First lecture on science and diplomacy: building partnerships between the scientific and policy making communities. The talk will examine how specific examples of innovation have had the ability to impact on Australia’s economic prosperity and productivity, and have helped achieve a wider global reach. It will also focus on activities generated in the state of NSW that have resulted in a “productivity halo” surrounding a number of highly skilled research teams based in universities. http://twas.ictp.it/sci-dipl.