National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network

ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ending 31 December 2018
Vision

NIRAKN’s vision is to develop a critical mass of skilled, informed, and qualified Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers who can address the urgent needs of our communities through the delivery of culturally appropriate research. NIRAKN will endeavour to facilitate a national Indigenous research agenda for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the nation.

NIRAKN’s premise is that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge systems inform and frame our research. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge systems are understood as continuing and living, embodied, and culturally situated within our respective Indigenous nations, communities, and the broader Australian society and include Indigenous ethics and protocols. As such NIRAKN’s multicultural research program seeks to facilitate and encompass a wide range of research topics and projects, reflecting that the production and application of our respective knowledge systems requires a comprehensive agenda as well as a robust engagement with disciplinary knowledges.

Aims

1. Establish a quality program of capacity building initiatives to form a skilled and qualified research community by supporting aspiring, postgraduate, and early- to mid-career Indigenous researchers.
2. Establish a regenerative undergraduate to postgraduate pipeline of new researchers, across institutions, the nation, and fields of critical research importance.
3. Connect Indigenous researchers across disciplines, nationally and internationally, to develop a culturally supportive and inclusive research environment which enables the cross-fertilisation of ideas and a platform for new Indigenous multidisciplinary research.
4. Develop an ongoing integrated research program of collaborations with the Australian Research Council and National Health and Medical Research Council, government, industry, community, and philanthropic grant funding.
5. Achieve national and international recognition as a leading network of Australian Indigenous research expertise, knowledge, and innovation.
6. Initiate the Indigenous research agenda by applying Indigenous knowledges and expertise to multidisciplinary collaborative projects of pressing research. These are needed to inform community and government policy and program delivery.

Activities

NIRAKN mentors, supports, and engages Indigenous researchers across disciplines and institutions through an extensive research capacity building program, which is designed to develop foundational and higher level skills as well as inform and transfer knowledge. The research capacity building program involves introductory level research workshops delivered locally at participating institutions, an annual series of more advanced research workshops, Indigenous research methodologies masterclasses, critical reading groups, research residencies, access to networking, mentoring, and other professional resources.

NIRAKN’s Collaborative Research Program provides a platform for cross-institutional and multidisciplinary Indigenous research. The research efforts of NIRAKN’s National and State Hubs are geared towards producing measurable high quality research. In addition to high quality original research and publications, NIRAKN also fosters engagement with Indigenous research and knowledges across the sector through international collaborations, symposiums, and seminars.
We are pleased to present the sixth Annual Report of the National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network (NIRAKN) for 2018. NIRAKN was established in 2012 under the Special Research Initiative (SRI) for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researchers’ Network (ATSIRN), and was awarded $3.2 million over four years. NIRAKN’s funding allocation from the Australia Research Council (ARC) ceased on the 30 June 2016; however, unspent funds were approved to carry forward into 2018.

NIRAKN’s continuing success has been recognised by the ARC through the granting additional funds of $899,333 and an extension until 30 June 2020.

NIRAKN is now in a legacy phase in which there continues to be significant progress in meeting NIRAKN’s goals and objectives. The research capacity building program has been a particular highlight, and while this program has come to a close in Queensland, we look forward to extending it into additional State Hubs during 2019. This legacy phase will see our programs and research coming to a close across the next two years, but NIRAKN continues to make a significant contribution to the Australian Higher Education sector through policy submissions and lobbying for change.

We extend our sincere thanks to node leaders and partner organisation representatives as well as members of the Advisory committee for contributing to NIRAKN’s outstanding success.

As NIRAKN is now in a new phase, we are confident that we shall continue to build a legacy that will serve generations to come.

Yours sincerely,

Associate Professor Peter Anderson
NIRAKN Director (2017-present)
Indigenous Research and Engagement Unit
Queensland University of Technology
2. Governance

In 2018, NIRAKN’s governance continued according to the restructured model created in 2017 (depicted in Figures 1 and 2 below). This revised governance structure has allowed each State Hub to reflect and serve local Nations, clans, and cultural groups. Indigenous postgraduates and early/mid-career researchers from all universities within each state and territory were able to participate via the State Hub leading organisation.

The governance structure for NIRAKN (see Figure 1 and Figure 2) illustrates the relational and structural changes to the network, partnerships and key stakeholders.

![Figure 1: The relational design of NIRAKN under the new governance structure during the legacy phase of NIRAKN](image)

Please note that the institutions have not been named in the governance structure but will be once the collaborative agreement is in place.

![Figure 2: The NIRAKN governance and operational model (during the legacy phase).](image)

2.1 Changes to the Network

Associate Professor Peter Anderson continues to lead the NIRAKN National Hub (which includes Queensland and is hereafter referred to as the National Hub). He has overall responsibility for the administration, coordination, and delivery of NIRAKN’s Research Capacity Building Program. The National Hub continues to be based within the Indigenous Research and Engagement Unit at Queensland University of Technology (QUT).

Each state has State Hub Leaders and they are:

- Pro Vice Chancellor Professor Mark McMillan Victoria (VIC), Tasmania (TAS) and the Australian Capital Territory (ACT)
- Professor Steve Larkin Northern Territory (NT) and South Australia (SA)
- Pro Vice Chancellor Dr Leanne Holt New South Wales (NSW)
- Pro Vice Chancellor Professor Jill Milroy Western Australia (WA)
- Associate Professor Peter Anderson Queensland (QLD)

The National Hub Leader and the State Hub Leaders are the Management Committee (refer to Appendix 1 for more information).

As part of the new governance structure introduced in 2018, the National Hub coordinates State Hubs located at Batchelor Institute (covering SA and the NT), University of Western Australia (covering WA), Macquarie University (covering NSW), and RMIT (covering VIC, TAS and the ACT).

The ARC and QUT agreed in September 2018 on the formal set of NIRAKN KPIs for 2018. These were included into the funding agreement.

Each State Hub will be responsible for a devolved budget used to conduct research projects and design and deliver research capacity building programs to universities within the respective states and/or territories.

These arrangements will be formalised in a Collaborative Agreement between QUT, the State Hub leading universities and Partner Organisations. The Collaborative Agreement also includes the NIRAKN KPIs which were agreed between the ARC and NIRAKN in September 2018. We expect the Collaborative Agreement to be executed within the next month.
Because the Collaborative Agreement was not executed in 2018, we will not be reporting on capacity building or research projects completed by State Hub Leaders other than the collaborative research capacity building workshops in November, which included all State Hub Leaders excluding WA. Financial buy-in from the universities within their respective states will be sought by the State Hub leaders to ensure the continuation of NIRAKN and its deliverables.

The research capacity building program is an important and successful initiative of NIRAKN, promoting the ongoing integrated research program of collaboration with partner organisations through the ARC, NHMRC, government, industry, community, and philanthropic grant funding. 2018 saw the final Queensland series of capacity building programs, and in 2019 these will continue at State Hubs in NSW (Macquarie University); SA and the NT (Batchelor Institute); WA (Flinders University); VIC, TAS and the ACT (RMIT).

For a list of current NIRAKN members and Research Affiliates who are located across institutions and disciplinary fields refer to Appendix 2.

Each State Hub will be responsible for a devolved budget that will be used to design and deliver research capacity building programs to universities within the respective states and/or territories nominated once a collaborative agreement is in place. Financial buy-in from the universities within their respective states will be sought by the State Hub leaders to ensure the continuation of NIRAKN and its deliverables.

Building research capacity is important as it promotes the ongoing integrated research program of collaborations with partner organisations through the ARC, NHMRC, government, industry, community, and philanthropic grant funding.

At the Management Committee meeting held in Perth (November 2017) a decision was made that all previous network research affiliates would be formalised as Chief Investigators (CIs) under the new structure of NIRAKN. The National Hub will write to the ARC to request this change to NIKRAN members. For a list of current NIRAKN members and Research Affiliates who are located across institutions and disciplinary fields refer to Appendix 2.

### 2.2 Changes to Partnerships

The connectedness of relationships between the National and State Hubs are underpinned by the aim of establishing a coterie of skilled, qualified Indigenous researchers, creating pathways from undergraduate to postgraduate studies to establish a regenerative pipeline of new researchers, across institutions and the nation, and fields of critical research importance. We continue to seek partnerships to add to the web of hubs that connects Indigenous researchers within their respective states/territories, nationally and internationally to develop culturally supportive inclusive research environments, which enables the cross-fertilisation of ideas and provides platforms for new Indigenous multidisciplinary research.

Partner Organisations will continue to be members of NIRAKN and participate in its governance. Additional Partner Organisations will also be sought. It is anticipated that our Partner Organisations will be able to offer industry placements for HDR students, and their staff will continue to access and participate in our Capacity Building Program.

### 2.3 Changes to Governance

In 2018, there were some changes to NIRAKN State Hub leaders. In December 2017, Associate Professor Simone Tur resigned as State Hub Leader of the NT and SA. Following Professor Steve Larkin’s appointment to the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education, he relinquished the role of State Hub Leader for NSW and expressed an interest in becoming the State Hub Leader for the NT and SA. We sought endorsement of Professor Larkin from the Management Committee to fill this position, as well as nominations for the NSW State Hub Leader. Dr Leanne Holt (Macquarie University) took carriage of the NSW State Hub and endorsement was obtained from the management committee.

Professor Jill Milroy, Pro Vice Chancellor Indigenous Education (UWA) and Professor Mark McMillan, Deputy Pro Vice Chancellor Indigenous Education and Engagement (RMIT) remain the State Hub Leaders for WA and VIC, ACT and TAS respectively. In 2019, the NT/SA State Hub will be led by Charles Darwin University, and the Management Committee has approved a new Hub Leader.

With the extension of funding, the ARC outlined the Conditions of Extension for NIRAKN to report against, and no changes were made to these conditions for 2018 (see Table 1).
NIRAKN Conditions of Extension

1. NIRAKN is expected to actively promote better practices within the participating organisations via its highly successful capacity building workshop model; the ARC requires NIRAKN to focus more on “train the trainer” in delivering the workshops. This legacy requirement is now centre stage for the program for the final year of funding.

2. While NIRAKN is planning to provide new seed funding for larger scale research projects among its participants, the ARC requires that funds be used to strongly enable cross-institutional and interdisciplinary work. NIRAKN is to develop performance measures of excellence for these projects, including the development of project-specific milestones and KPIs.

3. NIRAKN will prepare and present to stakeholders and the wider community more tangible evidence of the network’s connection with the “regenerative undergraduate to postgraduate pipeline of new researchers”, such as enrolment and retention levels, undergraduate completions, higher degree by research completions, and case studies of successful Indigenous students and researchers.

4. ARC requires more consideration of succession planning to develop future research leaders: Senior researchers participating in the network should be more active across network nodes as supervisors and mentors to Indigenous students and postgraduates. This will provide a valuable platform for researchers to become leaders in their research field.

5. NIRAKN and QUT to ensure future funding options are explored when expenditure of ARC funding concludes.

6. More effort towards strategic planning and an active approach within NIRAKN and QUT to help build cultural capacity and awareness of Indigenous needs within their institutions.

Table 1: Conditions of Extension for NIRAKN

The NIRAKN Management Committee comprises the State Hub Leaders, representatives from Partner Organisations, and National Hub Leader. The committee will continue to connect, complement, and enhance existing Indigenous mentoring, advisory, and support structures within the higher education sector. The activities of the network are coordinated by the NIRAKN Management Committee. In 2018 without the signed Collaborative Agreement, no Partner Organisations attended the management committee meetings.

This year, NIRAKN welcomed one new Research Affiliate. This membership provides the opportunity to participate in network research and activities despite not being a part of the initial project funding application.

The Office of Research Services at QUT continues to provide administrative support, including legal, reporting, and financial reporting. These services are required by the Office of Research Services to: (a) ensure that the network is managed in accordance with the ARC Funding Agreement and the NIRAKN Collaborative Research Agreement; (b) provide advice on the Funding Agreement and a new collaborative research agreement; and (c) draft variations to the Collaborative Research Agreement as necessary. In 2018, the Office of Research Services provided support for the negotiation of 2018 NIRAKN KPIs, the negotiation of the respective variation to the Funding Agreement, and the drafting and negotiation of the Collaborative Research Agreement.

In 2018 NIRAKN did not offer internal research grants. The NIRAKN Management Committee held their first 2018 meeting on 13 June in Queensland. Attendees included: Associate Professor Peter Anderson (Chair), CEO Professor Steve Larkin, Pro Vice Chancellor Professor Jill Milroy, Pro Vice Chancellor Dr Leanne Holt, Jason Brailey (for Pro Vice Chancellor Professor Mark McMillan), and Dr Levon Blue. Planning days were held on 24–25 July in Darwin at the Mercure Hotel where attendees included: Associate Professor Peter Anderson (Chair), Professor Steve Larkin, Pro Vice Chancellor Dr Leanne Holt, Jason Brailey (for Pro Vice Chancellor Professor Mark McMillan), and Dr Levon Blue.

The NIRAKN Director and Hub travelled to the Gold Coast to finish the year with the final Management Committee meeting on 30–31 October. Attendees included Associate Professor Peter Anderson, Professor Pro Vice Chancellor Dr Leanne Holt, Professor Steve Larkin, Jason Brailey (for Pro Vice Chancellor Mark McMillan), Dr Levon Blue, and Dr Liza-Mare Syron.
3. Year in Review

In 2018, the network continued its success and exceeded expectations in the project’s key performance indicators. Details of these are given in sections 5 and 7 of this report.

1. Establish a coterie of skilled, qualified Indigenous researchers, creating pathways from undergraduate to postgraduate studies to establish a regenerative pipeline of new researchers, across institutions, the nation and fields of critical research importance.

NIRAKN continued to support the development of Indigenous researchers from undergraduate studies to Higher Degree Research (HDR), early, mid, and advanced research careers. NIRAKN’s capacity building program is open to Indigenous HDR students Australia-wide, providing students with an opportunity to participate in the network’s capacity building and research activities, as well as establishing formal and informal mentoring relationships with more established Indigenous scholars. NIRAKN capacity building workshops in 2018 were delivered by the National Hub and included a large workshop in Queensland to finish the year and was attended by postgraduate students from across the country. This year, NIRAKN’s research capacity workshops for Indigenous postgrads increased by 24%. In total, nine events were held, including capacity building workshops, seminar series, and financial support of events such as providing funding for the Welcome to Country at QUT’s Indigenous Research and Engagement Unit’s NAIDOC event. A total of 155 participants attended NIRAKN events in 2018; 72 were postgrads, and the average postgraduate registration per workshop was 17.

The director and other network members participated in the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Consortium (NATSIHEC), which includes the Directors of Indigenous Education Support Centres responsible for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander undergraduates, facilitates collaborations in this area, and enables wider distribution of information relating to NIRAKN’s activities. Involvement with NATSIHEC has facilitated more effective sector-wide promotion of our activities and of opportunities for Indigenous researchers through postgraduate research.

NIRAKN’s strong international engagement continued in 2018. The November workshops proved to be NIRAKN’s biggest initiative and event for the year. These workshops are further discussed in Section 6.1 of this report.

The NIRAKN website provides information, resources, and activities relevant to establishing a network of skilled qualified Indigenous researchers. In 2018, NIRAKN’s website had 8007 users (21,906 page views), with numbers remaining consistent from the previous year. NIRAKN’s Facebook account has 1158 followers, which is a 19% increase in the number of followers from 2017. In 2018, NIRAKN’s Twitter account generated 54,562 Tweet impressions (remaining consistent with the previous year).

Due to ethics and privacy, NIRAKN cannot monitor the progression of individual postgraduate students who have participated in NIRAKN workshops. However, indicators of the success of NIRAKN research capacity building programs can be illustrated through:

1. the consistently high satisfaction levels in the project qualitative evaluation data 2013–2018;
2. the national Indigenous HDR statistical snapshot over time (refer to Figures 3 and 4).

Figure 5: Indigenous Higher Degree by Research Commencements 2005-2016
Figure 3: Indigenous Higher Degree by Research Completions 2006–2017 (supplied by the Department of Education and Training)

Figure 4: Indigenous Higher Degree by Research Commencements 2006–2017 (supplied by the Department of Education and Training)
2. Deliver a program of research capacity building workshops and activities in order to develop a critical mass of multidisciplinary, qualified Indigenous researchers to meet the compelling research needs of our communities.

NIRAKN’s extensive research capacity building program was a resounding success in 2018 and continues to grow a strong and vibrant Indigenous research community as it transitions into the final phase in 2019. The National Hub’s workshops were attended by students from across Australia and from myriad disciplines. The Level A capacity building workshop in March included a train the trainer representative from New South Wales. Distinguished Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson ran a number of sessions at these workshops, which was not only a privilege for the students, but became an additional train the trainer session. Train the trainer is a requirement under the new terms and conditions under the ARC extension conditions and provides an opportunity for State Hub Leaders to learn from experienced trainers and implement capacity building in their own states.

Students and Facilitators (Associate Professor Peter Anderson and Dr Levon Blue) at the 2018 Level A Workshops

The Indigenous Research Methodologies Masterclass and Critical Readings Group convened by the National Hub remain sought after by Indigenous postgraduate students and early career academics.

Leadership through role-modelling and mentoring (both formal and informal) by senior Indigenous academics within the network continues to be critical for the success of postgraduate students and early career academics.

3. Connect Indigenous researchers nationally and internationally to develop culturally supportive inclusive research environments, which enable the cross-fertilisation of ideas and provide platforms for new Indigenous multi-disciplinary research.

NIRAKN’s collaborative research program provides a platform to connect Indigenous researchers nationwide and internationally and to support them to conduct cross-institutional and multidisciplinary Indigenous research. This is evidenced by the conferences and symposium activities organised by the NIRAKN National Hub and the international guest speakers that have engaged strongly with the NIRAKN capacity building activities, and the expanding national and international networks established.

The network continues to bring together international Indigenous researchers from a range of disciplines who had not previously worked together or who had previously held research leadership roles.

Visiting international Professor Robert Miller (ASU) presents at the NIRAKN Seminar Series
4. Begin setting the Indigenous research agenda by applying Indigenous knowledges and expertise to multidisciplinary collaborative projects directed at compelling research needed to inform community and government policy and program delivery.

NIRAKN continues to foster engagement with Indigenous research and knowledges across the sector, informed by NIRAKN’s Research Policy Framework.

NIRAKN members are committed to ensuring the benefits of the network and the associated research activities extend throughout the Indigenous community Australia-wide by participating in national government higher education policy agendas. NIRAKN members are also working toward a Pacific Alliance to support senior Indigenous leadership and research agendas in the region with the Gathering of Professors in New Zealand. NIRAKN members continue to make significant contributions as members of Universities Australia (UA) subcommittees.

Other memberships include representation on the National Working Group on Indigenous Higher Education Funding and participation in the Lowitja Institute’s national symposiums and program committees.

Individually and collectively, NIRAKN members are making important contributions in the sector in the advancement of Indigenous knowledges and by influencing national policy and research agendas. The NIRAKN Director, Associate Professor Peter Anderson, is part of the emergent project, the Atlantic Fellowship for Social Equity which is described on their website as “an unconventional social leadership program that challenges the common notion of leadership and the need for archetypal leaders”. Professor Anderson was successful in winning this fellowship through the Rhodes Fellowship. NIRAKN also has representation on the Atlantic Fellowship board of directors with member Professor Anita Lee Hong (QUT) forming part of the steering committee.

5. Develop an ongoing integrated research program of collaborations with partner organisations through ARC, NHMRC, government, industry, community and philanthropic grant funding.

In 2018, three ARC Discovery Indigenous grants were awarded to NIRAKN members. NIRAKN extends congratulations to those who have been successful in the first round of the ARC Discovery Indigenous 2019 grants and other competitive grants in 2018. Please see section 6.3 for details in the grant’s recipients.

6. Achieve national and international recognition as the centre of Australian Indigenous research expertise, knowledge and innovation.

NIRAKN is the national centre of Australian Indigenous research expertise, knowledge, and innovation, with an emerging international profile. In 2019, NIRAKN will, alongside RMIT, co-sponsor the international NAISA Conference in Hamilton, New Zealand, furthering NIRAKN’s presence as the centre of Australian Indigenous research on the international stage. This conference will provide a significant platform for NIRAKN to profile and expand their work at an international level, garnering support and traction for future partnerships to advance NIRAKN’s aims through its legacy phase.

NIRAKN continues to form international partnerships between their institutions and continue to consolidate existing relations, which have included: UCLA Law School, Northern Arizona University, Duke University, Sami University College (Norway), the University of Waikato (New Zealand), University of Alberta (Canada), Purdue University, Center of Study and Investigation for Decolonial Dialogues (Barcelona), Oxford University, University of Barcelona, Cambridge University, and the National Museum of the American Indian. The NIRAKN Director, Associate Professor Peter Anderson, brings to the network partnerships with Japanese institutions Waseda University and Otani University. Through all of these partnerships, members of the network have developed international linkages to drive the development of Australian Indigenous research expertise and innovation.
4. Challenges and Mitigation Strategies

Since the network’s commencement in 2013, it has been highly successful. However, the Management Committee continues to encounter challenges, which it addresses in a proactive manner, ensuring that network goals are fulfilled in NIRAKN’s legacy phase.

1. The State Hub model is in place; however, the collaborative agreement has not been executed. We expect this to be executed over the next month.

2. The NIRAKN KPIS (Schedule D of the Funding Agreement) were only agreed between the ARC and QUT in September 2018 and this has slowed the establishment of a new collaborative agreement for the NIRAKN extension.

5. Network Achievements and Outcomes

This section of the Annual Report provides a detailed summary of NIRAKN’s major activities and outcomes.

5.1 The National Hub

The National Hub has continued to be responsible for the administration operation of the NIRAKN network, which involves over twenty universities, assorted partner organisations, and two tiers of governance. This involved event management, marketing and promotion, travel and accommodation arrangement, financial reporting, and governance support (see Figure 5).
5.2 Capacity Building Activities

Level A, B and C capacity building workshops were provided to Indigenous post-graduate students and early career academics. (Refer to Figure 7).

These workshops are designed so that Indigenous researchers – emerging, early/mid-career can refresh or further consolidate their existing research capacity and network.

Figure 6: The synergy of Level A, B and C workshops to build Indigenous research capacity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of activity</th>
<th>No. participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Capacity Building Workshops (Level A)</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masterclass – Indigenous Research Methodologies</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Reading Group</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November Capacity Building Workshops</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIRAKN Seminar Series – Professor Robert Miller, ASU</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIRAKN Seminar Series – Dr Craig Cowled, QUT</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIRAKN Seminar Series – Linda Renouf</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIRAKN Seminar Series – Bridget Hughes</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIRAKN Seminar Series – Dr Levon Blue</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: NIRAKN Hub Activities 2018

**Level A**

Level A workshops are designed for clusters of new or pre-enrolment HDR students. The program focuses on:
- Graduate capabilities
- Research project management
- Dissertation examination criteria
- Supervision
- Ethics application preparation
- Conference paper presentation
- EndNote and Library data base searching.

**Level B & C**

Level B and C workshops are designed for HDR candidates moving into the active part of their research but are also available to early and mid-career researchers. Examples of Level B and C workshops include:
- Indigenous qualitative research methodologies [C]
- Indigenous research ethics and integrity [C]
- Publish or Perish [C]
- Research Training Policy [B]
- Nationally competitive grant application schemes [B]
- Grant writing [C]
- Copyright and intellectual property [B]
- Academic career pathways and planning [B]

Figure 7: The diversity and complementary nature of Level A, B and C workshops.
Level A Workshops

Level A workshops are designed for clusters of new or pre-enrolment HDR students.

NIRAKN held one Level A workshop at the beginning of the year, aimed towards Indigenous PhD and Masters by Research postgraduates in the starting stages of their candidature. The workshop was hosted by the Indigenous Research and Engagement Unit at QUT for participants from Queensland and New South Wales and a train the trainer model was used during this session with the National Hub.

Feedback from participants at the Level A workshop:

Feedback from HDR students at the Indigenous Research Methodologies Masterclass (2019):

“[I have learned to] respect myself and time for my writing.”

“It has helped me to understand the space … and be more self-efficient in my journey.”

“I really got a strong sense of the expectations of me as a PhD student …”

“It absolutely served its purpose toward the refinement of my understanding and logical approach throughout this [PhD] process.”

“Really helpful.”

“Extremely beneficial, well-paced and relevant.”

“Very useful sessions …”

“I found everything [to be] of value.”

“I feel I have a new vision for my research career.”

“It was valuable because it gave me an understanding of the level of work and standard required.”

“I’m inspired and feel far more equipped.”

“Looking at this with a cultural perspective is everything about this course.”

“The inside knowledge that was shared was very, very much appreciated.”

“I gained new knowledge and understanding. I also feel more aware of how and where I sit within the Western academic world and now that my eyes are open, I can look for ways to keep myself safe to thrive.”

“Grateful for the time given to us by Distinguished Professor Moreton-Robinson.”

Level A workshop held at QUT, Brisbane, Queensland
Critical Reading Group
The National Hub also convened a Critical Reading Group. Dr Levon Blue facilitated this year’s Critical Reading Group with a cohort of Indigenous postgraduates seeking to advance their critical reading skills. Always designed to be collegial and critically engaging, the cohort was granted the opportunity to gather and discuss critical works in Indigenous studies, exposing them to Indigenous critical theory, critical engagement with Indigenous scholarship and ways in which these can inform applied research.

The group covered articles including Dirk Moses’ “Time, Indigeneity, and Peoplehood: The Postcolony in Australia” and Professor Moreton-Robinson’s “The White Man’s Burden”. These readings led to a discussion on Indigenous critical theory. In so doing, the cohort were challenged to develop their own critical appraisal skills – a skill that will prove invaluable for the rest of their research career.

Dr Levon Blue (top left) and the 2018 CRG Cohort.

Feedback from participants at the Critical Reading Group:

"This has really changed the way I will approach my reading in the future."

“Appreciated that [Dr Blue] approached this along with us as it helped make it an authentic experience, made me feel comfortable to share whereas in other circumstances, I may not have felt comfortable or smart enough.”

“Structure offered by the template is ideal. Wish I had thought about this earlier in my HDR journey.”

“A community that I can discuss my developing understanding with.”

“Facilitator was great; embedding herself in the process as an Indigenous way of doing.”

November Workshops
In November, NIRAKN held a series of capacity building workshops on the Gold Coast in Queensland. These workshops were attended by 54 Indigenous PhD and Masters by research students from around Australia. Attendees had the chance to hear about Indigenous research methodologies in sessions with the entire cohort, along with smaller groups with specific areas addressed for students at A, B, and C levels of candidature (the contents and aims of which can be seen in Figures 6 and 7). These workshops were facilitated collaboratively by all State Hub Leaders, excluding West Australia.

Distinguished Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson at the November workshops

Associate Professor Peter Anderson at the November workshops
Feedback from participants at the November workshops:

“Privileged to hear from and yarn to Indigenous research leaders.”
“Thank you for an amazing opportunity!”
“Research methodologies and Indigenous research methodologies were particularly valuable to me.”
“I found Distinguished Professor Moreton-Robinson’s sessions inspiring.”
“A safe, cultural space to think and share.”
“These workshops help guide my process and give me added information to reiterate Indigenous methodologies.”
“It has given me clarity in what I need to work on, what I need to read, and helped clearly place my expectations of my supervisors and the degree.”
“Thank you for your generosity and warmth and securing resources for us.”
“I feel like I got lots of little bits that I needed that I didn’t have before.”
“I loved how honest all the presenters were. They spoke openly about the realities of being an Indigenous academic.”
“Distinguished Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson’s address … gave me clarity and insight on issues I’ve been grappling with …”
“I can’t wait to get back to work on adding these concepts into my work.”
“Distinguished Professor Moreton-Robinson’s two talks on methodology were FABULOUS. Confronting, but honest and real.”
“This workshop has given me the frame and threads I need to build my PhD research.”

5.3 International, National and Regional Networking

Distinguished Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson, Associate Professor Peter Anderson, Professor Steve Larkin, and other academic and professional IREU staff members travelled to the NAISA conference at the UCLA American Indian Studies Center in Los Angeles. Distinguished Professor Moreton-Robinson and Professor Larkin participated in the Race, Whiteness, and Indigeneity roundtable, which was chaired by Associate Professor Anderson.

Another international networking opportunity on the horizon is that NIRAKN will co-host the 2019 NAISA conference with the University of Waikato in Hamilton, New Zealand. The conference will be a great opportunity for those unable to attend in the past due to travel distance and will be a great celebration of Indigenous studies with our Maori cousins.

Symposium and Seminar Series

Seminars

Building on the momentum from the seminar series last year, in 2018 NIRAKN continued to deliver fantastic presentations on Indigenous issues with the NIRAKN Seminar Series.

Held at QUT, Dr Levon Blue spoke about Financial Literacy Education (FLE) and her PhD, which explored the FLE practices in a Canadian Aboriginal community as a case study. The relevance and importance of FLE in this community was explored after a widely used financial literacy train-the-trainer workshop failed to gain traction. In her work, Dr Blue puts forward a praxis approach to FLE that allows for critical thinking and includes other influences, such as the recognition of culture differences (some with less of a focus on wealth accumulation) and the impact of poverty in financial decision making.
Policy Contributions to the Higher Education Sector

Distinguished Professor Moreton-Robinson, Director of NIRAKN, participated in the Research Training Group that advised the Department of Education and Training on implementing the recommendations of the Australian Council of Learned Academies’ (ACOLA) Review of Australia’s Research Training System.

This project was won in 2018 with the report due in 2019.

A key finding from section 11 on under-represented groups in HDR training specific to Indigenous researchers is included below.

11.6 Key finding 11

Indigenous researchers have much to offer the nation and their communities, but participation by Indigenous candidates in HDR training and employment of Indigenous people remains low. Targets and specific measures, such as increased weighting for Indigenous HDR completions through the Research Training Scheme block grant, have the potential to acknowledge the value to the nation and the universities of Indigenous participation in HDR training. Incentives are also needed to support the training of Indigenous HDR candidates such as higher value stipend scholarships and real-wage competitive fellowships. To ensure accountability, performance outcomes of targets and measures should be regularly reported. Increasing Indigenous participation in HDR training will require the pipeline of Indigenous high school and undergraduate students to be strengthened. Providing a welcoming, supportive and culturally safe environment, including culturally competent and high quality supervision, would help to create a positive university experience for Indigenous HDR candidates.


NIRAKN members continue to make ongoing policy contributions to the Higher Education Sector in a number of forums, including invited keynotes from Associate Professor Peter Anderson, Professor Mark McMillan and Professor Steve Larkin, at the Universities Australia conference in February 2018. Many NIRAKN members remain key figures in the NATSIHEC leadership.

In 2018, Associate Professor Peter Anderson was invited to deliver a keynote address to the Australia Council of Graduate Research Training, and as a result, was able to work with them to create good practice guidelines for Indigenous HDR supervision.

International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies

The NIRAKN Hub continues to raise the profile of Indigenous knowledges and research through facilitating high quality scholarly publishing. The International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies (IJCIS) is a fully peer-reviewed journal that brings together emergent and ground-breaking research in the field of Indigenous studies within the global community, offering scope for critical international engagement and debate. IJCIS is an online open access journal, and all editions are available from http://www.isrn.qut.edu.au/publications/internationaljournal/allissues.jsp

The IJCIS editors are Associate Professor Peter Anderson and Dr Levon Blue.

The following articles were published in the journal in 2018:


In 2019 we continue to accept submissions to the journal and will issue articles as advance online publications. It should be noted that due to staffing issues and the move to an online platform, there have been delays with the journal.
5.4 Hub Pipeline Strategies

NIRAKN continues to work to engage with the wider Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community through network activities. Students acknowledged the importance of NIRAKN’s research capacity building strategies and the communication “pipeline” strategies put in place. To this end, NIRAKN provides newsletters, an email group, and additional outreach strategies as outlined below.

NIRAKN Newsletter

NIRAKN circulated two editions of the NIRAKN Newsletter to our extensive “Friends of NIRAKN” email list. Through this communication channel we share relevant news with interested researchers, community members and organisations. Copies of the newsletters are available from www.nirakn.edu.au

The biannual newsletter is in addition to our other regular contact with NIRAKN members and friends through our weekly NIRAKN News Bulletin, which promotes NIRAKN and members’ events, along with research and publication opportunities, national and international conferences, scholarships and bursaries, useful resources, relevant government and university sector policy developments and initiatives, as well as employment opportunities, seminars, symposiums, conferences, book launches, and public talks.

Postgraduate email

Our dedicated NIRAKN postgraduate email list also distributes information relevant to Indigenous HDR students. Partner organisations are encouraged to allow a number of their staff to participate in capacity building activities. This has performed the dual function of developing the skills of community researchers based at partner organisations and helping ensure that NIRAKN research is informed by community needs and concerns.

Additional strategies

“Research Heroes” is a further initiative of the NIRAKN pipeline strategy and is located on the NIRAKN website. NIRAKN’s website continued to provide a central repository of information for its membership, Indigenous postgraduates and other national and international consumers.

Due to brand exposure in international research markets attained through event co-branding and co-sponsorship, NIRAKN experienced new engagement opportunities that may not have come to fruition in the past, such as the chance to co-sponsor the 2019 NAISA Conference in New Zealand. This strategic approach was adopted to develop international networks and partnerships for a possible future collaborative research centre, Category 1 research grant or NIRAKN journal publications.

Website

The NIRAKN website continued to provide information about the Indigenous research environment, Higher Education sector and NIRAKN goals and achievements of the network. Addressing further reach and engagement strategies, the website provided an archive of industry news, network events, newsletters, and reports.

Social media

In 2018 NIRAKN gained momentum in developing a stronger social media presence with an emphasis on publishing regular targeted content to build brand awareness across the Higher Education sector and academic communities of practice.

TOP NIRAKN TWEET 2018

With 4359 impressions: “Congratulations to Professor Steve Larkin on his appointment to @Indigenous_Inst as the new CEO and Director of the Batchelor Institute! Please join us in wishing Steve all the best in his new role. #IndigenousResearch #Aboriginal #Deadly @uniaus.”

Twitter users viewed NIRAKN and its page content 55,000 times.

DID YOU KNOW?

NIRAKN’s Facebook page experienced a 19% increase in likes from the previous year.
6. Highlights 2018

6.1 NIRAKN November Workshops

As mentioned in section 5.2, in November 2018, 54 student delegates from across Australia attended our national capacity building workshops on the Gold Coast. This was a mixed cohort of Level A, B, and C HDR students from both PhD and Masters by research programs, which were covered in separate sessions throughout the day.

These workshops also included Indigenous research methodologies taught by Distinguished Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson, and had a train the trainer element with members of the Management Committee attending presentations so that they could use information learned when returning to their home institutions to implement capacity building programs.

Please refer to section 5.2 for some of the extremely positive feedback received by these student delegates. These workshops were undoubtedly the one of the top highlights of NIRAKN’s 2018 activities.

6.2 DET Research

In 2018, the NIRAKN Department of Education and Training research commenced, and this was the first time this research was run as a face-to-face workshop. This research was facilitated by Distinguished Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson, Associate Professor Peter Anderson, and Dr Levon Blue (QUT) and it is anticipated that the report will be released in 2019. At the time of writing, this report was under review by the Department of Education and Training.
6.3 Indigenous Texts

The research efforts of NIRAKN’s members are geared towards producing measurable, high-quality research. A full list of publications is available in Appendix 3, and includes over 100 publications.

6.4 Competitive Grants

NIRAKN extends congratulations to those who have been successful in the first round of the ARC Discovery Indigenous 2019 grants. NIRAKN members are:

- Associate Professor Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews – along with Professor Bronwyn Carlson, he will aim to overcome persistent narratives of loss and despair with regards to Aboriginal cultures within urban and metropolitan communities.

- Professor Dawn Bessarab, Professor Bronwyn Fredericks, and Marlene Longbottom – along with Professor Kathleen Clapham, Associate Professor Kate Senior, Professor Valerie Hanwood, Professor Helen Hasan, and Associate Professor Peter Kelly, they will aim to investigate the unique approaches used by Aboriginal community-controlled organisations to enable community ownership of holistic health and social programs in complex community settings.

- Professor Michelle Trudgett – along with Professor Susan Page, she will aim to use institutional theory to examine the professional experiences of Indigenous Australian early career researchers.

Congratulations to Associate Professor Peter Anderson for becoming an Atlantic Fellow at the Atlantic Institute via the Rhodes Trust and University of Oxford.

Congratulations also go to:

- Professor Anita Lee Hong, with Alessandro Soro, Professor Margot Brereton, J Lawrence Taylor, and Eileen Deemal-Hall, for being awarded a $29,941 QUT Innovation Grant

- Professor Clair Anderson for receiving a Community Engagement Grant for UTAS palawa sites.

6.5 Awards and Recognition

Professor Anita Lee Hong has received the Corporate Social Responsibility Gold Award WSP for Science and Infrastructure Development School at the 2018 Consult Australia Awards and received a silver award in the group category of the 2018 Wharton Reimagine Education Conference & Awards for QUT and CareerTrackers.

Dr Mick Adams was chosen as an ambassador for Safer Families Centre of Research Excellence.

Professor Kim Scott received a Queensland Literary Award for Fiction along with Book of the Year and the Indigenous Writers’ Prize at the New South Wales Premier’s Literary Awards for his fiction novel Taboo.

Associate Professor Peter Anderson has been awarded an Atlantic Fellowship for Social Equity. The Atlantic Fellows for Social Equity support the next generation of leaders to inspire, collaborate and provoke communities across Australia and the Pacific to flourish.

Professor Pat Dudgeon and Professor Jill Milroy continue their work on The Centre for Best Practice in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention, which was funded by the Department of Health for three years, 2017–2019. Professor Dudgeon has also received funding from NHMRC for 2019–23 for the research project, Against the odds: understanding the factors influencing wellbeing among Indigenous youth in the Northern Territory.

Congratulations also go to:

- Professor Anita Lee Hong, with Alessandro Soro, Professor Margot Brereton, J Lawrence Taylor, and Eileen Deemal-Hall, for being awarded a $29,941 QUT Innovation Grant

- Professor Clair Anderson for receiving a Community Engagement Grant for UTAS palawa sites.
6.6 Pipeline of Researchers

NIRAKN is committed to building a sustainable pipeline of researchers and ensuring Indigenous postgraduates are supported and included in network research and capacity building. Once enrolled in a Research Higher Degree program, all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are eligible to join the NIRAKN Postgraduate Network.

Supporting and encouraging the pipeline is part of the everyday work of NIRAKN members through lectures, student support, informal mentoring, role modelling and supervision of postgraduate students. However, there were specific activities undertaken by NIRAKN to build the HDR pipeline in 2018, including presentations to potential Indigenous university students, research placements and the promotion of NIRAKN research heroes.

2018 NIRAKN Indigenous Research Heroes

NIRAKN promotes local research heroes through its website and a biannual newsletter, which is distributed widely in June and December. The “heroes” outline their research journeys and provide advice to those commencing in the research area.

The research heroes for 2018 were:

- **Associate Professor Simone Tur** is from the Yankunytjatjara community in north-west South Australia. Based at Flinders University, Simone’s research extends to that of poetry and performance art, most recently creating Bound/Unbound: Sovereign Acts with Ali Baker, Faye Blanch and Natalie Harkin.

- **Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews**, of the D’harawal nation, is a researcher and lecturer at the University of Technology Sydney whose research promotes Indigenous standpoints and perspectives across a diversity of disciplines (most notably education and psychology).

- **Dr Leanne Holt** is a Worimi and Biripai woman from the mid north coast of NSW. Dr Holt is currently the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Indigenous Strategy at Macquarie University and was previously the co-Director of the Wollotuka Institute at the University of Newcastle. Her research relates to higher education, policy and governance.
7. Account Achievements for 2018

**Governance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2018 Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frequency and effectiveness of Management Committee</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Capacity building**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2018 Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Establish research capacity building program based upon a pathway model from</td>
<td>A workshops: opportunities (1 x A level workshop run by the Hub) aimed at</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>undergraduate to HDR to all levels of researcher career</td>
<td>commencing HDR students offered at QUT in March 2018 for participating universities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>around the country B &amp; C workshops: aimed at all levels of HDR students, early</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>career and mid-career researchers, run nationally and intensively on the Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coast in November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build a Graduate to HDR pipeline</td>
<td>Three local research heroes virtually marketed via network in newsletter and via</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NIRAKN website</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Research training & professional development**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2018 Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conduct capacity building workshops</td>
<td>Workshops (A, B &amp; C and critical reading) hosted by the National Hub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of attendees at capacity building workshops (best working enrolment</td>
<td>Workshop attendance ranged from 4 to 25 participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>number)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct of Indigenous research methodologies masterclass</td>
<td>155 postgrads attended workshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct Indigenous postgraduate recruitment and promotional activities</td>
<td>Activities are conducted on an ongoing basis but not specifically through events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The website, social media and NIRAKN weekly newsletter provide a conduit for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>promoting Indigenous activities and recruitment opportunities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Research findings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2018 Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality and quantity of publications including: number of peer-reviewed journal</td>
<td>Over 100 scholarly publications (including reports commissioned by government or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>articles; books (single authored and edited research collections); book chapters,</td>
<td>other bodies) by NIRAKN members and research affiliates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>conferences, symposia and seminars; and may include reports commissioned by state or</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>federal governments</td>
<td>National NIRAKN workshop held plus five seminars with both student and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>international visiting presenters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invitations to attend and participate in major conferences</td>
<td>7 National conferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publish two editions of the International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies</td>
<td>2 International conferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 x August 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### International, national and regional links and networks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2018 Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conduct international visits</td>
<td>As detailed in report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of international Indigenous research relationships established</td>
<td>As detailed in report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in international Indigenous research activities</td>
<td>As detailed in report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of network participants (as defined by the scheme’s Funding rules)</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Number of collaborating and partner organisations (as defined by the scheme’s Funding rules) participating in the network | - 4 collaborating organisations  
- 1 partner organisations                                                           |
| Participation on national and international bodies for government and community groups as relevant | As detailed in report                                                            |

### Community engagement and outreach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2018 Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Establish NIRAKN’s virtual presence via interactive website and harness social media (eg, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube) | NIRAKN’s website had 8007 users (21,906 page views)  
NIRAKN’s Facebook had 1158 followers in 2018  
Twitter just under 54,562                                                          |
| Establish channels of communication of NIRAKN activities and outcomes to our communities | Comprehensive newsletters published in June and December 2018                    |
| Encourage scholars and others with an interest in Indigenous research to become affiliate members of the network | Three new Indigenous Research Affiliate members admitted to the network           |
| Establish strategic partnerships with community, national and international organisations with a view to providing access to NIRAKN’s research program | Community researchers linked to partner organisations and all Indigenous research postgraduate students were provided with access to NIRAKN’s extensive Capacity Building workshops program  
1 x Critical Reading group held in Brisbane in October                              |
| Positive media articles generated by the network                                     | Detailed in report (refer to section)                                            |
| Public talks by network staff                                                        | Extensive – detailed in report (refer to section)                                |

Please note that NIRAKN was scheduled to cease in 2016. Extension funding was granted and we are now under KPIs and conditions of extension funding as set by the ARC.
## 8. Financial Statement

### 2018 INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARC 2018 funding distributed as follows</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income Received</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2018 EXPENDITURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advisory Committee</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director Travel</td>
<td>5,524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Grants</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Bursaries</td>
<td>7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level A, B &amp; C Workshops</td>
<td>99,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Committee</td>
<td>21,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing &amp; Promotions</td>
<td>6,425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>20,926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>52,744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarships</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symposiums/Seminars</td>
<td>694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>54,961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Essay Prizes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td>1,104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshops</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Total Expenditure</strong></th>
<th><strong>270,035</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surplus (Deficit)</td>
<td>-270,035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance bought forward from 2017</td>
<td>1,326,162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CARRY FORWARD</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,056,126</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2018 IN-KIND SUPPORT

| Queensland University of Technology | 313,424 |

| **TOTAL In-Kind Support** | **313,424** |
10. Appendices

Appendix 1: NIRAKN Management and Advisory Committees

Management Committee
The Management Committee is chaired by Associate Professor Peter Anderson. Under the new governance model for NIRAKN the Management Committee is comprised the NIRAKN Director and State Hub Leaders. In 2018, the Management Committee met twice. These meetings ensure that continued implementation of NIRAKN’s vision and aims occur and to make key decisions such as the approval of affiliate members, research grants, capacity building workshops and seminars. The continued dedication of the Management Committee and the NIRAKN Director has ensured that NIRAKN is meeting all of its key performance indicators and continuing to build a critical mass of Indigenous researchers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professor Peter Anderson</td>
<td>National Hub Leader, NIRAKN Director, Director of Indigenous Research and Engagement Unit, Queensland University of Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor Steve Larkin</td>
<td>SA and NT State Hub Leader, Professor, Batchelor Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVC Professor Mark McMillan</td>
<td>VIC, TAS and the ACT State Hub Leader, Professor, RMIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVC Professor Jill Milroy</td>
<td>WA State Hub Leader, Professor, University of Western Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PVC Dr Leanne Holt</td>
<td>NSW State Hub Leader</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Collaborating Organisation
NIRAKN has one collaborating organisation represented in NIRAKN’s governance and research activities. Collaborating organisations are active members and provide valuable contributions to key decisions as well as promoting NIRAKN’s goals and vision. In 2018, partner organisations continued to be involved in Management Committee meetings. Their staff members accessed a range of NIRAKN’s capacity building activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies</td>
<td>The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) is a world-renowned research, collections and publishing organisation. It promotes knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, traditions, languages and stories, past and present.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Partner Organisations
NIRAKN has one partner organisation represented in NIRAKN’s governance and research activities. Partner organisations are active members and provide valuable contributions to key decisions as well as promoting NIRAKN’s goals and vision. In 2018, partner organisations continued to be involved in Management Committee meetings. Their staff members accessed a range of NIRAKN’s capacity building activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waminda, South Coast Women’s Health and Welfare</td>
<td>South Coast Women’s Health and Welfare Aboriginal Corporation is a culturally safe and holistic service, providing women and their Aboriginal families an opportunity to belong and receive quality health and wellbeing support. Their key focus is on providing tailored strength-based care.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Appendix 2: NIRAKN Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aileen Moreton-Robinson</td>
<td>Queensland University of Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anita Lee Hong</td>
<td>Queensland University of Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asmi Wood</td>
<td>Australian National University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barry Judd</td>
<td>Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronwyn Fredericks</td>
<td>Central Queensland University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Wilson</td>
<td>Flinders University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clair Andersen</td>
<td>University of Tasmania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawn Bessarab</td>
<td>University of Western Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debbie Duthie</td>
<td>Queensland University of Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews</td>
<td>Macquarie University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Blyton</td>
<td>Newcastle University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ian Anderson</td>
<td>University of Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jakelin Troy</td>
<td>University of Sydney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Hudson</td>
<td>Healing Foundation (Partner Organisation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jill Guthrie</td>
<td>Australian National University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jill Milroy</td>
<td>University of Western Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Maynard</td>
<td>University of Newcastle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juli Coffin</td>
<td>University of Western Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Martin</td>
<td>Griffith University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Butler</td>
<td>University of Newcastle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Clapham</td>
<td>University of Wollongong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Williams</td>
<td>Ninti One (Partner Organisation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kim Scott</td>
<td>Curtin University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larissa Behrendt</td>
<td>University of Technology Sydney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Len Collard</td>
<td>University of Western Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Ford</td>
<td>Charles Darwin University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loretta Kelly</td>
<td>Southern Cross University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynnette Henderson-Yates</td>
<td>University of Notre Dame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maggie Walter</td>
<td>University of Tasmania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcelle Burns</td>
<td>University of New England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark McMillan</td>
<td>University of Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marlene Longbottom</td>
<td>Waminda (Partner Organisation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Adams</td>
<td>Edith Cowan University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Trudgett</td>
<td>University of Technology Sydney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natalie Harkin</td>
<td>Flinders University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Odette Best</td>
<td>Queensland University of Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pat Dudgeon</td>
<td>University of Western Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Anderson</td>
<td>Queensland University of Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Radoll</td>
<td>University of Canberra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowena Ball</td>
<td>Australian National University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roxanne Bainbridge</td>
<td>James Cook University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sam Johnston</td>
<td>United Nations University (Partner Organisation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Avery</td>
<td>National Congress of Australia's First Peoples (Partner Organisation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shino Konishi</td>
<td>University of Western Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simone Tur</td>
<td>Flinders University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Kinnane</td>
<td>University of Notre Dame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Larkin</td>
<td>Charles Darwin University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue Green</td>
<td>University of New South Wales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue Stanton</td>
<td>Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry Dunbar</td>
<td>University of Adelaide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendy Aitken</td>
<td>University of Tasmania</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 RMS records are in the process of being updated

**NIRAKN Affiliate Members**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>University</th>
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<td>Ambelin Kwaymullina</td>
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<td>Bradley Moggridge</td>
<td>New South Wales Office of Water</td>
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<td>Gregory Phillips</td>
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<td>Harry Vanissum</td>
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<td>Jason Bralley</td>
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<td>Jenine Godwin-Thompson</td>
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<td>John Evans</td>
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<td>Levon Blue</td>
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<td>Lynne Stuart</td>
<td>University of the Sunshine Coast</td>
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<td>Nerida Blair</td>
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<td>Norm Sheehan</td>
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<td>Sandra Phillips</td>
<td>University of Technology Sydney</td>
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<td>Simon Graham</td>
<td>University of Melbourne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Valerie Cooms</td>
<td>Adjunct, University of Sunshine Coast</td>
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</table>
Appendix 3: NIRAKN Member and/or NIRAKN Research Affiliate Publications

AWARDED RESEARCH GRANTS

**Adams, M., Fleay, J., & Collard, L. (2018).** Valuing young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander males. Edith Cowan University/University of West Australia: The Lowitja Institute.

**Allen, M., Hardie-Boys, N., Hooper, C., Bailie, R., Bainbridge, R., Carr, J., Bailie, J., Carter, M., Walke, E., Monaghan, R., Dowden, M. (2018).** Australian Government Department of Health – Phase 2: Implementation of the Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Primary Health Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. $18m

**Andersen, C. (2018).** Community Engagement Grant for UTAS Palawa sites.


**Anderson, P. (2018).** Office of Learning and Teaching: Engaging and partnering with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parents and to improve student outcomes.


**Craven, R., Mooney, J., Atkins, P., Wallace, R., Bach, J., Gallagher, P., Joyce, J. (2018).** Towards a positive psychology of policing and recruitment: Indigenous youth’s perceptions of innovative strategies for preventive policing and recruitment (NT Police).


**Dudgeon, P. (2018).** Against the odds: Understanding the factors influencing wellbeing among Indigenous youth in the Northern Territory. University of Sydney, Ref: APP1165301, NHMRC.

**Dudgeon, P. & Milroy, J. (2018).** The Centre for Best Practice in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention. The Department of Health.


**McCalman, J., Bainbridge, R., Campbell, S., Taylor, S. Torres Health: Evaluation of the establishment of Torres Health. $135,000**

**McCalman, J., Doran, C., Bainbridge, R., Kinchin, I., & Langham, E. (2018).** CQ University 2018 Research Infrastructure Grants. Microsimulation skills and training. $57,591.80


Mooney, J., McMullan, J., Ardler, T., Calvo, R., Peter, D., & Hansen, S. (2018). Psychological thriving: An investigation into the design of an app-based intervention which aims to enhance wellbeing amongst Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth at University (wellbeing app).


AWARDS


BOOKS


BOOK CHAPTERS


**PHD THESIS EXAMINED**


**REPORTS TO GROUPS/ORGANISATIONS/INSTITUTES (INCLUDING COMMISSIONED REPORTS)**

Anderson, P. (2018). Engaging and partnering with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parents and community to improve student outcomes.


**REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES**


Conference Papers


Other (including reports, creative works, media and/or online news)


Dudgeon, P. (2018). International Women’s Day Leadership interview with Culture is Life – Culture is Life, postcard/collage style for social media channels for International Women’s Day that acknowledging the NAIDOC 2018 theme “Because of her, we can”. Interview with Sydney criminal lawyer.

Dudgeon, P. (2018). On camera interview, ABC studios Canberra, showing Yaara Bou Melhem’s film, Australia’s Lost Generation, and interview to provide up-to-date statistics re Anika Bursary and topics to be covered at the national and world conference. UWA Press Release.


Dudgeon, P., Darwin, L., Hirvonen, T., Boe, M., Johnson, R., Cox, R., … Garratt, L. (2018). We are not the problem, we are part of the solution: Indigenous Lived Experience Project Report. Centre of Best Practice in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention and Black Dog Institute.


Invited Presentations


Invited Panel Members


Andersen, C. (2018). Riawunna Graduation event. UTAS.


Andersen, C. (2018). UTAS Scholarships panel


Milroy, J. (2018, 17 August). Panel facilitator: Because of her, we can. Women’s Luncheon: Aboriginal women: Life journeys and inspiration, Western Australian Aboriginal Leadership Institute, Perth.


Seminars


Workshops


Community and Professional Service


Ball, R. (2018). Design and implementation of STEM enrichment activities. CSIRO STEM Professionals in Schools Program. Two remote schools in North West Queensland.


Ball, R. (2018). Index research selected by the ANU E&I Committee as the case study for mathematics. ARC Engagement & Impact Exercise.


Ball, R. (2018). Member, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mathematics Alliance.


Collard, L. (2018). Member, Advisory Board Centre for Rock Art Research and Management.


Collard, L. (2018). Executive Board Member, South Metropolitan Youth Link (SMYL) Community Services.

Collard, L. (2018). Member, South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council SWALSC.


Dudgeon, P. (2018). Organised and hosted the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Conference and the World Indigenous Suicide Prevention Conference.


Konishi, S. (2018). Editorial Board Member, ab-Original, 2016–current


Milroy, J. (2018). Member, Universities Australia, Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Committee.


Milroy, J. (2018). Executive Member, Poche Indigenous Health Network Member, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Consortium (NATSIHEC).

Mooney, J. (2018). President, Aboriginal Education Council NSW.


10. References

10.1 List of figures, maps and tables

**Figures**

- Figure 1: NIRAKN governance and operational model (prior to the transition to the legacy phase).
- Figure 2: The relational design of NIRAKN under the new governance structure during the legacy phase of NIRAKN.
- Figure 3: Indigenous Higher Degree by Research Commencements and Completions.
- Figure 4: Indigenous Higher Degree by Research Commencements 2005–2016.
- Figure 5: The NIRAKN governance and operational model (during the legacy phase).
- Figure 6: The synergy of Level A, B and C Workshops to build Indigenous research capacity.
- Figure 7: Illustrates the diversity and complementary nature of Level A, B and C Workshops.

**Tables**

- Table 1: NIRAKN HUB Activities
- Table 2: NIRAKN’s Conditions of Extension
### 10.2 Abbreviations and acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>ACT</td>
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<tr>
<td>A/Prof</td>
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<td>ACOLA</td>
<td>Australian Council of Learned Academies</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIATSIS</td>
<td>Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies</td>
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<td>AIME</td>
<td>Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience</td>
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<td>ANU</td>
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<td>Australian Research Council</td>
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<td>ATSIRN</td>
<td>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researchers Network</td>
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<td>DET</td>
<td>Department of Education and Training</td>
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<td>HDR</td>
<td>Higher Degree Research</td>
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<td>IJCIS</td>
<td>The International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies</td>
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<td>ISRN</td>
<td>Indigenous Studies Research Network</td>
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<td>Indigenous Research and Engagement Unit</td>
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<td>Key Performance Indicator</td>
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<td>Native American Indigenous Studies Association</td>
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<td>NATSIHEC</td>
<td>National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Consortium</td>
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<td>NCSEHE</td>
<td>National Centre for Student Equity in Higher Education</td>
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<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>National Health and Medical Research Council</td>
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<td>NIRAKN</td>
<td>National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network</td>
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