.**

INTEGRATING ITALIAN AUSTRALIAN CULTURE AND ITALIAN AUSTRALIAN STUDIES

Secondarily, the Department promotes the integrated development of Italian Australian community culture and Italian Australian studies.

1. The Department supports Italian Australian community testimony and cultural **and artistic expression.**

- a. The Department, through its IHS, collects, preserves and shares the Italian Australian experience, with a focus on the life stories of ordinary people ("history from below").
 - b. The Department collaborates with established professionals in all fields of Italian Australian cultural endeavour (writers, artists, curators etc.).
 - c. In keeping with its democratic cultural mandate, the Department also supports and engages non professional, young and emerging cultural practitioners.
2. The Department **supports Italian Australian studies** through a scholarship program, by organising conferences and lecture series and by supporting valuable cultural projects.
 3. The Department helps situate community testimony and artistic expression within the appropriate cultural and historical frameworks, by **connecting the community and scholars** (through its cultural events, by making the material in its collections available to scholars etc.).
 4. The Department enhances the scientific calibre of its operations by internalising its long-standing relationship with universities, by nominating **academic advisors** for its educational, cultural and collection related activities, and to assist making the Italian Historical Society Journal into a partly peer reviewed publication.

Note: The current context is particularly favourable to this operation given that academia worldwide is increasingly motivated to collaborate with the community and education sectors. The best scholars in the field in Australia and internationally have confirmed with the Fellows that they are keen to take on honorary advisory roles.

An inclusive philosophy is central to the two operational integrations sketched in the previous sections.

AN INCLUSIVE PHILOSOPHY

Neither a business nor a bureaucracy, the Department is person-centred and professional in all its dealings – a home for the Italian Australian community and especially its young people, a place of hospitality and intercultural dialogue for the wider community.

1. The Department is committed to **removing economic obstacles for participation in its activities.**
2. The Department **encourages the Italian and wider community and scholars, to use and actively contribute to its resources, activities and programs.** Worth pursuing in this regard is a virtual museum (cf. Tenement Museum) and a revised Education Program (cf. Ellis Island Museum).
3. The Department, reflecting the increasingly hybrid nature of 21st century Australian multicultural society, is an initiator of **intercultural dialogue and collaboration** with other ethnic Australian communities and organisations. The Department's participation, through its MI, in the MMV (Multicultural Museums of Victoria) network is crucial and a model of interest for several of the Fellows' interlocutors abroad.

PATRONAGE

As well as seeking funding through existing Government and philanthropic programs, the Department could invite suitable individuals, businesses and organisations to be benefactors in exchange for appropriate acknowledgement through plaques, naming rights to rooms, conference series etc.



ii. Abbreviations & Acronyms

AEMI:	Association of European Migration Institutions	Globus et locus:	Globus et locus association, Milan (Italy)
Altretalie:	Centro Altretalie sulle Migrazioni italiane, Turin (Italy) (part of Globus et Locus)	HIS:	CO.AS.IT.'s Italian Historical Society
Altretalie:	Altretalie. Rivista internazionale di studi sulle migrazioni italiane nel mondo	IHSJ:	CO.AS.IT.'s Italian Historical Society Journal
ASEI:	Archivio storico dell'emigrazione italiana	IIC:	(Istituto Italiano di Cultura) – Italian Cultural Institute, Melbourne (Australia)
Calandra:	The John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, City University of New York	MEI:	Museo Nazionale dell'Emigrazione Italiana, to be opened in Genoa (Italy)
CISEI:	Centro internazionale studi emigrazione italiana, Genoa (Italy)	MI:	CO.AS.IT.'s Museo Italiano, Melbourne (Australia)
CO.AS.IT.	(Comitato Assistenza Italiani) – Italian Assistance Association, Melbourne (Italy)	MMV:	Multicultural Museums of Victoria network, Melbourne (Australia)
CP-CO.AS.IT.	Cultural Programs	MuMA:	Galata Museo del Mare e delle Migrazioni, Genoa (Italy)
CSER:	Centro Studi Emigrazione Roma, Rome (Italy)	PD:	Professional Development activities for teachers of Italian
Department:	CO.AS.IT.'s Italian Language, Culture and Heritage Department, Melbourne (Australia)	Studi Emigrazione:	Studi Emigrazione: International journal of migration studies (CSER), Rom (Italy)
EIM:	Ellis Island Museum	VATI:	Victorian Association of Teachers of Italian, Melbourne (Australia)

1. About the Fellows

Two Fellows jointly undertook this Fellowship – Ferdinando Colarossi and Paolo Baracchi.

Ferdinando Colarossi

- » Bachelor of Arts (Monash University) (1970)
- » DipEd (Monash University) (1971)
- » GradDip (Italian) (La Trobe University) (1985)
- » Manager, CO.AS.IT. Italian Language, Culture and Heritage Department
- » President, V.A.T.I. (Victorian Association of Teachers of Italian)

Paolo Baracchi

- » Dottore in Filosofia (Università degli studi di Firenze) (1993)
- » PhD, Philosophy (The University of Melbourne) (2003)
- » DipEd (Secondary) (RMIT University) (2008)
- » Coordinator, CO.AS.IT. Museo Italiano & Italian Historical Society [now Manager, CO.AS.IT. Cultural Programs]

Ferdinando was born in Abruzzo (Italy) and migrated with his parents to Australia. He attended Lilydale High School and completed a Bachelor of Arts and Diploma of Education at Monash University. He taught history, politics and Italian in Victorian high schools for many years. In 2004 he began working as the CO.AS.IT. Italian network leader in the Eastern region of the Education Department. Since 2012 he has been Manager of the CO.AS.IT. Italian Language, Culture and Heritage Department. Ferdinando is President of the Victorian Association of Teachers of Italian.

Paolo was born in Walthamstow (England) and grew up in Florence (Italy) in a bilingual (Italian and English) family. After attending the Liceo Classico, he studied philosophy at the University of Florence, graduating with a thesis on the scientific status of Freudian psychoanalysis. Paolo moved to Australia in 1994. He holds a PhD in philosophy from Melbourne University and a DipEd (Secondary) from RMIT University. Paolo has edited and translated extensively, mainly philosophical texts. He started working at the CO.AS.IT. Italian Historical Society in 2007 and was part of the working group that set up CO.AS.IT.'s Museo Italiano.



2. Aims of the Fellowship Program

Aim and Benefits of Fellowship: to enhance and advance the skills and knowledge of the applicants by enabling them to visit selected Italian migration museums and study centres, relevant university departments and educational institutions in Italy and in the United States of America; and to thereby bring new knowledge and skills back to Australia and catalyse international cultural collaborations.

These visits allowed the Fellows to familiarise themselves with:

- » how the story of Italian emigration is told from an Italian perspective;
- » curatorial best practice as exemplified in Italian and American migration museums;
- » the public programs and educational programs offered;
- » methods of community engagement;
- » current research activities;
- » publications, including scholarly journals;
- » organisation of conferences;
- » models of organisational structure and sustainability; and,
- » cultural exchanges.

3. Context

CO.AS.IT. was established in 1968 to provide a range of social welfare services in response to the needs of the Italian migrant settlers in Australia. The headquarters was in Carlton, the suburb many Italians chose to settle in when they first arrived.

The first trained Social Worker was employed in 1968 along with many volunteers. By 1976, through the Grant-in-Aid Scheme, a Welfare Officer, two full-time and two-part time Social Workers were employed. In the years that followed, the expansion of welfare programs included the employment of an Italian Legal Officer, the establishment of several group work programs for women and the appointment of a Youth Worker.

CO.AS.IT.'s activities and experience as a leading Welfare Agency servicing Italian migrants have always been of great interest to Italian Government officials visiting Australia and a visit to our offices has always been on their agenda. Australian Federal Ministers, State and Opposition spokespersons and Members of Parliament have also often visited CO.AS.IT. to discuss Government funded programs and to become more acquainted with our activities.

Since 1976, the Governor of Victoria, together with his wife, have been Patrons-In-Chief of CO.AS.IT.

CO.AS.IT. has had a cultural branch since the 1970s. Initially focussed on the preservation of the Italian language among the children of migrants, CO.AS.IT. was later instrumental in the promotion and support of the teaching of Italian in Victorian schools. CO.AS.IT.'s Education Resource Centre actively supports teachers of Italian all over Victoria, organising PDs, publishing resources, assigning language assistants from Italy etc.

The foundation of the Italian Historical Society(IHS) in 1981 and of the Museo Italiano (MI) in 2010 completed CO.AS.IT.'s Italian Language, Culture and Heritage Department as a unique agent for the promotion and support of Italian language and culture in Australia in tandem with the collection and preservation of Italian Australian heritage, the promotion and support of Italian Australian culture and Italian Australian studies.

The location of the IHS and MI within CO.AS.IT. is beneficial to the IHS/MI's mission, since CO.AS.IT. has historically benefited from the trust of the Italian Australian community, and facilitates the activity of collection of community stories and material, and the delivery of a popular community cultural program.

CO.AS.IT., through its Italian Language, Culture and Heritage Department, is now the peak body for the promotion of the teaching of Italian language and culture in Victoria, as well as being an active community and cultural hub engaged in collecting, preserving and sharing the history and culture of Italian Australians. The recent activities of the Museo Italiano have significantly enhanced the Department's visibility and prestige.

The applicants are part of the small, close knit team that staffs the CO.AS.IT. Italian Language, Culture and Heritage Department (the Department). The Department runs a diverse program of services, activities and events which fall under the two broad umbrellas of (1) the teaching of the Italian language and culture (**Education**) and (2) the collecting, preserving and sharing of the history and culture of Italian Australians (**Heritage**).

The main **Education** programs run by the Department are: the Italian Language Assistants Program; the After Hours Italian Language Program; Offsite Educational



Events; the Education Programs at the Museo Italiano; Professional Development for Teachers of Italian; the Italian Resource Centre; the Italian Adult Classes.

The **Heritage** activities of the Department are run by the Italian Historical Society (IHS) (founded in 1981) and by its daughter organisation, the Museo Italiano (MI) (opened in 2010). The IHS is active in four main fields: (1) collecting and collections management; (2) services to the public and scholars; (3) collaborations with institutions and universities including the internships program; (4) publications, including the *Italian Historical Society Journal*. The MI has a permanent exhibition which is open 5 days a week and caters to a wide variety of visitors, including numerous school groups that take part in the Education Programs. Equally important are the Museo's public programs, which comprise temporary exhibitions (6 in 2014) and cultural events (lectures, workshops, film screenings and music evenings) (30 in 2014).

CO.AS.IT. is the official welfare organisation for the Italian community in Victoria. However, the Department, as well as representing a cultural hub for the Italian community, has a reach that is far wider than the Italian community. This hinges upon (1) CO.AS.IT.'s mission (implemented with success since the 1970s) to support and promote the teaching of the Italian language in Victoria and (2) the IHS/MI's commitment to tell the Italian Australian story as an integral part of the wider Australian story and to share this story as widely as possible.

CO.AS.IT.'s cultural role was officially sanctioned by the signing at CO.AS.IT. on 20 June 2014 of the fourth Memorandum of Understanding between the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Victorian Department of Education. This Memorandum, like its predecessors, recognises the pivotal role of CO.AS.IT. in the promotion and teaching of the Italian language and culture in Victoria.

The ongoing success of the Department's activities in the field of education and the visibility created by the Museo Italiano and its programs underpin the organisation's growing profile in the wider, as well as in the Italian Australian community. Moreover, the increasing number of ongoing and planned collaborations with universities,

museums and other cultural institutions in Australia and in Italy suggest a developing role for the Department as an organiser and promoter of culture. The Museo Italiano is also part of Multicultural Museums of Victoria, a network which comprises also the Hellenic, Chinese, Jewish and Islamic Museums.

Given this context, it is expected that the advancement and enhancement of the skills of two key workers in the Department may have a positive fallout beyond the benefits gained by the individuals in question.

4. Identifying the Knowledge and Skills Enhancement Areas

Because of the nature of its activities the Department has a foot in Australia and one in Italy. Correspondence and collaboration with cultural and educational institutions in Italy and elsewhere is systematic and ongoing. However, despite the obvious benefits of the staff from the Department travelling to liaise with relevant cultural institutions and acquaint themselves with their activities, geographical distance and the cost of travel have proven serious obstacles. For instance, despite having ongoing correspondence with many of the 50 or so Italian migration museums and study centres in Italy and internationally, in the last 10 years staff from the Department has been able to visit only two Italian migration museums.

Through this Fellowship it was greatly beneficial for the Department for the Fellows to travel to Italy and the United States of America to familiarise themselves with relevant educational institutions and migration museums, study centres and community associations and to liaise with staff in these organisations.

These visits allowed the Fellows to build skills and knowledge in a number of key areas.

Skills and knowledge enhancement 1. Liaise with selected scholars and staff working in these institutions and Government Departments so as to:

- » promote improved awareness in Italy and in the United States of America of the Italian Australian story;
- » explore collaborations on joint projects (e.g. Australian temporary exhibitions in Italy or the United States of America or vice versa); and
- » attract contributions and collaborators for the Italian Historical Society Journal (CO.AS.IT.).

Skills and knowledge enhancement 2. Visit Italian migration museums and study centres in Italy and the United States of America and liaise with appropriate staff in these organisations so as to

- » familiarise the Fellows with the best practice activities and findings from relevant educational institutions and migration museums.

Skills and knowledge enhancement 3. Gain first-hand knowledge of the way in which established migration museums and study centres engage the community, both as audience for their exhibits/events and as active participant in the making of culture, according to the democratic model of knowledge that the IHS/MI has always pursued as appropriate to its field.

- » familiarise the Fellows with models of community engagement and participation that might work for the Department, such as the idea of virtual museums.

Skills and knowledge enhancement 4. Conference organisation and international collaboration. The Department is keen to develop its skills in these areas, in view of its goals (a) to enhance the scholarly quality of its activities and (b) to extend its liaisons and collaborations beyond Australia and beyond the Australia-Italy axis. The outcomes of this have been:

- » The Fellows have promoted widely the activities of the Department, securing the support of some of the most prestigious organisations and scholars in the field who have volunteered to be part of the scientific committee of the IHSJ.
- » Many institutions and scholars have offered their support for the organisation of conferences and exchanges.



- » The Fellows have started conversations that will result in the first international conference on Italian diaspora studies, in collaboration with the John D. Calandra Institute and with the Galata Museo del Mare e delle Migrazioni of Genoa (the largest maritime museum in the Mediterranean and the future see of the Italian National Emigration Museum).

PRE-JOURNEY MEETINGS WITH MENTORS

Detailed notes of these meetings in Appendix 1.

Pre-visit meetings with the mentors were instrumental in focusing the Fellows' work. The mentors are senior professionals whose expertise covers three different areas crucial for the Fellows' investigation – Professor Rita Wilson, a prominent academic working at an international level on issues of migration, transnationalism etc.; Dr Rebecca Forgasz, the CEO and Director of the first and one of the major Australian “ethnic museums”, a co-founder (with CO.AS.IT. Museo Italiano and other three partners) of the MMV (Multicultural Museums of Victoria) network; Dott. Giancarlo Martini-Piovano, AO, the CEO of the official welfare organisation for the Italian community in Victoria, which has been supporting Italian language, culture and heritage in Victoria for over 35 years, and includes the Italian Historical Society and Museo Italiano.

- » Professor Rita Wilson, Head of the School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, Monash University, Monash-Warwick Associate Professor, Department of Italian, University of Warwick (UK), Academic Co-Director, Migration, Identity, Translation Network
- » Dr Rebecca Forgasz, Director & CEO, Jewish Museum of Australia
- » Dott. Giancarlo Martini-Piovano, AO, CEO, CO.AS.IT. Italian Assistance Association

5. The Journey: Visits and Meetings

5.1. Overview

Destination 1: Recanati and Macerata (Italy), 10 – 11 December 2015.

The Fellow Paolo Baracchi attended the international conference: *Italian 'Pluriverso': Linguistic-cultural crossroads and migration patterns in the Italian language*, presented by the University of Macerata in cooperation with "Campus L'Infinito. School of Italian Language and Culture" – Recanati and Macerata. During the conference's two days (respectively on Italian as emigration language and Italian as immigration language), the Fellow liaised with scholars from Italy, France, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Germany, Rumania, the United States, Brazil and other countries, and started some valuable ongoing conversations; he also had the opportunity to present CO.AS.IT.'s cultural activity to an international audience.

Destination 2: New York (United States of America), 29 April – 7 May 2016.

Over this period the Fellows met with academics, museum directors and also attended a conference. These connections very significantly broadened the Fellows' knowledge (in particular the visits to Ellis Island Museum and to the Tenement Museum were extremely rich in suggestions about the possible future direction of CO.AS.IT.'s Museo Italiano) and have constituted the beginning of valuable conversations, such as the one with the Calandra Institute leading to CO.AS.IT. and the Calandra partnering in 2017, with MuMA, on the first international

conference on Italian diaspora studies, and the one with the Ellis Island Museum, contemplating an exhibition exchange between the EIM and CO.AS.IT. All these conversations were also very rich in suggestions for ongoing internal strategic development.

Destination 3: Italy, 11 – 19 May 2016.

During the trip in Italy the Fellows liaised with the key scholars and staff in the four most prestigious Italian study centres and periodicals that deal with Italian migration: (1) *Altreitalie* and *Globus et Locus*; (2) CISEI [Centro Internazionale Studi Emigrazione Italiana] (3); ASEI [Archivio storico dell'Emigrazione italiana]; (4) CSER [Centro Studi Emigrazione, Roma]. They also met with the Director and staff of MuMA [Galata Museo del Mare e delle migrazioni], Italy's largest migration museum, which will host the future MEI [Museo Nazionale dell'Emigrazione Italiana]. Thirdly, the Fellows met, together with On. Marco Fedi, key staff in the Italian Ministero per i beni e le attività culturali.

All these meetings, as well as the other meetings the Fellows had while in Italy, including the Round Table in Genoa and the conference in Rome, (1) significantly broadened the Fellows' knowledge and (2) contributed both to (a) starting important conversations in view of prestigious international collaborations, especially CO.AS.IT.'s contribution to the future National Italian Emigration Museum) and to (b) ongoing internal strategic development.



Destination 4: Melbourne (Australia), 31 May 2016.

Upon return to Australia the Fellows had a very valuable Skype conversation with prominent Italian migration scholar dottor Javier Grossutti (Udine).

5.2. List of visits and meetings

Destination 1: Recanati and Macerata (Italy), 10 – 11

December 2015

The Fellow Paolo Baracchi attended the international conference: ***Italian 'Pluriverso': Linguistic-cultural crossroads and migration patterns in the Italian language***, presented by the University of Macerata in cooperation with "Campus L'Infinito. School of Italian Language and Culture" – Recanati and Macerata.

The Fellow liaised with:

Academic Staff from The University of Macerata

- » Professor Alfredo Luzi, Ordinario di Letteratura Italiana Contemporanea, Università degli Studi di Macerata (R);
- » Professor Carla Carotenuto (Professore di Letteratura Italiana Contemporanea, Università degli Studi di Macerata);
- » Professor Michela Meschini (Università degli Studi di Macerata); and,
- » Dr Edith Cognigni (Ricercatore, Didattica delle Lingue Moderne, Università degli Studi di Macerata).

Staff from Campus L'infinito. Scuola Di Lingua E Cultura Italiana

- » Dott Giorgio Massei (Direttore, Campus L'Infinito, Recanati; Direttore, Edulingua, Laboratorio di lingua e cultura italiana, San Severino Marche);

- » Dott Alessandro Liotti (Campus L'Infinito, Recanati);
- » Dott Martina Regnicolo (Campus L'Infinito, Recanati); and,
- » Dott Paola Accattoli (Editorial Staff, ELI – La Spiga Edizioni, Recanati).

Academics participating in the Conference

- » Professor Fulvio Pezzarossa (Docente di Critica Letteraria e Letterature Compare, Università di Bologna; Direttore, *Scritture Migranti. Rivista di scambiinterculturali*).
- » Professor Fred Gardaphè, Distinguished Professor, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, The City University of New York.
- » Professoressa Maria Luisa Caldognetto (Universität Trier and Director, Centre de Documentation sur Les Migrations Humaines, Dudelange, Grand-Duché de Luxembourg).
- » Professor Massimo Vedovelli (Docente di Didattica delle Lingue moderne, Università per Stranieri di Siena), one of the most respected scholars in his field; and,
- » Professoressa Antonella Cancellier (Professore ordinario di lingua spagnola, direttore del Corso di aggiornamento professionale in Studi latinoamericani e dei Caraibi, Università degli Studi di Padova).

Conference presentation made by the Fellow:

On the 11th of December 2015 the Fellow gave a presentation "Il Museo Italiano e il lavoro culturale del CO.AS.IT. nel contesto della migrazione italiana in Australia" – ["The Museo Italiano and CO.AS.IT.'s cultural work in the context of Italian migration to Australia"] forthcoming in the Proceedings of the Conference.

Visit made by the Fellow:

On the 11th of December 2015 the Fellow visited the Museo dell'emigrazione marchigiana (Villa Colloredo Mels)

Destination 2: New York (United States of America), 29 April – 7 May 2016.

- » Conversation with Professor Loredana Polezzi (Professor in Translation Studies, University of Cardiff) and Dr Margaret Hills De Zárate (Senior Lecturer and Programme Leader, MSc Art Psychotherapy (International), Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh) was held on the 29th of April 2016.
- » Attendance at day two of the international conference Migrating Objects. Material Culture and Italian Identities (Calandra Institute) took place on the 30th of April 2016.
- » A meeting with Dr Barbara Faedda, Associate Director, Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America, Columbia University was held on the 3rd of May 2016.
- » As part of a visit to The Ellis Island National Museum of Immigration on the 4th of May 2016 the Fellows had meetings with:
 - » Diana R Pardue (Director, Museum Services Division, Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island);
 - » Judy M. Giuriceo-Lord (Curator of Exhibits and Media, Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island); and,
 - » Peter Wong (Supervisory Park Ranger, Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island).
- » The Fellow (Ferdinando Colarossi) met the Chair of the Modern and Classical Languages, Israel Salvador and the teachers of Italian, Elena Sergio and Sergio Mogavero at Xavier College (Catholic High School, New York) on the 4th of May 2016.
- » At John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, The City University of New York on the 5th of May 2016 the Fellows met with:
 - » Professor Anthony Julian Tamburri (Dean, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, The City University of New York); and,

- » Professor Fred Gardaphè (Distinguished Professor, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, The City University of New York).
- » During a visit to the Italian American Museum and attendance at cultural event (documentary viewing) on the 6th of May 2016 the Fellows met with Alessandra Belloni (REMO Artist; Artist in Residence at Cathedral of St. John the Divine, Edgewater, NJ; Singer, Percussionist, Folk Dancer; Artistic Director / Founder of *I Giullari di Piazza* – Italian Folk Music, Theatre & Dance).
- » As part of a visit to the Tenement Museum on the 7th of May 2016 the Fellows met with **Kathryn. A. Lloyd** (Education Manager, Tenement Museum, New York).

Destination 3: Italy, 11 – 19 May 2016.

a) Genoa Visits

On the 11th of May 2016 at CISEI (Centro Internazionale Studi sull'Emigrazione Italiana), Genova, the Fellows met with:

- » Dott. Fabio Capocaccia (Presidente, CISEI – Centro Internazionale Studi sull'Emigrazione Italiana, Genova);
- » Dott. Francesca Carminati (Segreteria e relazioni esterne, CISEI);
- » Dott. Raffaele Maurici (Knowledge Management and Technology Expert, CISEI; Strategy & Communication, ETT SpA, Genova); and,
- » Dott. Laura Jotti (Amministrazione, CISEI).

During a visit to Galata Museo del Mare e delle Migrazioni on the 11th of May 2016 the Fellows met with:

- » Dottor Pierangelo Campodonico (Direttore, MuMA, Istituzione Musei del Mare e delle Migrazioni, Genova); and,
- » Dottoressa Anna Dentoni (Segretario Generale, Associazione Promotori Musei del Mare e della Navigazione, Genova).



On the 11th of May 2016 the Fellows participated in the conference for the 10th anniversary of CISEI and in the round table.

b) Turin Visit

On the 12th of May 2016 the Fellows met with Dottoressa Maddalena Tirabassi (Director, Centro Altreitalie)

c) Rome Visits

On the 12th of May 2016 Ferdinando Colarossi attended the Fondazione Migrantes – Organismo Pastorale della CEI (Conferenza Episcopale Italiana) and met with:

- » Monsignor Giancarlo Perego (Direttore generale, Fondazione Migrantes – Conferenza Episcopale Italiana);
- » Dottoressa Delfina Licata; and,
- » Dottoressa Loretta Di Bonaventura.

On the 12th of May 2016 Ferdinando Colarossi attended the international conference Remapping Italian America. Places, Cultures, Identities

On the 12th of May 2016 Paolo Baracchi visited the CSER [Centro Studi Emigrazione, Roma] and met with:

- » Fr René Manenti, CS (director, CSER); and,
- » Fr Gabriele Beltrami, CS (addetto stampa).

On the 12th of May 2016 the Fellows met with well-known journalist and writer Desmond O'Grady and arranged for the presentation at CO.AS.IT. of his new book about Australians in Tuscany.

On the 12th of May at the Vatican radio station, Paolo Baracchi attended the launch of Simone Varisco, *La follia del partire, la follia del restare. Il disagio mentale*

nell'emigrazione italiana in Australia alla fine dell'Ottocento ("Testimonianze ed esperienze delle migrazioni", Fondazione Migrantes, 2016).

On the 16th of May 2016 the Fellows met with Professor Matteo Sanfilippo (Professore Associato di Storia Moderna, Università degli Studi della Tuscia; Co-editor, *Archivio storico dell'emigrazione italiana*, who in 2017 became Director of CSER).

On the 16th of May 2016 the Fellows met with Onorevole Marco Fedi (Australian MP in the Italian Chamber of Deputies).

On the 19th of May 2016 the Fellows visited the Ministero dei Beni e delle Attività Culturali and met with:

- » Professor Norberto Lombardi (prominent intellectual and publisher in the area of Italian migration);
- » Dottoressa Giorgia Floriani, Capo Segreteria Tecnica del Ministro; and,
- » Architetto Ugo Soragni, Direttore Generale dei Musei, Ministero dei Beni e delle Attività Culturali.

d) Naples Visit

Fondazione Napoli Novantanove runs The Fondazione Napoli Novantanove runs La Nave della Sila. Museo Narratedell'Emigrazione. On the 17th of May 2016 at a visit here the Fellows met with dottoressa Mirella Stampa Barracco (president, Fondazione Napoli Novantanove).

e) Florence Visit

Whilst visiting Florence Paolo Baracchi met with dottor Matteo Pretelli (well published scholar of Italian migration).

Destination 4: Melbourne (Australia), 31 May 2016.

Upon return to Australia the Fellows had a very valuable Skype conversation with prominent Italian migration scholar dottor Javier Grossutti (Udine).

NOTE: Detailed notes on visits and meetings in Appendix 2.



6. A Blueprint for the CO.AS.IT. Italian Language, Culture and Heritage Department

6.1 Supporting the Italian community in 21st century Australia

In the coming decades the CO.AS.IT. Italian Language, Culture and Heritage Department (the Department) will be operating within a wider Australian context increasingly characterised socially, culturally and institutionally by the development and consolidation of multiculturalism. In this context, second and third generation migrant communities such as the Italian, will play a determining role. The Fellows are confident that the Department is well situated to extend and enhance its work within this changing context.

In its 40 years of activity, CO.AS.IT. has established itself as the peak body in Victoria for: (1) supporting and promoting the teaching of the Italian language and culture; (2) collecting, preserving and sharing the history and culture of Italian Australians; and, (3) nurturing, coordinating and promoting Italian Australian culture and Italian Australian studies. The Department enjoys institutional support in Australia and in Italy at the highest levels, a growing network of academic and industry relations internationally, the continuing respect and support of the Victorian community of teachers and learners of Italian, and growing community support especially through the cultural programs of the Museo Italiano (MI).

The Department will consolidate and further its work in the field of education through its Resource Centre (RC), professional development and student programs, language assistants program and adult classes, which support and promote the teaching of the Italian language and culture, and in the field of heritage through the

Italian Historical Society (IHS) and the Museo Italiano (MI), which collect, preserve and share the history and culture of Italian Australians, and nurture, coordinate and promote Italian Australian culture and Italian Australian studies.

This consolidation and furthering of the **Department's activity will be informed by the Department's overarching goal to play a leading role in the development of a rich and robust Italian Australian culture and identity.** The Department will achieve this goal by (1) assisting in the preservation, rediscovery and promotion of heritage, and in particular the contribution of Italian migrants to Australia; (2) nurturing, coordinating and promoting Italian Australian cultural and artistic expression and Italian Australian studies; and, (3) promoting and supporting the teaching of Italian. In this way, the Department plans to continue supporting the Italian community in participating effectively in Australian society by developing its own distinctive voice as a confident participant in the multicultural dialogue of 21st century Australia.

It is evident that cultural cohesion and self-confidence is a powerful driving force also for the social and economic success of the Italian Australian community. A culturally strong Italian Australian community, self-assured of its socio-economic integration and success but, most importantly, conscious and proud of its heritage, possessed of the intellectual tools of modernity and conversant with Italy and Italian culture, is also the most effective ambassador of Italy and of all things Italian in this country and the privileged conduit for economic and cultural exchanges with Italy.

This is an ambitious plan for the Department, but one which seems reasonable, given the current position of the Department and the context in which it is increasingly operating. In the following pages the Fellows put forth a series of recommendations within the framework of a comprehensive strategy envisaged to enable the Department to take advantage of the current opportunities and thrive in the new context. The Fellows note that the implementation of this plan, like of any other plan that hinges on an expansion of the Department's activities both in volume and in professionalism, also presupposes an adequate and timely expansion of the Department's resources.

6.2 Three Blueprint Elements

The Fellows' recommendations may be summed up under three headings. The first, *Integrate*, concerns the Department's operations, liaisons and collaborations, including its relations to its context and its sustainability within that context; the second heading, *Include*, concerns its philosophy and its guiding principles; the third heading, *Internationalise*, contains recommendations regarding some key collaborative projects which emerged from the Fellows' visits. Many more valuable proposals of collaborations can be found in the body of the main report, under the relevant organisations.

I. INTEGRATE

Integrate: The integration of the community, education and academic sectors, and the synergy of Italian and Italian Australian culture, intrinsic to the Department's operations since its inception and strengthened over the years by the cultural programs of the MI and by liaisons and collaborations with a growing number of institutional partners, have clearly emerged as points of strength that should be built upon and developed.

a) Multiculturalism for the 21st century. Developing connectivity.

The Department will embrace the challenges and seize the opportunities arising from a rapidly evolving Australian context characterised by the development of a mature multicultural society, which both creatively preserves ethnic cultures and embraces multiple identities as a richness to be celebrated.

This orientation builds on the core principle of connectivity that inspired the founding of the IHS in 1981, and the IHS's and MI's activity ever since ("to share widely the Italian Australian story as an integral part of the Australian story") (cf. James Gobbo, *Something to Declare. A Memoir*, Melbourne, The Miegunyah Press, 2010, pp. 135-139).

The Fellows accordingly recommend that the Museo Italiano continue and strengthen its participation in the Multicultural Museums of Victoria network (which includes the Museum of Chinese Australian History, the Hellenic Museum of Australia, the Islamic Museum of Australia, the Museo Italiano at CO.AS.IT., the Jewish Museum of Australia). As well as carrying clear advantages in terms of culture and social harmony, this network also enables the member museums to have a stronger visibility and stronger leverage in seeking funding from the Government and from private benefactors.

b) The Italian community: the second generation and beyond. Focusing on culture.

The Department will likewise be attuned to the challenges and opportunities within the Italian Australian community, characterised by the increasing prevalence of second and subsequent generation Italian Australians (the so-called diasporic as versus migrant community), as well as by a modest but growing flux of incoming migrants from Italy.

That there were in the last census over 900,000 people in Australia who declared their ancestry as Italian (over 60,000 more than in the previous one) is a remarkable fact in itself and a clear index of the growing appeal that 'Italianness' has in this



country. It is reasonable to infer that this depends upon the popularity and prestige currently enjoyed by Italy and things Italian (including Italian Australians) in the Australian community at large, rather than upon an exacerbation of feelings of a separate Italian as versus Australian identity. It is also reasonable to assume that this enhancement of Italianness, rather than at the expense of a shared Australian identity, occurs within a context in which the multiplicity of identities is increasingly accepted and celebrated within a mature multicultural Australian society.

Indeed, the Italian Australian social and cultural context with which the Department operates is a vibrant one, characterised by increasing confidence and pride, by the loving preservation and passionate rediscovery of heritage across the generations. There is in the community a growing thirst for culture – Italian Australian culture of the kind that populates the cultural programs (temporary exhibitions and events) of the MI. Sure, Italian Australian culture may be often tentative and sometimes naïve. But it is something new and vital; it has poetry and genuine warmth; it has love and it has virtue; it has family and it has work; it has resilience; there is enormous creative energy and immense enthusiasm out there and the Department is uniquely situated to become a driver of this growth.

Accordingly, the Fellows recommend that the Department's heritage branch adopt as its mission statement "to nurture, coordinate and promote Italian Australian culture and Italian Australian studies." This formulation complements and builds upon the mission statement of the IHS, "to collect, preserve and share the history of Italian migration to Australia". While Italian migration to Australia remains factually, symbolically and culturally central, the scope of the IHS and MI must encompass also the present of the community, and especially the cultural and artistic expressions of the second and subsequent generations. This expansion of the mission has been recommended to the Fellows by several of the experts they consulted both in Australia and in Italy.

This focus on Italian Australian culture in the making, as well as with the second and subsequent generation community context in which the Department will be operating, fits in well with the philosophical notion of history that lies at the core

of the activities of the heritage sector of the Department – namely, history as the ongoing, culturally mediated process of collective self-determination (rather than the naïve notion of history as "the past"). The IHS collects and preserves the past: this is indeed the foundation of its activity, but not as an end in itself but to enrich the present and help guide us towards the future.

This approach is in syntony with the guiding principles of the IHS, which started its activities in 1981 around an oral history project run by young second generation Italian Australians, deliberately distancing itself from the then prevalent model of "separate ethnic museums with tired memorabilia" (JG, Something to Declare).

c) A two-pronged strategy: nurturing community culture and integrating specialist research

The Department intends to achieve the mission of its Heritage Branch, "to nurture, coordinate and promote Italian Australian culture and Italian Australian studies," by adopting a two-pronged strategy, where each element of the strategy should feed into the other and both tie in to the activities of the Education Branch. The first element of this strategy is to encourage and nurture the artistic and cultural expressions of the community so as to consolidate the Department's role as a community cultural hub and a driver in the creation of Italian Australian culture. The second, parallel, element of this strategy is to support Italian Australian studies by promoting Italian Australian content in education at all levels, e.g. by developing resources for schools, and specifically by collaborating more closely with universities on Italian Australian and cognate initiatives organising conferences, supporting students writing theses, offering scholarships etc.

The Department will thus position itself as a protagonist of the development of Italian Australian culture by building upon the successful cultural programs of the MI (temporary exhibitions and events) while strengthening and formalising relations with scholars and universities. This operation will consolidate the status of the Department both as a vibrant community cultural hub and as a driving force in Italian Australian studies.

The integration of community testimony and expression and specialist interpretation has emerged clearly as a recommendation from academics.

The Fellows recommend that the Department continue, through the cultural programs of the MI, providing a space and a forum for young, non-professional and emerging Italian Australian artists, writers, curators to share their work, and for community memory keepers to tell and share their stories; a safe space for dialogue and debate; supporting appropriate Italian Australian events, films and publications; promoting Italian Australian content, especially in schools and education programs.

The Fellows recommend that the Department collaborate with suitable partners to enhance the scholarly calibre of its activities; and specifically that it organise conferences on Italian Australian themes, including a regular work in progress conference for scholars and students working on Italian Australian topics; support research and publications in Italian Australian studies; set up scholarships for students who wish to concentrate on Italian Australian topics.

The first step is to find suitable academic collaborators, who may collaborate in the Department's heritage sector's operations. Two actions are specifically recommended:

1. Set up an Advisory Board (3-5 people, not only historians, to meet once or twice a year) for the cultural programming (temporary exhibitions and events, plus conferences) of the HB;
2. The *Italian Historical Society Journal*, which has been coming out since 1989 with an excellent mix of community and specialist contributions, should be made into a partly refereed publication (double blind review method). Warmly supported by all experts. This will involve developing appropriate Terms of Reference (policies) for the Journal. Proposed sketch of structure:
 - a. Editor in Chief (Department Manager and IHS Coordinator or IHS Coordinator)

- b. Editorial Board (2-3 people, possibly also members of the Advisory Board). Guest editors to be invited to prepare monographic issues in correspondence with MI exhibitions, conferences or other projects.

Suggested themes for monographic issues: (a) Return tourism; (b) Italian migration museums in the world; (c) Migration from the ex-Italian colonies; (d) Comparative study of religious feasts across Italian diasporas

- c. Large Advisory Board (*Comitato scientifico*), including non-Australians and non-Italians and people working on non-Italian migration and diaspora projects. Invitations to be part of the Advisory Board have been accepted by major scholars in the field in Australia, in Italy and internationally.

d) Sustainability and staffing

The Fellows note that their recommendations presuppose a timely investment of adequate additional financial resources. In particular, the viability of this plan presupposes an increase in staff in the Heritage branch, as suggested in Elizabeth Triarico's report (one full-time coordinator plus two full-time collaborators, one concentrating on curating the collections and one concentrating on programs, marketing and public relations). The Education Branch would benefit from one full time coordinator plus one full time librarian, one full time MI education officer, one full-time education officer (doposcuola, adult classes, language assistants, professional development for teachers, student programs). The Education and Heritage coordinators should report to a Department manager.

Several of the Fellows' conversations with managers of museums and cultural centres and with other professionals converged on the view that the best way to ensure sustainability is that CO.AS.IT. actively seeks out other sources of funding, including the Australian and Italian Governments; Italian Australian organisations; and private benefactors, both corporate and individual. In particular, the Fellows recommend that Italian clubs and associations be contacted for the purpose of inviting them to include their archives in the IHS collection, and accessing the



funds that these organisations are mandated to invest in community projects.

Benefactors may support the Department as a whole or in specific areas, programs and activities (e.g. the MI, an exhibition, a lecture series, a conference, a scholarship). Funders and benefactors may be acknowledged through plaques on the wall, naming rights to the library, the conference room and other spaces, through inclusion of logos on promotion collaterals and similar means, as the Fellows noted was common practice in most of the institutions they visited.

The activities, focus and direction of the Department are under the direct responsibility of the Department's manager and should be kept independent with respect to benefactors and funding bodies.

e) Integration of internal operations

The Department will develop the synergy between its education and heritage branches (neither of which is to be understood as a subset of the other), confident of the fact that Italian Australian studies are neither inferior to or disconnected from, but integral and conducive to Italian studies. This has been proved by the American experience, and is evident from recent trends in Italian studies, which increasingly embrace migrant writing both in Italy and in Italian communities abroad.

The Fellows recommend that Italian Australian content be consistently used and vigorously promoted by the Department as a means both of teaching and supporting Italian language and culture, and of strengthening Italian Australian identity and culture.

The Fellows recommend that the operations of the heritage sector of the Department be further integrated by developing a closer synergy between the collecting activity of the IHS and the exhibitions at the MI. The Fellows recommend that the IHS, while remaining open to external suggestions, engage in strategic biannual planning of its collecting activity by identifying suitable topics in relation to

which to run focused collection campaigns in view of temporary exhibition projects at the MI. Such topics may reflect gaps in the collection or matters of interest for the community. The Fellows further recommend that specific resources be set aside to allow the IHS to collect urgent oral history testimonies from the dwindling cohort of migrants who lived through the historic post war migration. The Fellows recommend that, for this purpose, the IHS develop collaborations with the welfare branch of CO.AS.IT. and with nursing homes for the purpose of sourcing stories and material from the migrant generation.

f) External liaisons

The Fellows recommend that the Department intensify its liaisons, partnerships and collaborations with suitable Italian, other ethnic and mainstream partners in Australia, in Italy and internationally, including teacher professional associations; relevant university departments and networks; local historical societies and organisations; migration museums, study centres and networks; libraries, repositories and archives; Italian social clubs and associations in Victoria; Italian and multicultural festivals; ethnic and mainstream media organisations; Government departments (OMAC etc.); the tourism sector, including Tourism Victoria and the concierges of hotels.

g) Integrating Italy

A focus on Italy should remain: (1) as the context of departure for both historical and current migration; (2) as the broader historical, cultural and artistic heritage of the Italian Australian community; (3) as the pole of an ongoing relationship; (4) as an imagined country, filtered by migrant memories; mainstream images and conceptions; (5) as a country of important cultural and institutional partnerships.

II. INCLUDE

The Department shares CO.AS.IT.'s charitable aims and its focus on disadvantaged members of the Italian Australian community. Neither a business nor a bureaucracy, the Department is a community cultural centre which is committed to intercultural dialogue and social harmony in its activities, and person-centred in its approach. As such, it is welcoming and caring; it is inclusive of the Italian community and other communities and its activities reflect a democratic cultural mandate.

a) Welcoming and caring: making a community cultural centre fees

The Department's commitment to the disadvantaged within the community entails that, while some of its activities and programs are and will remain fee based (e.g. language classes, MI education programs, some PDs), entry to the MI and participation in its programs (events and exhibitions) should remain in principle free. Furthermore, given the size and characteristics of the MI audiences, charging a fee would discourage participation and create administrative work in exchange for a negligible return, as confirmed by colleagues in comparable small museums. The Fellows recommend that specific fund raising events be organised from time to time and that the donation box be reinstated at the entrance of the MI.

b) Infrastructure

The Fellows recommend that the Department be developed as a community cultural centre. To this end it would benefit from: restructuring the entrance to make it more visible from the street and more inviting; minor modifications of the floor plan, so as to realise: a larger library area (with borrowing of non ERC specific resources open to the public) with tables and chairs for people to study; areas with sofas where people can sit and chat quietly (also in consideration of the age of some of the people who attend); larger temporary exhibition and community spaces (including the beautiful, underutilised courtyard); an MI shop with books, MI cards, MI gadgets and artwork; a café perhaps in the courtyard, where people

may purchase coffee, tea, wine, beer and snacks (at least on the occasion of events, plus a vending machine always in operation).

c) Outreach and marketing

Welcoming should be active as well as passive: an effort to reach out to the community should include a strong outreach program comprising: activities in schools; family history workshops in libraries; sessions in nursing homes (not only for Italians); travelling exhibitions etc.; a properly resourced Department-wide marketing strategy, including social media.

d) A democratic cultural activity

The Department's activities reflect a democratic cultural mandate, implemented through the proper coordination of community testimony and specialist research. The Fellows recommend that: the IHS implement a person-centred collecting activity, centred on life stories, not items; the tradition of community pieces be continued in the *Italian Historical Society Journal*; that the MI invite direct input from the community through a *museovirtuale* project (as seen at the Tenement Museum); that the Education branch renew and expand its student programs based upon the stories and resources in the MI and IHS archives, devising more active roles for students; that the MI continue working with young, non-professional and emerging Italian Australian artists, writers, curators in its cultural programs; that the family history sector be expanded, connecting its genealogical and wider historical aspects and using it as a spring board for collecting oral histories and material for the IHS.

III. INTERNATIONALISE

The last section, *Internationalise*, contains recommendations regarding some key collaborative projects which emerged from the Fellows' visits. Many more valuable proposals of collaborations can be found in the body of the main report, under the relevant organisations. Details of the four key international collaborative projects can also be found in the body of the report.



A Memorandum of Understanding has been drafted whereby the MI will provide the content of the Australian section of the new Italian National Emigration Museum in Genoa at the Museo del Mare (MuMA). MuMA will provide the MI with content on Italian emigration to destinations other than Australia, on current immigration to Italy and multiculturalism in Italy; both organisations will set up programs to do staff exchange.

In collaboration with the John D Calandra Institute (City University, New York), the Department will organise the first international Italian diaspora studies conference, in three successive locations: Melbourne, New York and Prato.

The Ellis Island Museum, New York and the MI will explore a temporary exhibition exchange.

The Department will explore together with the Fondazione Napoli Novantanove the possibility of pioneering the initiative "La Scuola adotta un monumento" ["Schools adopt a monument"] in Australian schools. This initiative, embraced by over 1000 European schools, sees schools "adopt" a monument – e.g., Station Pier; an Italian social club; a soccer or sports club; the Snowy Mountains Scheme; migration stories; the language of grandparents, etc.

The following is a complete list (in sketch form) of the collaborations discussed during the Fellowship

1. MuMa (future Italian National Emigration Museum) MOU: us to provide content for the Australian section; them to provide MI with content on Italian emigration elsewhere and current immigration to Italy and multiculturalism in Italy; both organisations to set up programs to do staff exchange etc.;
2. Calandra Institute (CUNY): in partnership with, the first international Italian diaspora studies conference (to include a session on teaching of Italian; one on immigrants in Italy; meetings with Italian Australian writers and artists; screenings of Italian Australian films; keynote speaker etc.);
3. Ellis Island Museum, New York: temporary exhibition exchange (perhaps with MMV);
4. Show with Gian Antonio Stella in collaboration with Fondazione Napoli Novantanove;
5. La scuola adotta un monumento, e.g., le memorie dei nonni; il dialetto (Fondazione Napoli Novantanove);
6. CISEI 1: Joint research on assisted migration to Australia (Idini; Dellios);
7. CISEI 2: Conference in collaboration with Genova University on Italians in Australia;
8. CISEI 3: Collaboration on CISEI database of migrants (need to find sponsors);
9. ASEI: send material for site (creative commons license);
10. *Altretalia*: propose a piece on MI activities relevant to the new wave of Italians in Australia;
11. *Scritture migranti*: propose a piece on IHS&MI activities or on Italian Australian literature;
12. Exhibition *Ethnicity at war* with Regione Toscana and Istituto per la Storia della Resistenza (Pretelli; Townsend);
13. Do a project with three European partners (Italians; Greeks; perhaps Dutch), for access to EU funding (Marco Fedi);
14. Lecture by eminent journalist and writer Desmond O'Grady;
15. The idea of having a mural on the Co.As.It. building (Pasquini).

7. Acknowledgements

Ferdinando Colarossi and Paolo Baracchi thank the following individuals and organisations that have given their time and their expertise to guide him through this Fellowship program:

Awarding Body – International Specialised Skills Institute (ISS Institute):

The ISS Institute exists to foster an aspirational, skilled and smart Australia by cultivating the mastery and knowledge of talented Australians through international research Fellowships.

The International Specialised Skills Institute (ISS Institute) is proud of its heritage. The organisation was founded over 25 years ago by Sir James Gobbo AC CVO QC, former Governor of Victoria, to encourage investment in the development of Australia's specialised skills. Its international Fellowship program supports a large number of Australians and international leaders across a broad cross-section of industries to undertake applied research that will benefit economic development through vocational training, industry innovation and advancement. To date, over 350 Australian and international Fellows have undertaken Fellowships facilitated through ISS Institute. The program encourages mutual and shared learning, leadership and communities of practice.

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The Fellows sincerely thank the Italian Australian Foundation (previously known as the Italian Services Institute) for providing funding support for this Fellowship and to the ISS Institute. The Italian Australian Foundation was established, inter alia, to advance the education of Australian residents who are of Italian descent. The Fellowship provides the opportunity for successful Fellows to advance their skills and knowledge. The Italian Australian Foundation and ISS Institute work with the successful recipients upon their return to share and publicise the learnings and recommendations from their Fellowship investigation.

Fellowship Supporters:

- » Onorevole Marco Fedi (MP representing Italians living in Asia, Africa, Oceania and the Antarctic at the Italian Chamber of Deputies)

- » Sir James Gobbo, AC CVO
- » Cav. Rhonda Barro (President, CO.AS.IT.)
- » Dr Gianfranco Cresciani
- » Dr Simone Battiston, Swinburne University
- » Dr Javier Grossutti, University of Udine

Fellowship Mentors:

- » Giancarlo Martini-Piovano, CEO, CO.AS.IT. Italian Assistance Association
- » Dr. Rebecca Forgasz, Director and CEO, Jewish Museum of Australia
- » Associate Professor Rita Wilson, Professor and Head of School, School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, Monash University

Employer Support:

- » CO.AS.IT. Italian Assistance Association

Organisations Impacted by the Fellowship:

- » CO.AS.IT. Italian Language, Heritage and Culture Department
- » Multicultural Museums of Victoria Network
- » Schools with Italian programs in Victoria
- » Victorian Association of Teachers of Italian
- » Scholars working in the fields of Italian studies; Italian Australian studies; migration studies; diaspora studies; heritage
- » Italian Social and Cultural Clubs and Associations
- » Italian Australian and wider community

Appendix A: Notes from pre-departure meetings with mentors

Meeting with Professor Rita Wilson

Professor Rita Wilson, Head of the School of Languages, Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, Monash University, Monash-Warwick Associate Professor, Department of Italian, University of Warwick (UK), Academic Co-Director, Migration, Identity, Translation Network

Professor Wilson noted that **the Department, and in particular the IHS-MI is well positioned to be a pivotal agent in (re)launching Italian Australian studies** (as distinct from Italian studies in Australia), with a focus on new migrants and 2nd and 3rd generations, emphasising their cultural and artistic creativity (not only writing but also the visual arts); (cf the Monash University project “literary habitats”); MI should not be looking at Italian Australian studies in a 1980s perspective (as migration studies) but at cultural expressions, at creativity with a heritage component etc. – i.e. as diaspora studies (cf. Eliana Maestri’s work at Warwick University).

To this effect, Professor Wilson recommended that:

1. The IHS-MI set up an Advisory Panel of experts (scholars working in the field of Italian Australian studies), to meet once or twice a year and advise the IHS-MI about its cultural programs (temporary exhibitions and events) and activities in general;
2. The *Italian Historical Society Journal* be made into a partly refereed publication (with an Editorial and Advisory Board, which may partly overlap with the

Advisory Panel) so as to attract contributions from scholars working in the field of Italian Australian studies who are currently working in universities. The Fellows should come back from their journey with a list of people who are willing to be part of the Advisory Panel and Editorial Board and Advisory Board of the gv;

3. The IHS-MI intensify its collaborations with appropriate universities, study centres and museums and sign with them formal documents of collaboration in the form of MOUs;
4. The IHS-MI present its activities at ACIS [Australasian Centre for Italian Studies] conferences and other appropriate conferences. Professor Wilson flagged the ACIS conference at the Monash Centre in Prato (July 2017), “Scontri e incontri”, focussed on the idea of a transnational Italy;
5. The IHS-MI does not focus exclusively on the Italian Australian story but widen its range to involve other Australian ethnic communities, other destinations of the Italian diaspora and contemporary Italy as a budding multicultural society;
6. Education -the Department address the challenge about how does all this (diaspora studies, cultural literacy, etc.) fit in with the school curriculum and that:
 - a. the Education branch of the Department consequently also vigorously promote and utilise Italian Australian content in learning contexts; and,



- b. The Education branch should go broader than just Italian language in its collaborations with teachers, including teachers of history and geography. Language is integrated in history and geography (see the website of the project “Transnationalising Modern Languages”, of which MI-IHS is a partner; see the idea of *mediazione culturale* in Italian schools and universities; see the idea of cultural, as well as linguistic literacy, in the USA and in Italy, that has a network model and recognises multiple multiculturalism – see the activity of the “Casa dei diritti sociali” in Rome).
7. The Fellows visit the John D Calandra Italian American Institute at CUNY, and explore whether it may be a model which, on a smaller scale, could work here. Professor Wilson expects that the Calandra Institute will be involved also outside of academia, e.g. in school programs.
8. Professor Wilson recommended that the MI:
- a. organise a smaller and more structured program of cultural events [agrees with Giancarlo Martini-Piovano]; and,
 - b. do digital on line exhibitions: the focus these days is shifting away from publications and towards “digital repositories” that give access to resources [see Tenement Museum later on in this report].
9. Professor Wilson suggested some further contacts and points of call:
- a. Dr Maddalena Tirabassi (Centro Altretalia, Turin);
 - b. Regarding Italy as a current destination of migration and as a workshop for a multicultural society, Professor Wilson recommended:
 - i. Centro di Studi Interculturali in Bologna – a very successful model (they also do things with schools);
 - ii. Casa dei Diritti Sociali in Rome; and,
 - iii. All Comuni have *Centri interculturali* – especially good ones in Prato and Milan; see Turin’s “La biblioteca di Babele”, under the Assessorato alla Cultura).
- c. Gaetano Rando (University of Wollongong) as the strongest and internationally best known presence in Italian Australian studies [this was confirmed during the Fellows’ journey, where the names of Gaetano Rando, Gianfranco Cresciani, Javier Grossutti (University of Udine) and Antonia Rubino (Sydney University) seemed generally well known.]
10. Lastly Professor Wilson recommended that the Fellows:
- a. come back with ideas about how to go about funding and philanthropy; and,
 - b. make 3-4 recommendations in the report rather than 10-12.

Meeting with Dr Rebecca Forgasz

Dr Rebecca Forgasz is the Director & CEO of the Jewish Museum of Australia

The conversation with Dr Forgasz was very helpful in assisting the Fellows understand how the Jewish Museum of Australia works. The MI and the JMA have a long-standing relationship of friendship and collaboration; the JMA may be seen perhaps as an older, more experienced sister the MI may turn to from time to time for advice.

1. There are three themes in the Australian-Jewish gallery:
- a. Migration and diversity (the different Jewish communities);

- b. Context and conditions (the contribution of Jews to Australia); and,
- c. Community and identity.

Each theme is addressed through six periods in time.

2. Audience focuses:

- a. Permanent exhibition for non-Jews;
- b. Temporary exhibition for Jews and non-Jews;
- c. Programming for Jews.

3. Dr Forgasz suggests that a non-Italian audience may be better involved by widening the offer from Italian Australian to simply Italian. Indeed this was the case when the MI ran events on Jews in Rome and on Renaissance Art. [Note: While Roman history and the Renaissance are also part of the cultural heritage of Italian Australians and therefore can be included from time to time in the programs of the MI, it is important that the MI retains its Italian Australian focus.]
4. Dr Forgasz invited the Fellows to reflect on the MI exhibition policy: what makes the cut for accepting as an exhibition? For the JMA it is not enough for an artist to be Jewish: you also want Jewish content.
5. Organisational structure and sustainability: JMA survives on Government funding, philanthropy, corporate and other revenue. The shop, bar, courses and admissions create a very small revenue (c10%). **A Foundation is the way to go.** JMA currently have 3 million, which generates \$120K a year; so they are aiming for \$10 million – that is the threshold that would allow the JMA to flourish.

Meeting with Dott. Giancarlo Martini-Piovano

Dott. Giancarlo Martini-Piovano, AO, CEO, CO.AS.IT. Italian Assistance Association

Dott Martini-Piovano recommended that

1. The IHS-MI prioritise collecting and cataloguing the existent collections as the foundation of its activities [agrees with Dr Grossutti].
2. The IHS-MI streamline and focus its programs (temporary exhibitions and cultural events) and develop them in closer association with their collecting activity [agrees with Professor Wilson].
3. The Fellows focus on important international collaborations such as the one with the new MEI (Museo Nazionale dell'Emigrazione Italiana), in consultation with the Hon Marco Fedi. Dr Martini-Piovano has supported the IHS and MI since their inception and on this occasion was instrumental in facilitating the conversation between the Fellows and the Hon. Fedi.



Appendix B: Notes from International Meetings and Visits

Destination 1: Recanati and Macerata (Italy), 10 – 11 December 2015.

10 - 11 December 2015: Recanati and Macerata (Italy)

Attendance at international conference: University of Macerata in cooperation with “Campus L’Infinito. School of Italian Language and Culture” – Recanati and Macerata. 10-11 December 2015. Italian ‘*Pluriverso*’: *Linguistic-cultural crossroads and migration patterns in the Italian language*

The Fellow, Paolo Baracchi, attended the whole conference (Day 1 – Italian as emigration language; Day 2 – Italian as immigration language), of great interest given the cultural activity of the IHS-MI. During the Fellow’s attendance he liaised with the following people:

Academic Staff from The University of Macerata:

- » **Professor Alfredo Luzi**, Ordinario di Letteratura Italiana Contemporanea, Università degli Studi di Macerata (R).

Professor Luzi and the Fellow explored themes of common interest and promised to keep in touch and explore future opportunities of collaboration (e.g. conferences, publications etc.). Professor Luzi is a senior academic who has visited Australia several times and also presented at CO.AS.IT. Through the Campus L’Infinito, Professor Luzi has collaborated for several years with the education branch of the Department. He regularly collaborates with SBS Italian Radio Program. Professor Luzi is a specialist in Italian Australian literature with several publications in the field, and a contributor to prestigious

literary journals. Professor Luzi invited the Fellow PB to present a paper at the conference on the subject of the “Il Museo Italiano e il lavoro culturale del CO.AS.IT. nel contesto della migrazione italiana in Australia”. Professor Luzi would most certainly be happy to be part of the Advisory Board (*comitato scientifico*) of the *Italian Historical Society Journal*.

- » Professor Carla Carotenuto (Professore di Letteratura Italiana Contemporanea, Università degli Studi di Macerata).
- » **Professor Michela Meschini** (Università degli Studi di Macerata).
- » **Dr Edith Cognigni** (Ricercatore, Didattica delle Lingue Moderne, Università degli Studi di Macerata).

Staff from Campus L’infinito. Scuola Di Lingua E Cultura Italiana:

- » **Dott Giorgio Massei** (Direttore, Campus L’Infinito, Recanati; Direttore, Edulingua, Laboratorio di lingua e cultura italiana, San Severino Marche).
- » **Dott Alessandro Liotti** (Campus L’Infinito, Recanati).
- » **Dott Martina Regnicolo** (Campus L’Infinito, Recanati).
- » **Dott Paola Accattoli** (Editorial Staff, ELI – La Spiga Edizioni, Recanati).

All the staff from the Campus L’Infinito was keen to support and further the ongoing collaboration with the education branch of the Department.

Academics Participating in the Conference:

- » **Professor Fulvio Pezzarossa** (Docente di Critica Letteraria e Letterature Comparate, Università di Bologna; Direttore, *Scritture Migranti. Rivista di scambi interculturali*).

Professor Pezzarossa, keynote speaker at the conference, is a well-known scholar on migrant literature, key note speaker at the conference, and director of the prestigious periodical *Scritturemigranti*. Professor Pezzarossa and the Fellow agreed to exchange publications and explore ways they could collaborate. [This was subsequently done, though the IHS-MI lacks the resources to contribute to *ScrittureMigrantias* suggested.]

- » **Professor Fred Gardaphè**, Distinguished Professor, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, The City University of New York.

The Fellow conversed with professor Gardaphè and learned about the history and current status of Italian American studies, about **Professor Gardaphè's lifelong activity setting up and supporting the Italian American studies, in particular by sourcing funding for an endowed foundation** to support it. Unlike in Australia, Italian American studies is an established specialist discipline: there are currently in the United States five professorial chairs of Italian American studies. Professor Gardaphè and the Fellow explored the possibility of their two institutions **collaborating, for instance on a research project or conference on the Italian language in Italian diasporas in Anglophone countries**. The Fellow gave Professor Gardaphè selected publications of the Museo Italiano and Italian Historical Society, and expressed his organisation's keenness to stay in touch and perhaps visit the John D. Calandra Institute with Fellow FC. [The two Fellows subsequently visited Professor Gardaphè at the Calandra Institute: see further on in this report.]

- » **Professoressa Maria Luisa Caldognetto** (Universität Trier and Director, Centre de Documentation sur Les Migrations Humaines, Dudelange, Grand-Duché de Luxembourg).

Professoressa Caldognetto and the Fellow exchanged information about what the respective migration museums do, especially with regard to their cultural programs.

- » **Professor Massimo Vedovelli** (Docente di Didattica delle Lingue moderne, Università per Stranieri di Siena), one of the most respected scholars in his field.
- » **Professoressa Antonella Cancellier** (Professore ordinario di lingua spagnola, direttore del Corso di aggiornamento professionale in Studi latinoamericani e dei Caraibi, Università degli Studi di Padova).

11 December 2015: Presentation "Il Museo Italiano e il lavoro culturale del CO.AS.IT. nel contesto della migrazione italiana in Australia" – ["The Museo Italiano and CO.AS.IT.'s cultural work in the context of Italian migration to Australia"] forthcoming in Proceedings of the Conference

The Fellow, Paolo Baracchi, gave a well-received presentation on the cultural activity of CO.AS.IT. (including the Museo Italiano) within the Italian Australian context; the Fellow emphasised the cultural vivacity of the Italian community and the way the Museo Italiano nurtures community testimony and artistic expression and coordinates them with scholarly research. On this occasion, like in all conversations with relevant interlocutors, the Fellow encouraged ongoing contact and the exploration of possible collaborations.

11 December 2015: Visit to Museo dell'emigrazione marchigiana (Villa Colloredo Mels)

The Fellow, Paolo Baracchi, visited the well organised Museo dell'emigrazione marchigiana. Of particular interest were the interactive surfaces (tables), where one could touch various icons and images (especially letters home from migrants) and source information. Access to staff in this museum, should the Museo Italiano wish to collaborate, would be very easy, through professor Luzi.



Destination 2: New York (United States of America), 29 April – 7 May 2016.

29 April 2016: Conversation with Professor Loredana Polezzi (Professor in Translation Studies, University of Cardiff) and Dr Margaret Hills De Zárate (Senior Lecturer and Programme Leader, MSc Art Psychotherapy (International), Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh).

Professor Polezzi is one of the leading academics, together with Professor Wilson (Monash University) within the international "Transnationalising Modern Languages" project, of which the MI is a partner. The Fellows' informal conversation with Professor Polezzi and Dr Hills De Zárate was helpful in that it allowed them to **gauge the interest, within academia, in working together with both primary and secondary schools and with the community.** This interest had already surfaced in the Fellows' conversation with Professor Wilson. In particular, the Fellows spoke to Professor Polezzi and Dr Hills De Zárate about the then current exhibition at the Museo Italiano, Memory, Fantasy and the *Healing Power of Art. Paintings by Rosa Agostinelli*, an exhibition of naïve paintings and stories by an 81 year old migrant. This conversation strengthened the Fellows' persuasion that **the synergy of education, teaching, community and collaboration with academia that characterises the Department is one of its major points of strength**, and that the Fellows' recommendations should include maintaining and furthering the integration of these sectors within the Department.

30 April 2016: Attendance at day two of the international conference Migrating Objects. Material Culture and Italian Identities (Calandra Institute)

Overall this conference confirmed and provided insight into the interest in the academic and museum sectors for:

1. objects that migrants brought with them [In Australia, Dr Daniela CosminiRose (Flinders University) and the scholars that collaborate with her, Eric Bouvet, Diana Glenn and Maria Palatsoglou, are working on this topic. Fellow PB met

them at the 2015 ACIS Conference in Sydney; also Mary Hutchens];

2. migrants' photographs;
3. interior decoration (see Emilia Toia in Sydney);
4. textiles and needlework (cp Luci Callipari-Marcuzzo and Anna Caione at MI);
5. objects made by Italian POWs, in exported Italian statues (Donald Richardson launched his book on this theme in Australia at MI) and, last but not least,
6. Italian identity and culture as embodied/commodified in Italian food. One of the presentations was on Eataly, whose successful store in New York the Fellows subsequently visited.

3 May 2016: Meeting with Dr Barbara Faedda, Associate Director, Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America, Columbia University.

From the Fellows' conversation with Dr Faedda, who has also works on migration topics, the following recommendations emerged:

1. A focus on young people
 - a. Involving young people should be one of the Department's highest priorities;
 - b. The IHS-MI should include, as well as the original migration story, also the history and culture of the Italian Australian community (diaspora studies);
 - c. The Museo Italiano should involve young Italian Australian artists and in general try to interest younger audiences. For instance, the Museo Italiano's invitation of celebrated mural artist Alice Pasquini is, according to Dr Faedda, an excellent idea.

2. Promoting Italian Australian studies:

- a. **Peer reviewing** is fundamental for the Italian Historical Society Journal;
- b. Set up an **expert Advisory Panel of scholars to assist in the cultural programming of the IHS-MI**;
- c. The IHS-MI should host:
 - i. a yearly **Work in Progress conference** for university students working on Italian Australian themes;
 - ii. yearly **conferences on specific Italian Australian themes**; [While this is clearly too much, it does point in the right direction];
- d. The IHS-MI should involve and collaborate with PhD students;
- e. The IHS-MI should engage in “quality niche programming”, focusing on Italian Australian history and culture. The Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America does just that with its focus on contemporary classical music; and,
- f. Where appropriate, the Museo Italiano could link its programming to important initiatives in Italy.

4 May 2016: Visit to the Ellis Island National Museum of Immigration

Meetings held with:

- » **Diana R Pardue** (Director, Museum Services Division, Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island). She has worked at many international museums;
- » **Judy M. Giuriceo-Lord** (Curator of Exhibits and Media, Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island); and,

- » **Peter Wong** (Supervisory Park Ranger, Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island).

Background information:

1. Ellis Island Museum, founded in 1990, is part of national Parks. They have over 4 million visitors a year (this is a problem), 600,000 of which are students. About 50% of their visitors are international tourists, who are also visiting the nearby Statue of Liberty; they also get many people doing family history research and school groups;
2. Like the Museo Italiano, they are pushing to involve the “Millennials” – people born after 1980;

Education (P. Wong):

3. EIM do not have education staff but park rangers, many of whom are occupied in crowd control; Ranger Peter Wong looks after the education programs;
4. Like the Museo Italiano, EIM has available on line pre- and post-visit material for schools; EIM does not have dedicated web staff;
5. They have four categories of students:
 - a. 7-10;
 - b. 11-13;
 - c. 14-18;
 - d. 18+.
6. They have school programs where the students take the role of immigrants (role play); to the mind of the Fellows, this – namely making the school



programs more active for the students – should be looked at the Museo Italiano; every three years they rotate the content;

7. EIM school activities include 3-5 minute games, including the intelligence tests that were used at EI on migrants;
8. Their most successful activity is a game for kids aged 9+, called “At the market place”. The point of the game is for the students to experience how difficult it is to manage without the language; kids pick up a card that says, e.g., “banana”, “one piece of stake”, “two bowls of chicken soup” and have to act it out without speaking;
9. Another activity involves choosing what objects to bring on the migration journey: the kids have a stack of cards with names of the objects and their weight (they are only allowed a certain weight);
10. Students pretend they are migrants (enquiry-based model of learning; family centred learning):
 - a. Pre-visit, students
 - i. Choose country of emigration;
 - ii. Write 250 word story;
 - iii. Choose name and surname;
 - iv. Map out classroom:
 - a. 1st class: 3x3 metres;
 - b. 2nd class: 2x2 metres;
 - c. 3rd class-steerage; 1x1 metre.

b. When they are ready and eager, they come to EIM for the visit;

11. From October to March they do outreach programs which involve about 3,000 students a year.

Visit to Ellis Island Immigration Museum

Curatorship

1. The Fellows noted that the exhibitions are effective, broad brush presentations; the displays and videos are concise and well edited;
2. Exhibits used to be confined to Ellis Island themes, but now they comprise pre- and post-Ellis migration history and US migration in general (however, the EIM collection is still confined to EI alone; they hold a lot on Italians, who are the largest group to come through);
3. The visit highlighted to the Fellows’ mind the need for more space at the Museo Italiano to allow for 3D exhibits;
4. Very effective 1 minute video interviews (e.g. in couples, showing the two sides of one issue) □ recommend for revamping of permanent exhibition;

Temporary exhibitions

5. Ellis Island Museum holds temporary exhibition cycles over an 18 month period; each exhibition stays up for about three months;
6. The exhibition proposal process involves a 10 person committee (5 internal and 5 external) that meets once a year to decide on the basis of (a) EIM’s interpretative themes (i.e. to education) and (b) academic soundness;
7. EIM’s interpretive themes are connected to its mission statement; in turn, its interpretive plans are connected to its strategic management plans;

8. They are starting to move away from one-person exhibition, unless there is a strong connection to EI;
9. EIM require their partners to finance the exhibits; EI offers the venue and the visitors;
10. Some of the temporary exhibitions are curated in house but mostly they partner with other institutions (e.g. ethnic associations or the Red Star Museum in Antwerp, with whom they are doing an exhibition this Summer); they had an exhibition on Italian foodways;
11. In the changing exhibits they also focus on diasporic experience, e.g. Japanese internment during WW2; Italian food; Italian American artist that works in textiles; they are also interested in multiple migration – e.g. people who migrated to Australia and America;

Funding

12. 50% of the funding for EIM comes from Congress and 50% from concession partners (bar; shop; ferry etc.); the Statue of Liberty Foundation, one of the first private-public foundations, chips in for exhibitions;
13. EIM is strongly connected with heritage tourism; the EI Foundation includes 27 unrestored buildings;

Partnerships

14. EIM has worked with several European migration museums; staff from the Immigration Museum in Melbourne did internships there when the Immigration Museum was opened;
15. EIM have a partnership with CISEI in Genoa, with whom they collaborate;

16. The Emigration Museum of San Marino did an exhibition at EIM;
17. EIM had two oral historians. Since the 1970s they have collected oral histories from immigrants and immigration staff; they have about 3,000 interviews, almost all of which are on line;

Collaboration

18. EIM is willing to collaborate with MI on temporary exhibitions, both by hosting an MI exhibition (a photographic exhibition; shipping costs to be paid for by MI) and by making available an EIM exhibition for MI; the Fellows and EIM colleagues agreed that they would swap floor plans of temporary exhibition spaces;
19. EIM is interested in collaborating with MMV (wider scope and more resources that MI alone);

Recommendations:

20. Diana Pardue recommended the following migration museums:
 - a. Red Star Line Museum, Antwerp, Belgium;
 - b. Bremerhaven main immigration museum, Germany;
 - c. Hamburg (historical site), Germany;
 - d. National Immigration Museum, Paris, France;
 - e. Section of museum on contemporary immigration to London, London, England;
 - f. Docklands Museum, East London, England;



g. Liverpool.

21. Diana Pardue recommended that the IHS-MI contact AEMI (Association of European Migration Institutions), of which they too are members, and which meets once a year around a specific topic (papers are then published);
22. EIM, like the TM, is part of the International Sites of Conscience; and,
23. When the MI's programs will be bigger, we should have a "Group Sales Department".

4 May 2016: meeting at Xavier College, New York, Catholic High School.

The Fellow, Ferdinando Colarossi, met the Chair of the Modern and Classical Languages, **Israel Salvador** and the teachers of Italian, **Elena Sergio** and **Sergio Mogavero**; discussion: overview of the teaching of Italian in NY; courses & curriculum; comparisons between different education systems in the USA and Australia; the state of LOTE learning in the USA and Australia; students and teachers contacts and possible exchanges; shared programs joint school visits to Italy.

5 May 2016: John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, The City University of New York.

Arguably the most prestigious Italian diaspora studies research centre in the world. The Fellows met with

- » Professor **Anthony Julian Tamburri** (Dean, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, The City University of New York); and,
- » Professor **Fred Gardaphè** (Distinguished Professor, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, The City University of New York).

The conversation covered the following topics:

Teaching Italian in schools

1. There are more students of Italian in Victorian schools than there are in schools in the whole of the United States of America: this is an excellent result and the Department should intensify its efforts to promote and support the teaching of Italian;
2. The Calandra Institute is also involved in the teaching of Italian in schools and also does Professional Development for teachers (with funds from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs); this shows that **the Department's current integration of (a) Italian Australian community; (b) teaching of Italian in schools; (c) Italian Australian studies at a tertiary level is a winning formula** and should be retained and strengthened: in particular, **collaborations with academia should be internalised (by setting up an Advisory Board for Museo Italiano programs and by making the *Italian Historical Society Journal* a partly peer reviewed publication)** rather than them remaining external collaborations of the Museo Italiano or Italian Historical Society in academic projects;
3. It is worth exploring the possibility of the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute setting up a teacher exchange program in partnership with the Department;

Fostering Italian Australian studies

4. **Peer reviewing is fundamental for the *Italian Historical Society Journal*** (both Dean Tamburri and Professor Gardaphè have accepted the Fellows' proposal to be on the Italian Historical Society Journal's Advisory Board);
5. **The Department should (re)launch Italian Australian studies;**

6. **A focus on Diaspora Studies rather than Migration Studies, is the key;**

- a. Connect with other (not only Australian) Italian Diasporas;
- b. Connect also with Immigration literature in Italy;

7. **THE MUSEO ITALIANO SHOULD ORGANISE THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ITALIAN DIASPORA STUDIES, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE JOHN D. CALANDRA ITALIAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE;**

- a. **Themes:** Italian Australian Diaspora history and culture; also session on immigration to Italy and immigration culture in Italy; also session about the teaching of Italian;
- b. **Sessions:** (i) 10-20 August 2017 – Museo Italiano, Melbourne; (ii) Early February 2018 – Calandra Institute, New York; (iii) Summer 2018 – Italy. We had mooted Monash Prato, but could also consider Genova, partnering with the new Museo Nazionale dell'Emigrazione and perhaps the University?;
- c. **Organising committee:** Anthony, Fred, Ferdinando and Paolo. Do we need to think of other partners, in the Italian location?
- d. **Advisory committee** (about 12 members). One committee that oversees the whole conference or one for each location? Shall we start considering some names and then make a shortlist? In Italy we can think of: Campodonico, Capocaccia, Grossutti, Tirabassi, Sanfilippo, Pezzarossa, Pretelli, Manenti, Stella. In Australia perhaps: Cresciani, Wilson, Grigoletti, Rando, Battiston, Lampugnani, Baldassar, Moliterno, Rubino, Lo Bianco, Cosmini-Rice, Pallotta-Chiarolli. In England: Polezzi, Santello, Maestri.
- e. **Patrons** (e.g., Ambassador, Consul, Istituto di Cultura, etc.):

- f. **The Proceedings** could come out as a special issue of the Italian Historical Society Journal. People should not be charged to take part.
8. The Department should invest in developing Italian Australian programs at the tertiary and secondary level: for instance, it could offer **scholarships to students working on Italian Australian themes;**
9. **The Department should collaborate with the sector of Italian studies (*italianistica*):** (a) the traditional feeling of superiority of *italianistica* over Italian Diaspora Studies is waning (e.g. *Studiitaliani* has had two issues "Oltreconfine"); (b) the American experience shows that Italian Diaspora Studies is not in competition with, but conducive to *italianistica*;

Sustainability

10. FG in 5 years raised USD\$4.5 million to set up an **endowed Professorship in Italian American Studies** at Stony Brook University (NY). This model has proved to be very successful. **There are currently 5 professorial chairs in Italian American Studies in the United States of America.**

6 May 2016: Visit to Italian American Museum and attendance at cultural event (documentary viewing)

1. **Alessandra Belloni** (REMO Artist; Artist in Residence at Cathedral of St. John the Divine, Edgewater, NJ; Singer, Percussionist, Folk Dancer; Artistic Director / Founder of *I Giullari di Piazza* – Italian Folk Music, Theatre & Dance); and,
2. **Dr Joseph Scelsa**, the director of the Italian American Museum, had forgotten about his appointment with the Fellows; the Fellows were welcomed by the ticket vendor and visited the Italian American Museum – an information packed no-tech traditional display; they were able to gauge the active temporary exhibition and cultural program from the fliers at the reception; they then took part in the presentation by Alessandra Belloni of the folkloristic



musical and spiritual activities around several Madonne in Southern Italy; the presentation was held in the temporary exhibition and lecture room (12 seats – 5 occupied).

7 May 2016: Visit to Tenement Museum and meeting with Kathryn. A. Lloyd (Education Manager, Tenement Museum, New York)

“The Tenement Museum preserves and interprets the history of immigration through the personal experiences of the generations of newcomers who settled in and built lives on Manhattan’s Lower East Side, America’s iconic immigrant neighborhood; forges emotional connections between visitors and immigrants past and present; and enhances appreciation for the profound role immigration has played and continues to play in shaping America’s evolving national identity.”

Education

1. Some 44,000 school students visit each year; the Tenement Museum has pre and post visit material on the website as the Museo Italiano has, but do not require visitors to do the activities;
2. The basic idea of the pedagogy is to connect the theme of historical immigration to that of contemporary migration – on connecting past and present; 50% of the students that visit are either migrants themselves or the children of migrants;
3. The school programs are linked to the History curriculum and organised thematically; the learning areas are organised as follows;
 - a. 7-8 year-olds learn about homes and families;
 - b. 10-13 year-olds learn about cultural adaptation, with a focus on older immigration;
 - c. 14+ year-olds learn about history – who writes it; whose stories are told etc.;

In NYC, 10 year-olds study immigration, 14 year-olds study industrialisation;

4. Their lesson plans envisage learning through objects, oral histories and documents;
5. They have programs in which staff dresses in period costumes and teaches the children, and in which the students furnish model apartments with paper furniture;
6. By visiting the tenement apartments and familiarising with the story of one family who lived there, visitors engage emotionally as well as cognitively with the stories; they do not allow photography, to give a cohesive narrative experience; the TM operates “facilitated story telling” and visitors are active participants;
7. The Tenement Museum collaborates with other museums, especially on public programs; and,
8. The TM organises public programs, especially talks. The public programs are not necessarily connected to Tenement themes (e.g. on the political activism of single women; on migration; on urban planning; next week they have the food program, in which a curator will recreate food in the Tenement kitchen); they also do musical events; their talks are free but if food or music are involved there is a fee;

Staffing

9. The Tenement Museum has a large staff of 120 (60 full time and 60 part time); most staff has been there 5-10 years; the education section comprises 75 people, of which 50 are regular part time educators; the educators are not all teachers; most of them do something creative as well as working at the Tenement Museum (acting, teaching, dancing, art etc.); all educators work three days a week;

10. Educators are flexible people with great people skills (the content can be learnt);
11. They only offer educator run programs: they have no self-guided tours;
12. Training for educators lasts three weeks, and it comprises training with consulting scholars that work at universities; all educators are trained in "accessible language" for NESB visitors, as well as in language for the vision impaired; they offer tours in many languages, by appointment or in small groups; each educator takes one tour at a time (the Tenement Museum offers several tours based on the stories of different families who lived in the apartments); professional development is offered throughout the year;
13. The Tenement Museum is expanding and they are looking at other models; unfortunately they have to turn away many visitors; they plan to expand into another building and tell also post WW2 stories;
14. their visitors are 1/3 international; 1/3 national and 1/3 New Yorkers;

Marketing

15. the Tenement Museum has a small marketing department (4 people); they have never placed advertisements; they get their visitors: (1) word of mouth; (2) social media; (3) concierges of hotels (very successful medium) (like the Hellenic Museum in Melbourne); (4) tour operators across the country;

Virtual exhibition and democratic cultural mandate of MI

16. The Tenement Museum has a small object collection which is not on display (their small curatorial department comprises two people); they have launched a visitor generated virtual exhibit, whereby people submit images and stories that are uploaded on the website (www.yourstory.tenement.org); they currently have some 900 stories; the site is in its initial phases: later on they plan to have audio and video capabilities;

17. they have a template and parameters for the stories; the initiative is open to everyone; they do not edit the stories – they even leave the English errors; so far they have not received prank or inappropriate stories;
18. this is an excellent initiative and something that the Museo Italiano could adopt successfully (democratic cultural mandate) – stories could also have audio;
19. The Tenement Museum has consulting scholars that work at Universities; the collaborations are with the individual scholars;
20. Tenement Museum staff has taught classes at several universities and the TM has more formal relationships with these departments;

History and funding

21. The Founder of the Museum (1988) also founded the International Sites of Conscience, with which the TM is affiliated;
22. The Tenement Museum has several sources of funding:
 - a. The Federal Government;
 - b. The City of New York;
 - c. Foundation?



Destination 3: Italy, 11 – 19 May 2016.

GENOA (ITALY)

11 May 2016: CISEI – Centro Internazionale Studi sull'Emigrazione Italiana, Genova.

The Fellows met with:

- » **Dott. Fabio Capocaccia** (Presidente, CISEI – Centro Internazionale Studi sull'Emigrazione Italiana, Genova);
 - » **Dott. Francesca Carminati** (Segreteria e relazioni esterne, CISEI);
 - » **Dott. Raffaele Maurici** (Knowledge management and Technology Expert, CISEI; Strategy & Communication, ETT SpA, Genova);
 - » **Dott. Laura Jotti** (Amministrazione, CISEI).
1. In the last 10 years CISEI has concentrated its efforts on collecting a database of Italian emigrants; they are currently engaged in the difficult task of analysing the data on departures since 1790, which have made their way into the Archivio di Stato; their database, which can be viewed free on line, currently counts over 5 million names but it is far from complete, especially with respect to Australia; it is the most complete database of Italian emigrants; CISEI has stipulated, for the collection of the database, agreements with the most complete archives, namely the one of Ellis Island (United States of America) and the one of Sao Paulo (Brasil); CISEI is also in contact with IASA in New York [?];
 2. CISEI work in close collaboration with Mu.MA. CISEI's archive is deposited at Mu.MA and (in copy) at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
 3. Dott. Maurici has a database of 16,000 Italian associations in the world; Azienda ETT (where Dott. Maurici also works) has a beautiful virtual museum;
 4. The **National Museum of Italian Emigration in Rome has closed and it will be moving to Genoa, initially at Mu.MA, then in a dedicated building** (like Ellis Island);
 5. CISEI are also interested in stories (e.g., "my first day in Australia") and in the current wave of young Italian travellers/migrants to Australia; CISEI is interested in Italian emigration, not in current immigration to Italy;
 6. CISEI are keen for the Museo Italiano to include CISEI on the website of the Museo;
 7. Italian emigration to South America c1900 was of relatively qualified workers (e.g. builders, mosaic workers): the entire public building in South America was done by Italians; early Ligurian emigration was of qualified people: the Bank of America was founded by a Ligurian;
 8. Australia is of interest for CISEI (btw, Dott. Capocaccia's children live in Australia, where they run REA Group Ltd – a digital media business, specialising in property); CISEI is keen to organise, in partnership with Museo Italiano, a conference on the theme of Italy and Australia in Genoa, within one year; the expense for Museo Italiano would be below 4-5,000 Euro; Professor Carlo Stiaccini (scientific contact of CISEI, University of Genoa), has no funds;
 9. CISEI is keen to engage in a common research project with the Museo Italiano, on the theme of assisted migration to Australia [Idini];
 10. Most of all, CISEI is keen for the Italian Historical Society and Museo Italiano to collaborate on the names database project by collecting names in Australia; it would be advisable for the IHS-MI to find sponsors (e.g. Italian Australian businesses) who could finance this project; CISEI also proposes a CISEI workstation at Museo Italiano; the goal could be to build the database (to be shared between CISEI and MI) of Italian migrants to Australia within five years.

11 May: Visit to Museo del Mare

Meetings held with:

- » **dottor Pierangelo Campodonico** (Direttore, MuMA, Istituzione Musei del Mare e delle Migrazioni, Genova) and
- » **dottor Anna Dentoni** (Segretario Generale, Associazione Promotori Musei del Mare e della Navigazione, Genova)

Putting Australia on the map of Italian consciousness

They are interested in the diaspora and in new mobilities (Lolicato and Lotti).

1. The Fellows, together with dott. Campodonico, visited the migration section of Mu.MA. It is a large and well curated exhibit, with an effective use of multimedia and theatre-like reconstructions of various historical contexts. Mu.MA currently have three temporary exhibition spaces, where they host especially art exhibitions. They have cultural programming including conferences and host lectures;
2. MuMA is the first Italian migration museum to adopt standards and models of efficiency and pragmatism normally seen abroad (not in Italy). Staff at MuMA know Diana Pardue and Judy Giuriceo at the Ellis Island Museum, with whom the Fellows met (see above). The Hon. Marco Fedi is the political mentor of the collaboration between MuMA and the Museo Italiano.
3. The Hon. Dario Franceschini (Ministro dei Beni e delle Attività Culturali e del Turismo) has proposed that the new Museo Nazionale dell'Emigrazione Italiana be part of MuMA, a plan involving the doubling of the current floor plan of MuMA and the expansion of the exhibit to include Europe, Canada and Australia. The new Museo Nazionale dell'Emigrazione Italiana will also include current immigration to Italy.

4. Australian politician **Franca Arena** (originally from Genoa) organised at MuMA a photographic exhibition on Italians in Australia. On that occasion, she left a donation of material to MuMA.
5. **MuMA is keen to include in the new Museo Nazionale dell'Emigrazione Italiana an Australian section, curated and provided by the Museo Italiano.** It would be a common resource of pictures and stories. MuMA are keen to sign a MOU with the Museo Italiano straight away, before we are 100% certain that the Minister's proposal will go ahead.
6. **MuMA are keen to visit Australia to formalise the MOU with the Museo Italiano** and to meet other potential interlocutors proposed by the Museo Italiano.
7. MuMA is keen to share its experience e.g. by holding lectures or participating in conferences in Australia; they are particularly interested in the MMV network;
8. MuMA is keen to assist the MI on a project on current immigration to Italy;
9. MuMA is keen to participate in staff exchanges and to share and compare on approaches to teaching and promotion.
10. Mu.MA is interested in exhibitions on the present of the Italian community in Australia (e.g. Italian Australian. Creating Culture, Defining Diaspora); and,
11. Mu.MA and the Museo Italiano agreed to start collaborating now, keeping in the loop our political mentors, the Hon. **Marco Fedi** and the Hon. **Mario Giro**, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs.



11 May 2016: Fellow, Ferdinando Colarossi, participated in the conference for the 10th anniversary of CISEI and in the round table

TURIN (ITALY)

12 May 2016 : Fellow, Paolo Baracchi, met with dottoressa Maddalena Tirabassi (director, Centro Altreitalie)

1. Dott. Maddalena Tirabassi is the director of the Centro Altreitalie (Turin), which is part of the Globus et Locus foundation (Milan; **Piero Bassetti**); Altreitalie is borderline between academia and a not for profit private research institute; they have interns and trainees; the Centro Altreitalie has a cultural program of events, with a mixed audience (academics, students, migrants, plus the audience of the Fondazione Einaudi, where the Centro Altreitalie is hosted);
2. Dott. Tirabassi recommends for the library **Patrizia Audenino**, *La casa perduta*, a book on refugees in 20th century Europe; also *Fuoco a mare*, an excellent film about Lampedua; she finds of interest the **theme of “Imagined Italies” as a possible exhibition at the Museo Italiano** [Lolicato];
3. Dott. Tirabassi agrees with the **desirability of introducing partial peer reviewing into the Italian Historical Society Journal**; the journal *Altreitalie* is also partially peer reviewed (the community [not peer reviewed] part is available on line for free; the peer reviewed part requires a fee to be seen); Anthony Tamburri too (see above) tries to involve both academia and the community with his journal *Italian American Studies*; the idea of the Journal including good quality research and good quality divulgation, with a view to including a wide readership, is a good one.
4. Dr Tirabassi **recommends the MI-IHS become members of AEMI (Association of European Migration Institutions)**, of which she is Vice President. The Australian Nonja Peters [?] works there. AEMI was born c1990 in Northern Europe, with the purpose of studying Northern European migration to the Americas. Every year AEMI holds its annual conference; a

topic is chosen and there are scholarly presentations on that topic; plus each participating institution holds a presentation on its activities during the year; in October this year the conference will be in Santiago de Compostella (Spain);

5. The Migration Museums of **Hamburg** and **Bremen** are the first in Europe; Mu.MA takes its inspiration from them;
6. Dr Tirabassi is interested in the “nuovemobilità”; she is keen for MI to send her documentation on this phenomenon; *Altreitalie* would be keen to host an interview or “scheda” on the MI’s activities in the field of Italian and European “new mobilities” in Australia; she would also be keen to interview young Italian migrants for *Altreitalie*;
7. Dr Tirabassi kindly accepted the Fellow’s invitation to be part of the Italian Historical Society Journal’s Advisory Board.

ROME (ITALY)

12 May 2016: Fellow, Ferdinando Colarossi, Fondazione Migrantes – Organismo Pastorale della CEI (Conferenza Episcopale Italiana)

- » **Monsignor Giancarlo Perego** (Direttore generale, Fondazione Migrantes – Conferenza Episcopale Italiana);
 - » **Dottoressa Delfina Licata**;
 - » **Dottoressa Loretta Di Bonaventura**;
1. The Fondazione Migrantes is happy to maintain contact and keen collaborate where possible, especially in the area of research. The Fondazione Migrantes donated several recent publications to the Italian Historical Society & Museo Italiano – in particular the recent seminal study **Michele Grigoletti and Silvia Pianelli (eds), *Giovani italiani in Australia. Un “viaggio” da temporaneo a permanente*** (Fondazione Migrantes, 2016); and,

- The Fellow discussed presenting this work as part of the cultural program of the Museo Italiano. This was done later in the year.

12 May 2016: Fellow, Ferdinando Colarossi, participated in international conference 'Remapping Italian America. Places, Cultures, Identities'

Attendance at this conference provided valuable insights into the organisation and feasibility of prospective international conferences at the Museo. Important contacts were made with university representatives regarding future conferences and public program and exhibitions at Museo Italiano.

12 May 2016: Fellow, Paolo Baracchi, visited CSER

- » Fr **René Manenti**, CS (director, CSER);
- » Fr **Gabriele Beltrami**, CS (addetto stampa).

Fr Manenti:

Enhancing the scholarly quality of the Italian Historical Society Journal

- Peer reviewing is desirable for the *Italian Historical Society Journal*, though the Fellows should be aware of the extra time this will take;
- Fr Manenti accepted the Fellow's invitation to be part of the *Italian Historical Society Journal's* Advisory Board;
- It is advisable to invite guest editors to edit single issues of the Italian Historical Society Journal on a theme they are experts in, possibly in connection with exhibitions or events in the Museo Italiano's cultural calendar. There is a double benefit: (a) the quality of the monographic issues; (b) outsourcing of the time consuming editing work;

- The Italian Historical Society should consider improving the presentation of the *Italian Historical Society Journal* – namely having it printed professionally and in book format rather than in A4;

Recent scholarship on Italian migration to Australia and the cultural program of the Museo Italiano

- The Fellow and Fr Manenti spoke about the recent book Michele Grigoletti, Silvia Pianelli (eds.), *Giovani italiani in Australia: Un "viaggio" da temporaneo a permanente* (Fondazione Migrantes, 2016), and agreed about the desirability of presenting it at the Museo Italiano;

Fr Beltrami:

- Fr Beltrami suggested that the Fellow contact Fr **Maurizio Pettenà** (National Director, Australian Catholic Migrants and Refugees Office) on the occasion of the presentation at the Museo Italiano of the book Michele Grigoletti, Silvia Pianelli (eds.), *Giovani italiani in Australia: Un "viaggio" da temporaneo a permanente* (Fondazione Migrantes, 2016).

13 May 2016: Meeting with well-known journalist Desmond O'Grady

The Fellows discussed Mr O'Grady's forthcoming book, on Tuscans in Australia. The Fellows agreed to assist Mr O'Grady in sourcing some information and photographs for his book, and invited Mr O'Grady to present his book at the Museo Italiano on 18 October. This was a successful event.

14 May 2016: Fellow, Paolo Baracchi, visited the Vatican radio station, attendance at launch of Simone Varisco, 'La follia del partire, la follia del restare. Il disagio mentale nell'emigrazione italiana in Australia alla fine dell'Ottocento' ("Testimonianze ed esperienze delle migrazioni", Fondazione Migrantes, 2016)

- Fr Morales, Fr Federico Lombardi, Mons. Giancarlo Perego, Federica Gaspari



(Addetta Stampa e Relazioni Esterne at Etnopsi, Scuola di Psicoterapia Etno-Sistemico-Narrativa), A Professor Elisabetta Mondello (Letteratura italiana contemporanea, Università “La Sapienza”, Roma) were the speakers on the night. Dott. Varisco's book was contextualised within the appropriate historical context as well as within the Church's teaching and pastoral activity in favour of migrants and refugees. 101,000 young Italians went to Australia in 2015; unemployment among the young in Italy is 39%. The Fondazione Migrantes is interested in the issue of mental health of migrants; they have published a book of letters of Ukrainian *badanti*; there are now 800,000 *badanti* in Italy – many of them mothers separated from their children; 2 Italians commit suicide in London each month;

2. The book was written in Italy, explores mental health issues in late 19th Italian migrants to Australia, relying on the records of Australian 19th century lunatic asylums, which are available on line; and,
3. Dott. Varisco is very keen to come to Australia to present his book. He is seeking funding for the ticket and lodging for a couple of days

16 May 2016: Meeting with Professor Matteo Sanfilippo (Professore Associato di Storia Moderna, Università degli Studi della Toscana; Co-editor, 'Archivio storico dell'emigrazione italiana')

Professor Sanfilippo is one of the most important scholars of migration active today in Italy. He is on the scientific board of the Museo Nazionale delle Migrazioni (Rome), of the Centro Internazionale Studi Emigrazione Italiana (Genoa); he is co-editor of *Archivio storico dell'emigrazione italiana* and of the website www.asei.eu and managing editor of *Studi Emigrazione*. He is the author of 35 books and 321 essays and the editor of 35 books and journals' special issues. He has since become Director of CISEI.

Enhancing the scholarly quality of the Italian Historical Society Journal

1. It is a good idea to **make the Italian Historical Society Journal into a partly peer reviewed publication**; the same is the case with the *Archivio Storico dell'Emigrazione Italiana*; Professor Sanfilippo is available to be part of the Advisory Board, even though his specialisation is in the Nineteenth Century;
2. Professor Sanfilippo recommended we also contact in his name, and invite to be part of the Advisory Board, dottor **Michele Colucci** (Docente di storia contemporanea e storia dell'Europa contemporanea presso l'Università degli Studi della Toscana; Ricercatore, Istituto di Studi sulle Società del Mediterraneo – Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche), who edits a book series that publishes one book a year;
3. Structure: (1) Director (direttore), could be FC and PB or PB; (2) Editorial Committee (comitato editoriale) (2 or 3 people); (3) Advisory Board (Comitato scientifico). The Italian Historical Society Journal to be made up of two parts: (1) “From the community” and (2) refereed articles. To guarantee anonymous refereeing, it is important to remove the author's name from the file properties! It is important to have clear terms of reference and rules for contributors, and to be strict about them. A peer reviewed journal will attract good quality and well presented piece. (1) It will enhance the scholarly quality of the Journal and (2) we will spend less time dealing with half-baked pieces than we have to do now; however (3) the editing of a peer reviewed journal and the peer reviewing process is time consuming. A good idea is to host guest editors to edit special issues, possibly connected with exhibitions and programs at the Museo Italiano. We should aim at having specialist referees we go to for articles on specific themes;
4. Professor Sanfilippo has invited the Fellows to submit material for publication in the *Archivio Storico dell'Emigrazione Italiana*;

Ideas for the Museo Italiano

5. Insight: after the mushrooming of migration museums in the 1990s, the current international trend is for them to close or merge. The **MMV** initiative is an excellent idea in this context;
6. The idea of a **virtual museum** is also very good: this has been done in Friuli and in Lucca (collezione Cresci); in the website of ASEI, they have set up an area of letters and diaries made available by the community (the originals are retained by the donors). They follow the “creative commons” licensing system (for non-commercial use). This is a simple system that the Museo Italiano too should follow;
7. Love letters / Family ties could be a theme for an interesting exhibition.

31 May 2016: Meeting with Onorevole Marco Fedi (Australian representative in Italian Chamber of Deputies)

1. MF, who knows the Department and the Museo Italiano very well, assured the Fellows of his **commitment and ongoing support**; in particular,
 - a. he put the Museo Italiano in touch with the MuMA in Genoa, thus triggering a planned collaboration of great interest and prestige (see above); MF also
 - b. arranged for the Fellows to meet managers at the Ministero dei Beni e delle Attività Culturali (see below), and provided valuable advice and guidance for this meeting.
2. Funding from Italy for the teaching of Italian has decreased dramatically over the last few years and it is likely to decrease further; **funding for the Museo Italiano from Italy is highly unlikely**; and,
3. MF suggested that the **Museo Italiano may be able tap into European funding** for projects involving three European countries. MF would source the relevant documentation.

19 May 2016: Ministero dei Beni e delle Attività Culturali

- » professor **Norberto Lombardi** (prominent intellectual in the area of research on Italian migration);
 - » dottoressa **Giorgia Floriani**, Capo Segreteria Tecnica del Ministro;
 - » architetto **Ugo Soragni**, Direttore Generale dei Musei, Ministero dei Beni e delle Attività Culturali.
1. The Fellows, accompanied by Professor Lombardi, briefed arch. Soragni and dott. Floriani about their meeting at MuMA (see above).
 2. Soragni stated that, while the recently closed MEI (Museo Nazionale dell’Emigrazione Italiana) in Rome was managed by the Ministero degli Affari Esteri, MuMA is currently managed by the Comune di Genova.
 3. Over the next few years a Foundation will be set up, made of Government agencies. This Foundation will be more agile than MEI was because it will be regulated by diritto privato. The Foundation will incorporate the items both from MEI and from MuMA and will manage the new Museo Nazionale dell’Emigrazione Italiana, which will be situated in Genoa.
 4. Professor Lombardi underlined the importance that the new museum deal also with contemporary immigration to Italy, not only with mostly historical emigration from the country. Architetto Soragni replied that, while the name will remain “Museo Nazionale dell’Emigrazione Italiana”, the institution is free to include other themes (e.g. immigration to Italy) in its practices, research activities and programming. There are other parallel projects – for instance in Lampedusa – which deal with the theme of immigration in depth and with specific attention to culture.
 5. The Museo Italiano and MuMA are free to make their own agreements of collaboration. These agreements will be inherited by the new Foundation when it comes into existence.



6. Professor Norberto Lombardi spoke with the Fellows after the official meeting. His preference for migration and multicultural museums and exhibitions is for
 - a. A thematic rather than chronological arrangement;
 - b. Themes to be connected to the present, current issues.
7. Professor Lombardi runs a publishing house on migration themes. It has four collections (*collane*) and has published, among other things, *Zuccherò* by distinguished Italian Australian writer Giovanni Andreoni (with introduction by Professor Alfredo Luzi (see above). Professor Lombardi is especially involved in themes of migration from the region of Molise, and knows Molisan film director and author **Agapito Di Pilla**, with whom the Museo Italiano is planning to collaborate (with Deirdre from Edinburgh).

NAPLES (ITALY)

17 May 2016: Fondazione Napoli Novantanove runs The Fondazione Napoli Novantanove runs La Nave della Sila. Museo Narrante dell'Emigrazione.

A modern multimedia migration museum, curated by the well-known writer Gian Antonio Stella, the Museo Narrante was launched in 2005. In 2013 the section Mare Madre was added, to complement the story of Italian emigration with the recent, often dramatic issues connected with Italy today as a destination of migration

The Fellows met with **dottor Mirella Stampa Barracco (president, Fondazione Napoli Novantanove)**

1. The Museo Italiano could become a member of **La Scuola adottati monumenti**, adapted to the Australian context and adopted by Victorian schools as a way of engaging students and schools and involving communities. This would fit in well (1) with the existent strong relationships of the Department with schools and teachers of Italian; (2) with the Department's goals of (a) encouraging/

fostering awareness and appreciation of Italian Australian culture across the generations and (b) promoting Italian Australian content in schools and tertiary institutions. In conversation with dottoressa Barracco it emerged that the monuments adopted need not be traditionally "beautiful" or even physical objects – e.g. they could be an Italian village/town or any aspect connected to migrant history and/or diasporic identity, e.g. "ildialettodeinonni" or "iraccontideinonni" or the history of a community.

2. The Museo Italiano could consider, perhaps partnering with other Italian Australian organisations, inviting the famous Italian writer **Gian Antonio Stella, who has curated the Museo Narrante and is available for a show, with a small troupe**. Otherwise, the Museo Italiano, in partnership with the Fondazione Napoli Novantanove, could consider showing the video of Gian Antonio Stella's show publicly, perhaps with the author participating through Skype.
3. The Museo Italiano could consider holding competitions, like the Fondazione Napoli Novantanove does: they are excellent to keep the network alive.

FLORENCE (ITALY)

18 May 2016: The Fellow, Paolo Baracchi, met with dottor Matteo Pretelli (well published scholar of Italian migration).

Italian Historical Society Journal

1. Dr Pretelli recommends the idea of introducing **double blind peer reviewing into the Italian Historical Society Journal**. Structure, as proposed by Professor Sanfilippo: (1) Editor in Chief (Direttore responsabile); (2) a strong Editorial Committee (comitato editoriale); (3) an Advisory Board (comitato scientifico). Dr Pretelli supports Professor Sanfilippo's suggestion to invite Dr Colucci to be part of the Advisory Board; and further recommends Professor Emilio Franzina (Università di Verona).

2. Dr Pretelli supports the idea of doing **thematic issues** (numeri monografici) of the periodical, devoted to specific issues. Some ideas that he suggested are: (1) Return tourism (e.g. to learn the Italian language) from Australia and other countries of the Italian diaspora; (2) Italian Migration Museums; (3) returns and emigrations from the former Italian colonies (an innovative theme – Professor Gabriele Proglio, Assistant Professor in Contemporary History, Postcolonial Theory and Italian Studies at the University of Tunis “El Manar”, is an excellent scholar in the field); (4) a comparative study of religious feasts in the different Italian diasporas.
3. Dr Pretelli supports the idea that the Museo Italiano and Italian Historical Society should join ASEI.

Exhibition

4. The Fellow and Dr Pretelli spoke about the possibility of the Museo Italiano hosting *War and Ethnicity. Soldiers of Italian Origin in the Allied Armies*, an exhibition on allied soldiers of Italian origin, financed by the Regione Toscana and by the Toscani Nel Mondo, and curated by the Istituto Storico della Resistenza in Toscana (Dr Matteo Mazzoni Direttore, Istituto Storico della Resistenza in Toscana, Professor Simone Neri Serneri (Professore ordinario di Storia contemporanea, Università degli Studi di Siena) and Dr Pretelli). The exhibition, currently visible here <https://www.google.com/culturalinstitute/beta/exhibit/pgJmskv1fTeLA>, would need to be adapted to the Australian context, and the Fellow promised Dr Pretelli that he would facilitate research in that direction, e.g. Skype interviews with veterans.
5. Dr Pretelli worked for 7 months at the **Immigration History Research Centre (Minneapolis, University of Minnesota)**. The late Rudy Vecoli (doyen of Italian American Studies) and Donna Gabaccia used to work there (now she is in Canada);

6. He recommends the **Centre for Migration Studies (New York)**, a member of the Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN), a global network of 270+ entities that provide services to migrants (Sister Mary Brown).

MELBOURNE (AUSTRALIA)

31 May 2016: Skype conversation with dottor Javier Grossutti (Udine)

One of the most prominent scholars of Italian migration, with wide international contacts, especially South America.

1. JG confirmed that it is a good idea to introduce an Advisory Board (3-5 people) for the Italian Historical Society and Museo Italiano. It is advisable not to involve exclusively historians but also scholars of other disciplines. The Advisory Board should be coordinated by the staff of the Italian Historical Society and Museo Italiano and could meet once or twice a year to offer suggestions and guidance.
2. JG confirmed that it is a good idea to make the Italian Historical Society Journal into a partly peer reviewed publication. Structure; (1) direttore responsabile; (2) comitato editoriale (two or three people); (3) a large comitato scientifico (it is advisable that the comitato scientifico does not include only Italians but also some scholars of non Italian migration). The peer reviewing process will be done in part by this board and in part by others.
3. **Open the Museo Italiano to experiences other than Italian.** Address the community as a whole. Do projects involving several communities (e.g. a collaboration between the MMV partners and the Immigration Museum), from which we may gauge the peculiarities of the various experiences.
4. Extend the focus to include diaspora themes as these occur in the second and subsequent generations – issues connected with identity etc.



5. Make good use of the archival material collected by the Italian Historical Society and the Museo Italiano, especially the large body of older oral history interviews (it is unique material because it would be impossible to collect today). Do a stocktake of the collections (identify the periods, communities, occupations etc. covered) and develop collecting campaigns accordingly following specific themes. Collection campaigns should also yield exhibitions at the Museo Italiano.
6. Develop the Family History activities, and keep assisting people reconnect with Italy and with the area of provenance.
7. Intensify liaisons with relevant Australian partners (e.g. there is an excellent web site in Queensland with audio material etc.). The National Archives of Australia are a unique repository of material of huge interest for migration scholars, and collaborations with them would be advisable.
8. Oral history is a strong sector in Australia: continue working in that area.



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