NIRAKN & NATSIHEC INTERNATIONAL INDIGENOUS RESEARCH CONFERENCE
29-30 September 2015
Stamford Plaza Nth Terrace
Adelaide, South Australia

Call for Papers

The National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network (NIRAKN) and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Consortium (NATSIHEC) are calling for scholars working on any aspect of Indigenous or Critical Indigenous Studies to submit papers for the inaugural NIRAKN/NATSIHEC International Indigenous Research Conference. Both NIRAKN and NATSIHEC have jointly convened the conference as a means of showcasing Indigenous research across Australia and beyond. As well as seeking papers that illustrate the breadth of research undertaken by Indigenous researchers in such areas as health, education, science, history and sociology amongst others, we welcome papers that reflect upon the status of Indigenous research and its place within Indigenous studies as a discipline.

This conference also asks scholars to consider what we mean by ‘critical’ in Indigenous studies and whether this appellation convincingly marks a distinction between ways of framing Indigenous and non-Indigenous research problematics. In this context, we seek papers that engage with whether a properly ‘critical’ Indigenous research agenda can strategically operationalise Indigenous knowledges?

Abstracts should be submitted to nirakn@qut.edu.au by 30th June, 2015.
Keynote Speakers

Professor Linda Tuhiwai-Smith
Professor of Indigenous Studies, University of Waikato

Professor John Maynard
The Wollotuka Institute, University of Newcastle

Professor Chadwick Allen
Professor of English, The Ohio State University

Associate Professor Cora Weber-Pillwax
Associate Professor, Education Policy Studies, University of Alberta

Please note

Abstracts of no more than 200 words are sought, accompanied by a 50 word biographical note about the author(s). Individual papers will follow the standard format of a twenty minute presentation. Sessions will be 1.5 hours long. Those interested in facilitating a panel should submit an abstract for the panel and abstracts of all three papers with biographical details of each author. It is expected that submitted panels will have a theme that links the three papers.
Papers presented at the conference are invited to be submitted for review and inclusion in a special edition of the International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies.

Information regarding registration for the conference will be uploaded onto the NIRAKN website at http://www.nirakn.edu.au on the 1 August 2015.

NIRAKN is a national, inclusive, multidisciplinary hub and spokes model network of Indigenous researchers at various stages of their careers. NIRAKN members represent over fifty Aboriginal nations, as well as twenty-one collaborating universities, the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) and five partner organisations: Ninti One, the Healing Foundation, Waminda Aboriginal Women’s Health Centre, the United Nations University, and the National Congress of Australia’s First Peoples. The network is led by Indigenous senior scholars with strong research track records who bring extensive experience in collaborative and community-based research.

NIRAKN provides a platform for cross-institutional and multidisciplinary research designed to build the capacity of qualified Indigenous researchers to meet the compelling research needs of our communities. NIRAKN seeks to work strategically with our international, national and community based partner organisations to ensure NIRAKN’s multidisciplinary research and capacity building program benefits our communities. NIRAKN’s Research Capacity Building Program mentors, trains, supports and engages new and emerging researchers across disciplines and institutions through skills, information and knowledge transfer. NIRAKN provides opportunities for the application of those skills within multi-disciplinary, cross-institutional research collaborations.

NATSIHEC is a consortium open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people working in Higher Education. For over fifteen years the consortium has provided continuing sectoral representation and has been responsible for securing Indigenous Peoples’ Organisation (IPO) Status at the United Nations and raising issues for Indigenous peoples’ participation in higher education at the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Other signal achievements have included advocating for and contributing to the development and implementation of the policy advice provided by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Advisory Council (ATSIHEAC) to government; continuing to provide leadership for the developments in research and curriculum for the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC); providing a mechanism for maintaining collegiality within Indigenous higher education; representing Indigenous higher education activities across a variety of platforms and organisations; sharing knowledge, promoting collaborations, good practice, opportunities and innovations across the sector; and contributing to research related to Indigenous higher education in Australia.