



Australian Government
Australian Research Council



**Annual & End of Year Report of the
National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network
(NIRAKN)
for the year ending 31 December 2014**



N I R A K N
National Indigenous Research And Knowledges Network

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1. Director's Introduction

This is the second formal report on the work of the National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network (NIRAKN). This report covers the 2014 calendar year.

NIRAKN has made important progress in 2014, with the network's capacity building and collaborative research programs beginning to deliver on their impressive potential. After the hard work of establishing systems and programs completed in 2013, this year saw NIRAKN's programs across the spectrum of network activities delivering high quality interdisciplinary programs, drawing on the research skills, strengths and knowledges of our members and communities.

The activities of NIRAKN in 2014 made a significant contribution to the level of research capacity building, collaborative research activity, career pipelining and local, national and international engagement occurring in Australia across and throughout the relevant fields of Indigenous studies.

The achievements outlined in this report are notable and tangible. Less tangible, but I believe just as important and fundamental to NIRAKN's mission, is the impact this network is beginning to have in the Australian Higher Education sector. With the much valued support of the Australian Research Council (ARC), NIRAKN is engaged with our members and supporters in attempting to build a thriving and sustainable Indigenous research presence in this country and to influence the research policy culture of Australian higher education institutions.

I believe we have made an impressive beginning. I am very proud of the significant achievements of the Network and its members in 2014. I extend my thanks and commendations to all those involved.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson
NIRAKN Director
Indigenous Studies Research Network
Queensland University of Technology (QUT)

2 Summary of NIRAKN's goals and objectives

NIRAKN's aims are to:

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;
2. Deliver a program of research capacity building in order to develop a critical mass of multi-disciplinary, qualified Indigenous researchers to meet the compelling research needs of our communities.
3. Connect Indigenous researchers nationally and internationally to develop culturally supportive inclusive research environments, which enable the cross fertilization of ideas and provide platforms for new Indigenous multi-disciplinary research.
4. Begin setting the Indigenous research agenda by applying Indigenous knowledges and expertise to multi-disciplinary collaborative projects directed at compelling research needed to inform community and government policy and program delivery
5. Develop an on-going integrated research program of collaborations with partner organisations through ARC NHMRC, government, industry, community and philanthropic grant funding.
6. Achieve national and international recognition as the centre of Australian Indigenous research expertise, knowledge and innovation.

3. Extent to which these goals have been met

- 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's work in 2014 built on the processes and activities developed in the preceding year to assist the network to foster a sustainable pipeline of Indigenous researchers from undergraduate studies to research higher degrees and advanced research careers. The Director and Management Committee are committed to ensuring that new Indigenous researchers are recruited, supported, and encouraged in their efforts. Despite limited funding, NIRAKN offers all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander RHD students around the country the opportunity to join NIRAKN postgrads and participate in the network's capacity building and research activities.

We endeavour to encourage talented Indigenous undergraduates to consider research through the promotion of our undergraduate essay competition and other research related activities. Participation by the Director and other network participants in NATSIHEC (National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Consortium), which includes the Directors of Indigenous Education Support Centres primarily 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.

In addition to collaborative research opportunities and capacity building, the programs that NIRAKN has delivered involved significant formal and informal mentoring. NIRAKN participants' roles in modelling pathways to successful research careers are an important element of network activities.

2. *Deliver a program of research capacity building in order to develop a critical mass of multi-disciplinary, qualified Indigenous researchers to meet the compelling research needs of our communities.*

NIRAKN's extensive Research Capacity Building Program will build a strong and vibrant Indigenous research community through skilling and supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers at all stages of their research careers.

To date, the program has involved introductory level research workshops delivered at a national level by the NIRAKN hub as well as locally at participating institutions, an annual series of more advanced workshops delivered nationally by leading Indigenous scholars, as well as masterclasses, critical reading groups, and access to networking, mentoring and other professional resources.

The Capacity Building Program draws on the expertise of senior Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander scholars to deliver a culturally appropriate program developing foundational and higher level research skills as well as transferring knowledge. As outlined in the report, this program has been an outstanding success. This year, we have attempted to embed and refine our programs to ensure that our capacity building offerings are addressing Indigenous researchers with differing levels of experience. In future years, we hope to continue expanding the Capacity Building program to match the developing skill base of our cohort.

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

NIRAKN's Collaborative Research Program has provided a platform connecting Indigenous researchers nationwide and supporting them to conduct cross-institutional and multidisciplinary Indigenous research.

The research efforts of NIRAKN's four research Nodes and the Network Hub are geared towards producing measurable high quality research. This year, many of the activities of our four research Nodes were dedicated to securing the resources and skills necessary to begin to deliver significant research projects and events that reflect the diversity and depth of our interdisciplinary and multi-institutional membership. These efforts have begun to generate tangible research outcomes, including grants, publications, and collaborations which will expand into the future.

Network activities continued to provide our members with important information and facilitated significant knowledge sharing among Indigenous researchers at all levels about the research terrain they are encountering within Australian higher education institutions. The unique role of senior Indigenous scholars in developing and leading NIRAKN's program is a distinctive and valuable element of this initiative that is not matched or replicated in any other program in the sector.

While the Indigenous research environment in Australia may be emerging, and many of our members are institutionally, disciplinarily and geographically isolated, NIRAKN's Collaborative Research Program has provided an opportunity for researchers to share and extend their strengths, skills and knowledges within and beyond their home institutions. The work done by NIRAKN researchers in carefully building research collaborations promises the eventual development of a critical mass of Indigenous researchers working together across disciplines and institutions to progress a national Indigenous research agenda for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the nation. We aim to increasingly internationalise the focus of our research activities and engagements in future years.

- 4. Begin setting the Indigenous research agenda by applying Indigenous knowledges and expertise to multi-disciplinary collaborative projects directed at compelling research needed to inform community and government policy and program delivery*

In addition to high quality original research and publications, NIRAKN also fostered engagement with Indigenous research and knowledges across the sector through supporting regional, national and international research opportunities, symposiums and seminars.

The Network has adopted a Research Policy Framework, designed to articulate the network's research agenda and guide the distribution of research funding through the nodes. This framework expresses the place and role of Indigenous knowledges and expertise in the network's research agenda and will guide the development of all future projects. Members have benefited from the opportunity to work with NIRAKN's Advisory Committee and partner organisations in addition to their own communities and networks. NIRAKN members are committed to ensuring the benefits of the network and our associated research activities extend throughout the Australian community through participating in Government and Community groups at a national and international level.

While it may take some time for the network's agenda setting research role to become fully evident, the network is beginning to make an appreciable impact on policy and program delivery in the higher education sector and beyond. These impacts will become more significant as the network matures.

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

NIRAKN is beginning to establish the frameworks and relationships necessary to sustain an integrated research program driven by ongoing collaborations. While NIRAKN's partner organisations are not immune from the uncertain climate facing many organisations in the Indigenous sector, we have begun to develop relationships, projects, and processes that will facilitate successful collaborations. Partner organisation staff and representatives have participated in the network's Capacity Building program and in the activities of our research nodes. The relationships and research projects that have been in development in the network's first year will form the foundation for establishing vibrant and sustainable ongoing partnerships and we are working on delivering an integrated research program. NIRAKN nodes have proven remarkably successful to date in securing grant funding to support research projects and collaborations, and this high level of activity will continue to support innovative and collaborative projects as the network develops.

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

Significant efforts have been made this year to foster international, national and regionally important partnerships, in order to develop NIRAKN's role as a crucial centre of Australian Indigenous research expertise, knowledge and innovation. NIRAKN is fast assuming a significant national and international profile in Indigenous higher education. NIRAKN was invited to be a partner organisation on two research applications for Centres of Indigenous Research Excellence, one in Canada (University of Alberta) and the other in New Zealand (University of Waikato). Our activities have encouraged Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers around the country to seek and build international links and networks to sustain high quality, internationally relevant research. In addition to the impact of our Capacity Building program, which facilitates researchers' engagement with Indigenous scholarship from around the world, network members have continued to participate in and promote international research activities and organisations.

4. Network Achievements, Highlights and Outcomes

This section of the Annual Report provides a detailed summary of NIRAKN's major activities and outcomes in major areas of responsibility. NIRAKN's achievements in 2014 have been noteworthy across all areas of activity. Significant achievements, highlights, outputs and outcomes have been organised broadly according to the six broad key result areas (KRAs) outlined in Schedule D of the *Funding Agreement between the ARC and QUT regarding funding for this Special Research Initiative for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researchers Network*.

As there is some duplication in activities covered by key result areas, for the purposes of this section of the report we provide an account of major activities in the Capacity Building program in the first section and detail achievements in building a graduate to RHD pipeline in the third section (entitled 'research training and professional development' in the KRAs). A more specific measurement and account of NIRAKN's performance against explicit targets in these areas (as detailed in Schedule D) also follows in section 6 of this report.

- **Capacity Building Program**

NIRAKN's Research Capacity Building program is designed to support postgraduate, early and mid-career Indigenous researchers to form a



skilled qualified research community, develop foundational and higher level skills, as well as to connect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers across disciplines nationally. This program involves a series of introductory level research workshops delivered locally at participating institutions and an intensive series of more advanced workshops offered nationally.

In developing the research capacity building program, the Director and Management Committee made the strategic decision to hold advanced workshops nationally and in a conference style bloc program rather than as a dispersed seminar series. This less resource intensive structure has enabled us to support the participation of additional Indigenous postgraduates in the capacity building program and further facilitated professional networking and other collaborative research activities among network participants.

In addition to the workshop program, NIRAKN's capacity building activities are supplemented by masterclasses, critical reading groups, research residencies, as well as the access to networking, mentoring and other professional resources that participation in the network facilitates. The NIRAKN Capacity Building program is a crucial and concrete outcome of funding provided for this network. Individual Indigenous academics offer mentoring and support to peers and postgraduates in their home institutions and a small number of Universities have offered capacity building programs to Indigenous postgraduates. For the first time, the funding provided for NIRAKN has ensured that targeted and culturally appropriate capacity building initiatives are available to Indigenous postgraduates and participating academics across the country.

Capacity Workshops

Introductory [A level] workshops

Workshops aimed at orienting and supporting Indigenous research students beginning their candidacy were offered at participating institutions. While the nature of programs offered differed depending on local needs, resources and student groups, these workshops dealt with crucial topics for RHD students beginning their candidatures. Topics covered usually include information about preparing research proposals and thesis expectations; methodological and ethical issues; and technical research skills such as referencing and data base searching.

A key learning from 2013 was that while Node based A-workshop programs were valuable, differences in the institutional positions and responsibilities of Node Leaders resulted in difficulties ensuring A-workshops were consistently offered around the country. To address this issue, the NIRAKN Director convened a program of National A-workshops available to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research higher degree students at the NIRAKN Hub at QUT.

The Indigenous Studies Research Network's (ISRN) program was combined with an Indigenous Qualitative Research Methodologies Masterclass, and reconfigured in order to be nationally applicable. A four day program which included ten A-workshops was offered to Indigenous postgraduates from around Australia at QUT from 1-4th April. Eighteen Indigenous research higher degree students attended, fourteen of whom were enrolled in PhD programs with four enrolled in Masters by Research.

A-workshops again reflected the Postgraduate Research Capabilities outlined in the best practice guidelines developed by the Council of Deans and Directors of Graduate Studies Australia (DDoGS). Workshop sessions provided an introduction to higher degree research as well as support available to Indigenous students including NIRAKN's Capacity Building program:

- Introduction to Graduate Capabilities for Higher Degree Research
- Academic Career Paths
- Project Management - the PhD journey
- PhD Examination Processes
- Dissemination of Research through Publication
- Conference Presentations
- Conflict Resolution and the Student Ombudsman
- Research and Ethics
- Supervisory Relationships
- Networking

Students were very positive in their assessments of the National A workshops:

'This was never explained to me in such a way at the beginning of my research journey. Every postgraduate should know this information'

'such deadly discussions'

'invaluable knowledge we don't get anywhere else'

'I learnt so much about the research & PhD process, in a safe place. This journey can feel so lonely at times and I have met and connected with a great group of men and women here this week whom I know will help and support me on this journey!'



The Indigenous Sociology and Knowledges Node held two writing workshops convened by Associate Professor Terry Dunbar aimed at commencing postgraduate students at Charles Darwin University. From February 6-9 a workshop entitled 'Indigenous Knowledges Writing Workshop: Humanities and Social Sciences' was facilitated by Professor Maggie Walter, while a workshop on Thesis writing and publications was held on 30 May 2014.

The Health Node, in collaboration with the Health Collaborative Research Network (CRN) held a Research Ethics Seminar in April at Central Queensland University's Rockhampton Campus, which was attended by postgraduates, and researchers from QUT, UQ, Curtin University and CQU.

The Yuraki node held two workshops at the University of Newcastle, a 'Turbo Charging Your Writing' workshop on 11 November, and a workshop on 12 November on 'Shameless Self-promotion.' A Yuraki-based workshop was also held at AIATSIS in October on Archival research.

National [B&C level] workshop program

A program of more advanced workshops aimed at completing research students, as well as early-career and mid-career researchers was offered nationally at Surfers Paradise from 14-18 July. The national workshop sessions were attended by a group of approximately 75 network participants and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander postgraduates, and involved nine workshops facilitated by NIRAKN members:

- *Research and Engagement in Communities* – Associate Professor Jakelin Troy & Professor Len Collard
- *Relatedness as a Research Framework* – Associate Professor Karen Martin
- *Research Project Management* - Professor Kath Clapham
- *Academic Writing* - Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson
- *Doing Archival Research* - Professor John Maynard and Associate Professor Victoria Haskins
- *Academic careers: Promotion and Levels A-B-C-D & E* - Professor Steve Larkin & Dr Mark McMillan
- *Academic careers: What does it mean to be an Aboriginal Academic?* Professor Steve Larkin & Dr Mark McMillan
- *Grant Writing Workshop* - Professor John Maynard
- *Research Collaboration* - Dr Asmi Woods, Dr Mark McMillan & Ms Marcelle Burns



As a result of feedback from participants on the 2013 program, the 2014 program also included a face to face NIRAKN members meeting, meetings of each of the network's research nodes, a postgraduate discussion session as well as keynote addresses from invited guests.

The gathering was addressed by a number of guest speakers. Dr Tim Dyke, Executive Director of Research Policy at the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and Ms Zoë Rodríguez from Copyright Australia Limited (CAL) gave well received presentations on their organisations' programs. Rhonda Black, Director of the Aboriginal Studies Press, hosted a special forum on publishing. Professor John Dewar, Chair of the Innovative Research Universities (IRU) introduced the group's recently released Statement of Intent on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education. Professor Lester Irabinna Rigney also gave a thoughtful presentation on the opportunities and challenges of a deregulated Higher Education sector for Indigenous researchers.

NIRAKN appointed Associate Professor Maryrose Casey from Monash University to provide an independent evaluation of the program's effectiveness. The Evaluation report is appended as Appendix 1. It notes:

'The second series of workshops were even more successful than the first. The program was based on a multifaceted approach to capacity building offering sessions designed to meet the specific challenges facing Indigenous scholars. The workshop program exceeded the expectations of the participating Indigenous scholars from postgraduate to established academics. In each session the presentations were of a high standard of delivery, rich in content and clearly oriented to fulfilling the aims of the program. The positive response from participants was unanimous.'

Workshops offered in 2014 differed from those offered in 2013, in order to limit repetition, extend previous offerings, and ensure requests for specific capacity building support were addressed. The program was explicitly designed to address the research capacity building needs of academics at all levels of seniority. The Evaluation Report notes that 'workshops built on previous workshops and capacity building in a way that facilitated investigation of the next steps participants at every level could take to develop their research'. Evaluations of the 2014 program have been supplemented by a Hub conducted survey of NIRAKN Network Participants to indicate additional priorities such as more extensive support in grant writing and drafting funding applications. Future programs will involve a balance of new content designed to respond to the expressed capacity building needs of members and well received workshops from previous programs.

Participants reflected on the National Capacity Building Workshop program in the following terms:

'NIRAKN's vision is being realised in tangible ways. Everyone I spoke to felt inspired and motivated from the workshops.'



'Being a participant has filled my spirit with enthusiasm, consolidation and grounding. It has all been relevant and inspiring'

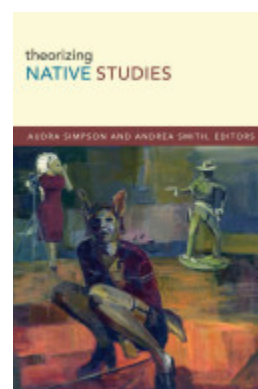
'The need for an Indigenous space to build our strength and resilience cannot be overstated. Too many of our people leave the academy feeling disheartened and burnt out. NIRAKN provides an important support network and the opportunity to develop our knowledge and skills so we can forge ahead to initiate changes to make the academy a place where ATSI peoples can thrive and prosper.'

'Just deadly!! A life changing/empowering experience'

Other Capacity Building Activities

In April, a successful *Indigenous Qualitative Research Methodologies Masterclass* was offered at the NIRAKN Hub, QUT by NIRAKN Director Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson and ISRN Staff member Dr David Singh to postgraduate students from around the country. Hosted by QUT alongside the NIRAKN A-workshops for commencing research higher degree students outlined above, this program was made available without charge to Indigenous postgraduates from across Australia. The masterclass is an updated version of a 2010 ALTC award winning program and introduces participants to a range of important Indigenous qualitative methodologies and approaches.

NIRAKN's second national *Critical Reading Group* was held in Brisbane in October, and facilitated by Professor Moreton-Robinson, Dr Singh and Dr Macoun. This year's reading group focussed on an important new edited collection entitled *Theorizing Native Studies*, edited by Professors Audra Simpson and Andrea Smith. Seventeen NIRAKN members and Indigenous postgraduates discussed the collection's important essays by leading scholars from North America concerning the role of theory in the discipline of indigenous studies.



NIRAKN Reading Groups are designed to encourage engagement with international indigenous scholarship. This assists in developing critical theoretical skills, an appreciation of the development of Indigenous Studies as a discipline, as well as the capacity for international research collaborations. Works discussed sparked a range of important conversations about the usefulness of theory, the nature of critical engagement, and the importance of writing and publishing.

Participants reflecting on their experience at the national *Critical Reading Group* reported:

'I am so grateful to be able to attend and access a critical reading group about Indigenous theory - this isn't available anywhere else and it feeds and nourishes my academic life.'



'I loved listening to the discussions and despite not contributing much, I get so much out of critical thinking. I knew what to expect from this opportunity - that's why I came again.'

'I loved theory and being able to talk about this with other indigenous scholars is so important to being able to understand and use it in relevant ways.'

'I am keen to learn how to critically read and write academic work. I appreciate the opportunity to be both shown and given the ability to discuss and hear how to read and write more critically.'

Law Node Leader Dr Asmi Wood organised multiple workshops for Indigenous Research Higher Degree (RHD) students from around the country. In particular, the workshop series at the Australian National University consolidated his expertise in Indigenous students' research capacity building. Dr Wood facilitated the following sessions which were attended by 6 – 10 Indigenous RHD students:

- April – Professor John Taylor on 'Indigenous Population Mobility'
- May - Professor Nicholas Peterson 'On the current impacts of modernisation in Aboriginal Australia'
- June – Dr Jeanine Leanne on 'The Politics of Indigenous Writing'
- July - Professor Nicholas Peterson on 'Aboriginal societies and cultures and the production of European social theory'
- July - Dr William Fogarty on 'Remote Education at a crossroads'
- August - Dr Jeanine Leanne on 'Utilising Indigenous Poetry in Academic Discourse'
- September - Professor Richard Baker on 'Lessons in Yanyuwa Traditional Knowledge'
- October - Professor Kirin Nayaran on 'Bringing your writing alive: Crafting Ethnography'
- November – Bruce Pascoe on 'No Black Writers Block' (followed by an ANU wide Public Seminar 'Black Seeds')

NIRAKN's formal capacity building program was supplemented by the informal capacity building that the network provides through encouraging informal mentoring, fostering academic networks and other professional resources provided through other network activities.



• **Collaborative Research Program**

NIRAKN's Collaborative Research Program provides a platform for cross-institutional and multidisciplinary Indigenous research. The research efforts of NIRAKN's Network Hub and the four research Nodes were geared towards producing measurable high quality original research and publications. In addition to original collaborative research, the Collaborative Research Program also fosters engagement with Indigenous research and knowledges across the sector through a program of international collaborations, symposiums and seminars.

While research activities have a longer gestation than the capacity building program, the efforts made by NIRAKN members to develop research relationships and collaborative projects have already begun to generate results. In 2014, the majority of the successful Indigenous Discovery grants awarded by the ARC were secured by research teams containing at least one NIRAKN researcher.

In 2014, NIRAKN's research nodes (Indigenous Health and Wellbeing; Indigenous Sociology and Knowledges; Law; Yuraki – History, Culture, Politics) continued to foster connections and relationships among Indigenous researchers. Research nodes also began the process of delivering major collaborative research projects. It is anticipated that research outcomes generated by NIRAKN will continue to expand and improve in future years.

In February 2014, the Management Committee adopted a Research Policy Framework drafted by the Director to outline the network's research agenda and guide the distribution of research funding through the nodes. This framework articulates the importance of Indigenous knowledges in NIRAKN research and establishes the network's internal research grants program. NIRAKN has since allocated more than \$156 000 in seed funding to 20 small research projects developed by members. Details of these projects and of major Node Research collaborations are provided below.

The Director provides direction for the network's research program. Her international and national research leadership and intellectual standing is widely recognised in the field. In 2014, Professor Moreton-Robinson continued her work as a member of the Editorial Management Committee for *American Quarterly*, a leading and highly prestigious international journal. Her research leadership is evident in the achievements of the network outlined in more detail below, but is also reflected in significant keynote addresses given in 2014 at the Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) 50th Anniversary National Indigenous Studies Conference, at the Australian Sociological Association (TASA) annual conference, and at the Australian Critical Race and Whiteness Studies Association (ACRAWSA) annual conference. Professor Moreton-Robinson also gave public lectures at the University of Leeds, the University of London Birkbeck Race Forum and the Centre for Feminist Research at Goldsmiths, and addressed leading Indigenous scholars from around the world at a symposium at the American University of Paris.

Research Activities: Events

Throughout the year, NIRAKN hosted a range of research related activities designed to stimulate scholarship and share research outcomes.

NIRAKN National Research Symposium

NIRAKN's 2014 National Research Symposium was co-hosted with Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning and held at the University of Technology Sydney on Tuesday 2nd September. The Symposium was entitled 'Indigenous Research Leadership: Capacity Building and Innovation' and brought together academics, students and community members from around the country. As a research capacity building initiative, keynote speakers included an early career researcher and postgraduate student.



Keynote speakers were

- Professor John Lowe, Wymer Distinguished Professor - Christine E Lynn College of Nursing at Florida Atlantic University
- Distinguished Professor Graham Hingangaroa Smith, CEO and Vice-Chancellor at Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi,
- Professor Steve Larkin, Pro Vice-Chancellor Indigenous Leadership at Charles Darwin University
- Dr Chelsea Bond, Senior Lecturer, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit University of Queensland
- Nicole Watson, Senior Researcher Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning, University of Technology Sydney



Pro Vice-Chancellor Bronwyn Fredericks, Dr Mark McMillan, and Professor Moreton-Robinson closed the Symposium with a discussion panel that canvassed issues facing Indigenous people in the higher education sector arising from the presentations. Management Committee has decided that NIRAKN will host an Indigenous Researchers Conference rather than a Symposium in 2015. The Conference will be held in Adelaide in late September.

NIRAKN Seminars

NIRAKN hosted a series of successful seminars around the country featuring visiting international scholars and distinguished Australian Indigenous academics.

The Yuraki node in conjunction with the Wollotuka Institute and Purai Global Indigenous and Diaspora Research Studies Centre hosted a special forum at the University of Newcastle on 23 September entitled *'Breaking the Chains of Oppression – Is Education the Key?'* The Special Forum was addressed by legendary Aboriginal political activists Gary Williams, Dr Gary Foley and Dr Gordon Briscoe joined by eminent British scholar and activist Professor Chris Mullard. These four men first met in 1974 when Charles Perkins invited Chris Mullard to Australia to investigate the shocking living conditions and inequality of Aboriginal life. Chris subsequently produced the study *Aborigines in Australia* commissioned by the National Aboriginal Forum. In that sense, the forum was a forty-year reunion for the speakers.

'I have to say that without any shadow of a doubt my week with you and the brothers and sisters was one of the most – if not the most – significant weeks I've experienced in the last few years.'

In addition to the hospitality you showered upon me, the discussions, humour and empathies experienced were of a kind that only those who understand the nature of 'loss' would appreciate. The fact that, during the week, we were engaged actively in the recovering of much of this 'loss', and forging dynamic, constructive and creative ways forward, made the week not only extremely special but, I believe, a preface to the book we should write.'

Professor Chris Mullard, CBE DL Hon LLD

In addition to the special forum, Dr Gary Foley, Professor Chris Mullard and Sara Motta spoke at a Special Public Discussion entitled 'Silence, Violence and Myths of Social Inclusion' at University House Newcastle on 26 September 2014.

The Yuraki Node also hosted an Archival Research Symposium in November at AIATSIS, which was a 'Forum in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Archives'. There were presentations by guests including Kevin Bradley (National Library of Australia); Kathy Frankland (Queensland Archives); Ronald Briggs (NSW Archives), NIRAKN Affiliate Researcher Clint Bracknell, as well as NIRAKN members Stephen Kinnane, Dr Shino Konishi and Dr Odette Best. Participants reported:

The workshop was fantastic, a great chance to talk about history.... The historians were incredibly welcoming and I learned a great deal

Thanks to everyone for their wonderful presentations, collegiality and inspiring minds.... Yuraki business is too good to not be a part of!

The NIRAKN Law Node was active in hosting a series of research seminars facilitated by Dr Asmi Wood at the ANU, which each attracted between 30-50 attendees including Indigenous postgraduate students:

- 24 July – AIATSIS Principal Russell Taylor on 'The Centrality of AIATSIS to Indigenous Research and Researchers'
- 31 July - Professor Michael Dodson on 'Issues for the Stolen Generations in the Years after the Royal Commission'
- 7 August - Ed Wensing on 'Indigenous Connections with the land'
- 14 August - Kate Bills and Tony Foley on 'legal practice and Post-Graduation Research opportunities at the ANU'
- 21 August - Jon Altman on the NT Intervention
- 4 September - Laura Beacroft on 'Legal Research and Criminal Law'
- 25 September - His Honour Justice Gray on 'Native Title determinations and its impacts on legal reform'
- 2 October - Brett Walker SC on 'Brown v The Cth, The Blue Mud Bay Case'
- 9 October - Professor Miriam Jorgensen on 'North American Indigenous matters involving Cross Jurisdictional international borders'
- 16 October - Professor Irene Watson gave a presentation on 'Raw Law' as well as 'Indigenous Research in the Legal academy'
- 7 November - Bruce Pascoe on 'Black Seeds'

The Indigenous Sociology and Knowledges node sponsored two research seminars. Professor Jeff Berglund from Northern Arizona University delivered a seminar entitled 'The Rise and Evolution of American Indian Literary Studies' in the School of Humanities at the University of Tasmania (UTAS) in August 2014. Dr Tahu Kukutai, from the National Institute of Demographic and Economic Analysis at Waikato University also presented at UTAS, giving a seminar on 'Measuring and monitoring Indigenous wellbeing: The need for new paradigms' in the School of Social Sciences in October 2014.

NIRAKN members also presented keynotes, seminars and papers sharing their research. These are included in Appendix 2.

Research Activities: Grants and Research Projects

Network achievements: Research Projects and Grants

NIRAKN's Nodes have been developing a number of important collaborative projects during 2014, with work ongoing and several applications for additional funding in progress. NIRAKN funding for node major research projects has been vital early support for members' collaborations, and has provided scaffolding for a number of successful applications for competitive grants.

The Law Node's major collaborative research project into governance and Indigenous Nation Building has continued to develop successfully. Following their successful application for a \$257,000 grant from the Melbourne School of Government in 2013, Node Leaders Dr Mark McMillan, Professor Larissa Behrendt and Dr Asmi Wood along with other colleagues and the Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority Inc applied for and received an Australian Research Council Linkage Grant (LP140100376) of \$600 000 over four years to support their collaboration on an expanded version of the project entitled "Indigenous nationhood in the absence of recognition: Self-governance insights and strategies from three Aboriginal communities." In 2014, work on the project has resulted in international engagements, engagements with government, curriculum development, conference papers, submissions and reports to government, as well as academic articles.

In addition, the Law Node also successfully applied for an Office of Learning and Teaching Innovation and Development Grant for a \$299 000 project led by Marcelle Burns to deliver an 'Indigenous Cultural Competency for Legal Academics Program.' All members of the Law node are involved in the grant and will contribute to this project.

In preliminary work undertaken to date, Health Node researchers have begun to undertake collaborative research involving all members of the node through a number of small joint projects investigating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth, Health and Wellbeing which were allocated funding through NIRAKN internal grants. The products of these collaborations are detailed in the information on NIRAKN Internal Research grants compiled below. This work has involved developing collaboration models and methodologies required to sustain interdisciplinary work across a number of institutions and Indigenous nations, as well as undertaking preliminary literature reviews. Node members' collaborating writing projects have involved articulating Indigenous gendered health perspectives, through the Health node's collaborative book published by Cambridge University Press in 2014 (details of which are also outlined in the section regarding publications below). Professor Clapham is currently undertaking work with NIRAKN partner organisation Waminda on an 'Aboriginal chronic disease care pathways' project funded by a local health district exploring the ways in which Aboriginal men and women experience the management of chronic illness.

These projects together form the Node's major research project collaboration. Projects undertaken to date have built the collaborative research relationships and frameworks that will be required to enable the delivery of the node major research project which investigates social and cultural factors inhibiting or encouraging Indigenous men and women to access early intervention and self-management measures for diabetes, heart disease and reproductive cancers in collaboration with Waminda. The node's major collaborative research project will be implemented and completed in 2015/2016.

Yuraki Node Leaders Professor John Maynard and Associate Professor Jakelin Troy (collaborating with Associate Professor Victoria Haskins, Dr Lawrence Bamblett and Ms Lorina Barker) successfully applied for \$610 029 through the ARC's Discovery scheme for the Yuraki Node's major research project, which will be administered by the University of Newcastle. The major project outlined in the original NIRAKN application was completed by Professor Maynard prior to the formal establishment of NIRAKN. The Node's new major project aims to fill a large gap in NSW Aboriginal history by addressing the history of the NSW Aborigines Protection Board/Welfare Board 1883-1967. The project will entail a major archival study of Board and government records, complemented by an in-depth oral history component where Aboriginal people will be interviewed for their memories under the Board. Additionally the project will target and encourage the development of Indigenous historians, as the project holds critical importance to NSW Aboriginal Communities. Additional research projects involving an Indigenous language study and linkages between Aboriginal people and China are also in planning.

The implementation of the ISK node's major research project regarding Indigenous women's labour market engagement has not progressed. Management Committee and QUT's Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) are in discussions with the University of Tasmania to ensure the completion of this research. This matter is addressed further in Section 5 of this report.

Indigenous Sociology and Knowledges Node members are collaborating on a number of smaller research projects on which work is proceeding. Associate Professor Michelle Trudgett and Associate Professor Kathy Butler have been collaborating on a project evaluating the effectiveness of the ARC research grant system in nurturing Indigenous Australians scholars through comparing the Discovery Indigenous Scheme with similar international grant schemes, particularly those operating in Aotearoa/New Zealand. Publications arising from this work are being drafted. A number of other node members are working on a project examining 'Government Inquiries into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Related Matters: Discourse and History.' This research project scoped the history, recommendations, outcomes and discourse of formal Government Inquiries into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander related matters from colonization to the present. This was achieved through the compilation of an annotated bibliography followed by a content analysis of the enquiries over the period of colonisation to the present to identify recurring patterns and map the subject of each enquiry into their historical and focus contexts. Two journal articles are currently being drafted.

NIRAKN Members have significantly improved the outcomes of their research funding applications.

While in 2013 NIRAKN members were involved in two ARC Discovery Indigenous projects that received funding, NIRAKN members were involved in four successful applications in 2014 receiving a total of \$1 558 382. A further two of the ten successful projects involve a NIRAKN Indigenous Researcher Affiliate Member, which means that researchers affiliated with NIRAKN were involved in 60% of the successful applications, receiving \$2.44m of \$4.39 grants awarded through the scheme.

NIRAKN IHWB Node Leader Professor Kathleen Clapham from the University of Wollongong (collaborating with Dr Angela Dawson and Dr John Daniels) successfully applied for \$317 000 funding for a project investigating the use of focus group discussions in Aboriginal Health Services research. The aim of this project is to inform the accountable, culturally appropriate, ethically sound and methodologically rigorous use of Focus Group Discussions.

IHWB node member Dr Roxanne Bainbridge from James Cook University was part of a successful Discovery Indigenous application with colleagues Dr Felecia Watkin Lui, Professor Yvonne Cadet-James, Professor Komla Tsey and Dr Janya McCalman which received \$612 845 to bring together researchers and Indigenous community members to develop a collaborative framework for measuring research benefit. The project endeavours to unpack the benefit construct from an Indigenous worldview to enable future research projects to be designed with outcomes in mind that are acceptable and valued by Indigenous beneficiaries and informed by Indigenous Knowledges.

Professor Pat Dudgeon continues to deliver nationally significant research into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, particularly in the area of suicide prevention. Professor Dudgeon received \$600 000 in 2014-5 from the Commonwealth Department of Health to deliver the National Empowerment Project, alongside her leadership with a number of colleagues in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Evaluation Project which was funded \$1 000 000 in 2014/5 by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Yuraki node member Professor Barry Judd from RMIT (collaborating with Dr Timothy Butcher) successfully applied for \$529 000 funding for a project examining the construction of Indigenous identity through organised sport in remote communities. This project addresses the problem of how participation in organised sport affects identity and everyday life in remote Indigenous communities, both positively and negatively. The project aims to provide an understanding of the role of organised sport in Indigenous identity construction in remote Australia and thus open opportunities for equitable and reconciliatory modes of participation.

Dr Linda Ford, a Yuraki Node member from Charles Darwin University, received \$99 537 to develop and implement suitable Indigenous frameworks for preservation, interpretation and dissemination of the recordings of ceremonial performances in the Wagait-Daly region of the Northern Territory of Australia. The focus of this project is a body of recordings, made by early anthropologists and missionaries, of final mortuary ceremony performances. The ceremonial performance is a key process for integrating Indigenous knowledge from many different domains, a socially powerful site of exchange, transmission and transformation of relationship to country, kin and identity.

Professor Janet Mooney, a NIRAKN Indigenous Researcher Affiliate Member was involved with colleagues in two successful projects in the education field to be administered through Australian Catholic University. One project received \$419 000 to document Koori Elders' wisdom, knowledge, perspectives and experiences, for use in school and community education, the other received \$459 000 to identify psycho-social determinants of Indigenous professionals' socio-economic wellbeing.

In addition to ARC funding, NIRAKN members were successful in seeking support from the Office of Learning and Teaching (OLT). In addition to the Law node's successful application to the OLT for funding to deliver a module aimed at instilling Indigenous cultural competence in legal educators, detailed above, Associate Professor Karen Martin and NIRAKN Indigenous Research Affiliate Dr Chelsea Bond received OLT Research Fellowships.

Dr Chelsea Bond's OLT fellowship seeks to "enhance the cultural safety of Indigenous academics who teach Indigenous studies within Australian universities in order to strengthen the quantity and quality of Indigenous educators within the sector. It will involve the development of collaborative

multi-institutional responses to the challenges facing Indigenous academics who are culturally isolated and often subjected to hostile and confronting learning environments”.

Associate Professor Karen Martin’s fellowship project entitled, *“Aboriginal Studies In Higher Education in the 21st Century: a framework for learning; teaching; leadership and change...will involve collaborative work with Griffith’s colleagues in this area, as well as specialists from Charles Darwin University and Bachelor Institute in the Northern Territory, James Cook University, University of Notre Dame, and the University of New England. The Fellowship also involves valuable collaborations with international scholars in Canada and New Zealand”*.

NIRAKN Members also submitted successful applications for funding for other projects, including:

- Law Node Leader Dr Mark McMillan is the lead Chief Investigator on a \$30 000 grant from Melbourne Social Equity Institute for a project entitled “Sharing this place: A systematic review of three Faculties within the University of Melbourne to identify and establish their opportunities for engagement with future and current Indigenous Australian students.” Dr McMillan is also a Chief Investigator on a project entitled ‘Predatory Conduct, Consumer Rental Goods and Indigenous Consumers’ that received \$5000 from Melbourne Law School Indigenous Research Grant Scheme
- Professor Maggie Walter and Associate Professor Gawaian Bodkin Andrews participated along with colleagues S. Silburn, J. Lynch, S. Guthridge, R. Midford, J. Brimblecombe, S. Schurer and P. Shaw in a CDU led NHMRC Partnership Project which will receive \$1,327,761 over the three years from December 2014 aimed at ‘Improving the developmental outcomes of Northern Territory children: a data linkage study to inform policy and practice in health, family services and education’
- Dr Roxanne Bainbridge was part of a significant JCU led project with a number of colleagues that was awarded \$824 875 by the NHMRC for a project investigating Indigenous youth suicide entitled ‘Psycho-social resilience and vulnerability and suicide prevention: A mentoring approach to modifying suicide risk for remote Indigenous students at boarding school.’ In addition to her role in the ARC Discovery Indigenous grant outlined above, Dr Bainbridge also received a \$14, 950 James Cook University Research and Innovation Grant for ‘A framework for planning, monitoring and evaluating research impact in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health’ as well as \$3 300 with colleagues from the James Cook University Early Career Researcher Group Work Challenge
- Associate Professor Rowena Ball along with Australian Project Partners M. Sceats (Calix Ltd), D Wiley (UNSW) and 16 European participants received €6.7 million along with matching funding from industry partners for an EU FP7 Project entitled ‘ASCENT – Advanced Solid Cycles with Efficient Novel Technologies’.
- Professor Clair Andersen was awarded \$45,455 from MATSITI (More Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Teachers Initiative) for a project entitled ‘Tunapri Teaching - To Know Teaching’ to bring Indigenous Year 8-10 students to take part in a Faculty of Education familiarisation program. MATSITI also awarded Professor Andersen and her colleague, M.

Dowd, \$32,000 for a project on 'Aboriginal Education Workers (AEW) in Tasmania: Views on Teaching.

- Professor Bronwyn Fredericks and Professor Steve Larkin along with colleagues S. Kinnear, J. Mann, P. CroftWarcon and B. Chew received \$57,823 from the National Centre in Student Equity in Higher Education (NCSEHE) Student Equity in Higher Education Research Grants Program for a joint CDU- CQU project entitled 'Best practice bridging programs: facilitating Indigenous participation at regional comprehensive universities'
- Health Node Leader Professor Fredericks was involved in a number of other successful collaborative projects. She received \$50 000 from CQ Medicare Local to conduct a project with P. CroftWarcon, J. Mann and S. Kinnear concerned with 'Exploring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge, experiences and perceptions of Chronic Disease conditions in the greater Rockhampton Region.' Professor Fredericks and colleagues C. Chamberlain, S. Campbell, A. Sinha, K. Arabeena, J. Boyle, J. Mein received \$50,000 from Diabetes Queensland for a project concerned with 'Understanding barriers and facilitators to postpartum care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women with gestational diabetes.' She also received a grant of \$16 360.71 from the Health Collaborative Research Network (CRN) for a project investigating Zoonotic parasites and Indigenous Queenslanders with colleagues R. Bradbury, F. Smout, S. Kopp, A. Kotze and R. Gasser.
- Health Node Leader Professor Kathleen Clapham was involved in two significant projects relating to injury prevention. She received \$145,633 for an evaluation of the Illawarra Aboriginal Medical Service Child Safety Program from NSW Health Aboriginal Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Demonstration Projects Program. Professor Clapham was also part of a University of Wollongong project with colleagues O.L Keay, R.Q. Ivers, K. Hunter, J. Brown, J.M. Simpson, L.E. Bilston and J. Hunt entitled 'Driving Change: Buckle-Up Safely – safe travel for Aboriginal Children' which was awarded \$706,534 over three years from the NSW Health Aboriginal Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Demonstration Projects Program.
- Associate Professor Michelle Trudget received a Macquarie University Teaching Delivery Grant worth \$28,052 for a project with C. Franklin, T. Ambler and P. Vlachopoulos to develop 'Binaal Yuurruung - Indigenous Studies MOOC.'
- Professor Peter Radoll received a \$6 000 University of Canberra research development grant for a project concerned with 'Developing an International Indigenous ICT perspective of ICT engagement'

NIRAKN Internal Research Grants

In 2014, NIRAKN established a program of Internal Research Grants to distribute Node research funds and provide small amounts of seed funding to members for projects. These competitive grants

are central to delivering the network's aims and objectives, and in particular seek to enhance and build network members' research performance, capacities and profiles by:

- Producing measurable high quality research;
- Applying Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledges;
- Improving the likelihood of external grant success; and
- Strengthening the ongoing conditions for the production of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research by providing support to early career researchers.

The internal grants program requires projects to comply with ARC Discovery Indigenous funding rules in addition to the ARC's funding rules for NIRAKN. The scheme supports high quality research which will enhance network participants' performance and profile. In particular, funding supports:

- High quality research projects/activities with publication outcomes
- Pilot projects that form a plausible first stage in the process of gaining external grant support and are relevant to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
- Projects/activities showing clear evidence of strong research capacity building.

Grants to a maximum amount of \$10 000 are approved by the Management Committee under advice from Node Leaders. More than \$156 000 in seed funding was allocated to 20 small research projects in 2014. Some grants went to individual network participants; others supported collaborative research projects involving many or all members of the relevant research node.

Internal Research grants were awarded to the following projects in 2014:

- Identity or Identities: Personal, professional and cultural knowledge and experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander early childhood educators (Associate Professor Karen Martin)
- Developing Smartphone Application for Tyikim Language (Dr Linda Ford)
- Identifying Indigenous Nurses from 1910-1930 - Phase 1 (Dr Odette Best)
- Archival retrieval of Aboriginal Nurses/midwives registration (Dr Odette Best)
- Identification of funding to explore Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth, Health and Wellbeing (Professor Bronwyn Fredericks, Professor Kathleen Clapham, Professor Pat Dudgeon, Associate Professor Dawn Bessarab, Dr Roxanne Bainbridge, Professor Len Collard, Dr Michael Adams, Ms Clair Andersen, Dr Deb Duthie, Ms Marlene Thompson, Dr Rowena Ball)
- Understanding how to best engage Indigenous researchers from a diverse range of Indigenous backgrounds, geographic localities and organisations in a collaborative health and wellbeing project (Professor Bronwyn Fredericks, Professor Kathleen Clapham, Professor Pat Dudgeon, Associate Professor Dawn Bessarab, Dr Roxanne Bainbridge, Professor Len Collard, Dr Michael Adams, Ms Clair Andersen, Dr Deb Duthie, Ms Marlene Thompson, Dr Rowena Ball)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth, Health and Wellbeing Project Stage One – QLD Study (Professor Fredericks, Dr Roxanne Bainbridge, Associate Professor Dawn Bessarab, Professor Len Collard, Professor Pat Dudgeon, Dr Michael Adams, Professor Kathleen Clapham, Ms Clair Andersen, Dr Deb Duthie, Ms Marlene Thompson and Dr Rowena Ball)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth, Health and Wellbeing Project Stage Two – QLD Study (Professor Fredericks, Dr Roxanne Bainbridge, Associate Professor Dawn Bessarab,

- Professor Len Collard, Professor Pat Dudgeon, Dr Michael Adams, Professor Kathleen Clapham, Ms Clair Andersen, Dr Deb Duthie, Ms Marlene Thompson and Dr Rowena Ball)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth, Health and Wellbeing Project/ Stage One - WA Study (Associate Professor Bessarab, Professor Len Collard, Professor Pat Dudgeon, Professor Bronwyn Fredericks, Dr Michael Adams, Professor Kathleen Clapham, Ms Clair Andersen, Dr Deb Duthie, Ms Marlene Thompson, Dr Roxanne Bainbridge and Dr Rowena Ball)
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth, Health and Wellbeing Project/ Stage Two - WA Study (Associate Professor Bessarab, Professor Len Collard, Professor Pat Dudgeon, Professor Bronwyn Fredericks, Dr Michael Adams, Professor Kathleen Clapham, Ms Clair Andersen, Dr Deb Duthie, Ms Marlene Thompson, Dr Roxanne Bainbridge and Dr Rowena Ball)
 - 'From experience to practice': 20 years after the Indigenous community development study tours to India (Dr Michael Adams, Professor Bronwyn Fredericks)
 - 'For all our mobs': Understanding the experiences of Indigenous artists in working together internationally for the now and the future of Indigenous cultures, knowledges and arts practices (Professor Bronwyn Fredericks)
 - Well Being Not Winning: Playing on Country Australian Football at Papunya (Associate Professor Barry Judd)
 - New Perspectives on Indigenous Labour History (Associate Professor Shino Konishi and Professor Len Collard)
 - Bound and Unbound: Sovereign Acts - decolonising methodologies of the lived and spoken (Simone Ulalka Tur and Natalie Harkin)
 - Government Inquiries: the 'Problem' definition over time (Dr Wendy Aitken)
 - The Fred Maynard Rights Media Project – Development and Pre Production Stage 1 (Professor Larissa Behrendt)
 - The Fred Maynard Rights Media Project –Production Stage 2 (Professor Larissa Behrendt)
 - The Fred Maynard Rights Media Project –Post Production Stage 3 (Professor Larissa Behrendt)

These projects are in progress, and significant outcomes have already been achieved through the grants program. Examples of some significant achievements include:

Associate Professor Karen Martin's project 'Identity or Identities: Personal, professional and cultural knowledge and experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander early childhood educators', funded through the ISK node, has already resulted in a meeting of childhood educators held at the State Library of Queensland. This project will culminate in publication of a book.

The 'Bound and Unbound: Sovereign Acts - decolonising methodologies of the lived and spoken' project initiated by NIRAKN members Simone Ulalka Tur and Natalie Harkin with Research Affiliates Faye Rosas Blanch and Ali Gumillya Baker initially received \$9 950 seed funding through an Internal Research Grant from the Yuraki node. NIRAKN funding produced an exhibition and seminar program. The project has since gone on to secure \$19 000 for an extension from the Australia Council for the Arts: Indigenous Experimental Art Fund.

The Law node has funded three research projects led by Professor Larissa Behrendt that will combine to develop a documentary piece investigating the political contribution of Fred Maynard and his impact on the modern rights framework. The project will look at the relationship between the politics of the 1930s citizenship rights campaigns to the rights movements of the 1970s. It also seeks to link in the continual conversations between Aboriginal leadership in Australia and the African-American civil rights campaigns in the United States. Phase one of the project involved pre-production work and is now complete, Stage 2 and 3 involving production and post-production are now underway. A core focus of this project will be to articulate the intellectual ideas behind the protest movement and to observe how these can inform current jurisprudential ideas around the protection of Indigenous rights.

All members of the Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Node are collaborating on an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth Health and Wellbeing project being conducted in a number of stages across Queensland and Western Australia.

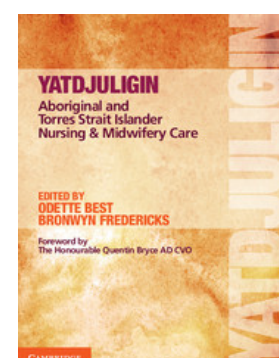
Early stages of the collaborative research took the form of a research project addressed to 'Understanding how to best engage Indigenous researchers from a diverse range of Indigenous backgrounds, geographic localities and organisations in a collaborative health and wellbeing project' This process resulted in two papers, one of which is in draft while the other has been published in *ALARj-Action Learning Action Research Journal*. Once this work is completed, Node researchers will begin to identify funding sources for a larger project and undertake Queensland and Western Australian pilot studies. Work has begun in Western Australia, with ethical approval for both stages of the project received from the Western Australian Aboriginal Health Ethics Committee (WAAHEC). A Research Assistant has been identified to assist with the literature review. It is anticipated that the Queensland study will draw on materials from the WA pilot.

Research Activities: Publications

Network achievements: Publications

The Indigenous Health and Wellbeing node's book, *Yatdjuligin: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nursing and Midwifery Care* was edited by Professor Bronwyn Fredericks and Dr Odette Best and published by Cambridge University Press in September 2014. The book is a collection of essays introducing students to the fundamentals of the healthcare of Indigenous Australians, from the perspective of both the patient and the professional.

This book is the first written by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nurses and health professionals on Indigenous nursing and midwifery care, and includes chapters by four NIRAKN members (Professor Bronwyn Fredericks, Dr Odette Best, Dr Mick Adams and Professor Juanita Sherwood). Designed for both non-Indigenous and Indigenous nurses working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients, the book includes chapters on the history of health service provision for Australian Indigenous people, gender, midwifery, community-controlled health services, remote area nursing, mental health and caring for Indigenous Elders.



The Indigenous Sociology and Knowledges Node has a contract with Palgrave MacMillan (UK) for a collection of essays to be edited by Professor Maggie Walter, Associate Professor Karen Martin and Associate Professor Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews. The book will comprise analyses of available data from the Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children Survey conducted through the Federal Department of Social Services. This book is a key legacy project for the node, and the manuscript will be delivered to the publisher in the network's final year.

Law Node members are also collaborating on a textbook which will involve Professor Larissa Behrendt, Dr Asmi Wood, Dr Mark McMillan and Ms Nicole Watson who is a NIRAKN postgraduate. Contracts have been signed with Federation Press, and Node members are working towards publication of the book in 2015. Regular meetings of contributors and reviews of chapters occurred bi-monthly in Sydney throughout 2014.

NIRAKN's Director Professor Moreton-Robinson submitted two books to publishers in 2014. Her monograph 'The White Possessive: Property, Power, and Indigenous Sovereignty' will be released by University of Minnesota Press in May 2015. An edited collection of work in Critical Indigenous Studies was submitted in December 2014 and is currently being reviewed by the University of Arizona Press.

NIRAKN Network Participants published extensively in 2014. A list of publications is attached as Appendix 2.

Research Activities: Publication of NIRAKN Journal

As a network, NIRAKN has also worked to raise the profile of Indigenous knowledges and research through facilitating high quality scholarly publishing. The first 2014 edition of *International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies* was published in May. Publication of the December 2014 edition was unavoidably delayed until February 2015 due to staff bereavement.

The *IJCIS* is edited by NIRAKN Director Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson and Law Node Leader Dr Mark McMillan, and Dr David Singh from the Indigenous Studies Research Network (ISRN) is the Assistant Editor. The journal is produced through the ISRN which is the NIRAKN network hub. In 2014, the journal published research in Critical Indigenous Studies from Indigenous and non-Indigenous scholars from Australia, Canada, the United States, and New Zealand.

The following articles were published in the journal in 2014:

PILIRIQATIGIINNIQ 'Working in a collaborative way for the common good': A perspective on the space where health research methodology and Inuit epistemology come together by Gwen Healey and Andrew Tagak Sr. from Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre, Nunavut, Canada

Maintaining the Integrity of Indigenous Knowledge; Sharing Metis Knowing Through Mixed Methods by Peter Hutchinson, Carlene Dingwall, Donna Kurtz, Mike Evans, Gareth Jones and Jon Corbett from University of British Columbia Okanagan

A Critical Reading of Aloha and Visual Sovereignty in Ke Kulana He Māhū by Stephanie Nohelani Teves, (Kanaka Maoli) from University of Oregon

Theorising the structural dynamics of ethnic privilege in Aotearoa: Unpacking "this breeze at my back" (Kimmell and Ferber 2003) by Helen Moewaka Barnes, Belinda Borell, Tim McCreanor from Massey University, New Zealand.

Book Review

Indigenous Nations' Rights in the Balance: An Analysis of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by Charmaine White Face (aka Zumila Wobaga), Reviewed by Marcelle Burns (Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane)

While the second edition of the journal for 2014 was compiled and completed in 2014, it was officially published in February 2015 and contents will be reported in the 2015 Annual Report.

The International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies is online and open access and all editions are available from <http://www.isrn.qut.edu.au/publications/internationaljournal/allissues.jsp>

● Pipeline of Indigenous Researchers

NIRAKN members have continued the work of encouraging Indigenous undergraduates to consider undertaking research higher degrees and develop sustainable advanced research careers. A number of network activities have been dedicated to inspiring and encouraging community researchers and talented undergraduates to consider undertaking research careers.

For the first time in 2014, NIRAKN awarded four undergraduate essay prizes. These prizes for the best essays written by Indigenous undergraduates were presented by NIRAKN Elder Aunty Valda Coolwell at September's annual NIRAKN Symposium held in Sydney at UTS. Selected on merit by a judging panel of NIRAKN Management Committee members comprising of Associate Professor Troy, Professor Walter and Dr Wood, this year's award competition recipients included Rebecca Masterson (QUT), Clare Bond (CQU), Ruth Gilbert (UoC) and Ivan Ingram (QUT) – all pictured at right with Aunty Valda Coolwell.



NIRAKN RESEARCH HEROES

NIRAKN's successful ARC grant applicants, Professor John Maynard, Associate Professor Jakelin Troy, Professor Kathleen Clapham, Associate Professor Linda Ford,

Associate Professor Janet Mooney, Dr Roxanne Bainbridge and Associate Professor Barry Judd were profiled in the NIRAKN December Newsletter as our 2014 Research Heroes.

NIRAKN members have hosted undergraduate research placements to encourage Indigenous students to consider research pathways. AIATSIS has reported that 9 undergraduate students were involved in their 'Step Up' program. Each student is being supported to complete an undergraduate qualification that will equip them to potentially continue on to HDR.

The above activities will help ensure that Indigenous undergraduates are aware of opportunities offered by research higher degree study and encouraged to consider research careers

Efforts have also been made through NIRAKN Nodes to recruit Indigenous research postgraduates from the broader community through professional and disciplinary networks. The Law node hosted a special session on postgraduate study at the World Indigenous Legal Conference in Brisbane in June.

Once enrolled in a Research Higher Degree program, all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are eligible to join our NIRAKN Postgraduate Network. While the network is not funded for the inclusion of postgraduate students from institutions not participating in NIRAKN, we are committed to building a sustainable pipeline of researchers and ensuring Indigenous postgraduates are supported and included in network research and capacity building. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander RHD students are offered the opportunity to join NIRAKN's Indigenous postgrads group and participate in network activities and events. Management Committee's strategic decision to hold advanced workshops nationally as a week block program has enabled us to support the participation of additional Indigenous postgraduates. NIRAKN Postgrads have reported that the support, mentoring and development offered through the network has been energising and enabling.

Participation by the Director and other network participants in NATSIHEC (National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Consortium) has also contributed to more effective sector wide promotion of our activities and of opportunities in postgraduate research.

All NIRAKN programs involve significant role modelling and mentoring in addition to collaborative research opportunities and formal skill development and capacity building. NIRAKN's modelling of pathways to successful research careers is likely to be an important outcome of network activities.

● **International, national and regional links and networks**

Significant efforts have again been made to foster international, national and regionally important partnerships, in order to continue to extend and multiply the benefits of NIRAKN's role as a crucial centre of Australian Indigenous research expertise, knowledge and innovation.

National and Regional Role

NIRAKN, particularly through the leadership of the Director Professor Moreton-Robinson, undertakes an increasingly important advocacy role in the tertiary sector. NIRAKN has sought to raise the profile of Indigenous research and provide advice to government and others regarding the research environment and academic terrain facing Indigenous scholars. The network is actively engaged in bringing about change in the culture of Australian higher education institutions.

A number of institutions have approached the Director for advice about establishing Indigenous research initiatives and research capacity building programs. Professor Moreton-Robinson was engaged to speak at RMIT's Global Cities Research Institute (GCRI) one-day workshop exploring how RMIT University can build on the recent research successes of their Global Indigeneity and Reconciliation Program and ensure Indigenous research becomes a strategic priority. Professor Moreton-Robinson presented a keynote address on 'Research capacity building: embedding an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Strategy within universities'. Associate Professor Troy undertook a related consultancy for RMIT to advise the University in the development of their Indigenous research capacity building strategy.

Professor Moreton-Robinson addressed the ARC's NAIDOC (National Aboriginal and Islander Day of Commemoration) week event in May 2014. She was asked to address the ARC leadership and staff on the background to NIRAKN and role of the ARC in supporting her research career. ARC Executive Director Professor Marian Simms addressed a NIRAKN Management Committee meeting in July on 'An ARC perspective on Special Research Initiative establishment and best practice activities.' These efforts to encourage dialogue and connections between leading Indigenous researchers and the body charged with delivering 'policy and programs that advance Australian research and innovation globally and benefit the community' are important steps in building and embedding a nationally and internationally respected Indigenous research presence in Australia.

NIRAKN supported the 'Courting Blakness: Recalibrating Knowledge in the Sandstone University' Symposium held at the University of Queensland alongside a significant Indigenous art installation in the University's Great Court. Law Node Leader Professor Larissa Behrendt delivered the keynote address and NIRAKN provided assistance in funding the Symposium. Other NIRAKN members including Professor Bronwyn Fredericks and Natalie Harkin addressed the symposium. This unique inter-disciplinary event brought together artists, curators and academics from across Australia. Open to the public and free of charge, the event raised a range of important questions about the relationship between Indigenous people and Universities, reflected on the role of art, and emphasised the value of Indigenous knowledge in the academy.



Professor Behrendt's highly acclaimed documentary film *Innocence Betrayed* released in 2014 brought the Bowraville murders to nationwide attention and resulted in a NSW Parliamentary Inquiry. The documentary was written, directed and narrated by Professor Behrendt, drawing on her extensive legal scholarship and her experience as a lawyer working on the case involving the murder of three Aboriginal children in the small NSW town of Bowraville. The documentary was filmed with extensive collaboration with the families concerned and explores their parents' subsequent 23 year fight for justice and their encounters with police and the legal system. The film was a Walkley Award finalist, shortlisted for a Human Rights Award by the Australian Human Rights Commission, and screened nationwide on National Indigenous Television. It led to a NSW Parliamentary Inquiry which subsequently recommended legislative changes so that a person may be re-tried for the murders.

NIRAKN members have ensured that the benefits of the network and our associated research activities extend throughout the Australian community through participating in Government and Community groups at a national and international level.

NIRAKN members continued to be involved in AIATSIS (Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies), which is a participating organisation within NIRAKN. Professor John Maynard is AIATSIS' Deputy Chairperson, and many network participants are AIATSIS members. Dr McMillan was one of the collaborating authors along with ACIL Allen and Professor Mark Rose on the 'Independent Review of the Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies' submitted in May 2014.

Several members of NIRAKN have continued to serve on the executive of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Consortium (NATSIEHC), with Professor Anita Lee Hong serving as Deputy Chair and NIRAKN Director Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson serving as an Executive Member. Professor Lee Hong represented NATSIEHC at the Eleventh Session of the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WIN-HC) and the Eleventh Session of the World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education (WIPCE) in May 2014. Professor Peter Buckskin, Dean of Indigenous Scholarship, Engagement and Research, Chancellery, University of South Australia is Chair of NATSIEHC and a member of the NIRAKN Advisory Committee. NATSIEHC strongly support NIRAKN and see the network as a key vehicle for culturally appropriate research.

NIRAKN members have also participated in leadership roles in the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples (Congress), with Dr Mark McMillan serving as a Member of the Board of Directors and a Chamber 3 Delegate and Professor Anita Lee Hong serving as a Chamber 1 Delegate.

Dr McMillan assisted the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda in securing Indigenous Nation Building as a priority of his remaining time in the office. Dr McMillan assisted the Commissioner with drafting the specific Indigenous Nation Building chapter of his 2014 Social Justice and Native Title Report. Dr McMillan gave a speech on Indigenous Nation Building at the launch of the Social Justice and Native Title Report in 2014. The report was tabled before the Commonwealth Parliament in December 2014.

NIRAKN members again lent their expertise to FaHCSIA's Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children (LSIC). Associate Professor Karen Martin served as Deputy Chair of the LSIC Steering Committee. Professor Maggie Walter was a member of the LSIC Steering Committee and the LSIC representative for FaHCSIA's Longitudinal Studies Advisory Group.

Other examples of NIRAKN members' participation in community and government bodies include:

- Professor Steve Larkin is a Board Member of the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education, a Board Member of NIRAKN's partner organisation the Healing Foundation, a member of the Board of Directors for beyond blue, and a member of National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Advisory Council
- Professor John Maynard is a member of the Defining Australia's History Moments Specialist Advisory Committee and the Commonwealth ANZAC Centenary Military and Cultural Advisory Committee (History). In 2014, Professor Maynard was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences Australia.

- Law Node member Marcelle Burns played a central role in organising the 2nd World Indigenous Legal Conference held in Brisbane in 2014. WILC was significant in bringing together Indigenous legal professionals and scholars from around the world and informed the Law node's successful application to the Office for Learning and Teaching grant. Law Node Leader Dr Asmi Wood also was a presenter at the World Indigenous Legal Conference and led the bid to host the National Indigenous Legal Conference in Canberra in 2015.
- Yuraki node members Dr Shino Konishi and Stephen Kinnane have been appointed to the Board of the Australian Dictionary of Biography
- Professor Rowena Ball visited two remote Indigenous schools, Normanton State School and Gulf Christian College, as part of the CSIRO's Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools program. This national program creates and supports long-term partnerships between primary or secondary school teachers and scientists or mathematicians

International Networks

NIRAKN's activities encouraged Indigenous researchers to extend and strengthen international links and networks. The network's Capacity Building program fosters scholars' engagement with an Indigenous theorists and scholars from around the world. In 2014, network members participated in a number of international research activities and organisations.

NAISA

In 2014, Professor Moreton-Robinson continued her service as an elected member of the Native



American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) Council. Professor Moreton-Robinson (*with NAISA President Professor Chadwick Allen, left*) has promoted NIRAKN and network activities internationally through her leadership in NAISA.

NIRAKN was strongly represented at the June 2014 NAISA Conference in Austin, Texas. Professor Moreton-Robinson (QUT), Associate Professor Barry Judd (RMIT), Professor Maggie

Walter (UTAS), and Dr Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews (Macquarie) participated in discussion panels or delivered papers, whilst Clair Anderson (UTAS), Dr Alissa Macoun (QUT) and Dr David Singh (QUT) chaired panels.

Adam Robinson (QUT) promoted NIRAKN and NIRAKN research to conference participants. The NIRAKN exhibition booth proved popular with conference participants, especially current and aspiring postgraduate students interested in the NIRAKN International Indigenous postgraduate scholarship offered at QUT and publishing opportunities with the NIRAKN sponsored International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies. QUT subsequently awarded a NIRAKN PhD scholarship to a Métis scholar from British Columbia, Canada to study in Australia.



During NAISA Conference, NIRAKN co-hosted a lunch with the Edward A. Clark Centre for Australian & New Zealand Studies at the University of Texas at Austin to foster possible future collaborations. Attended by NAISA President Chad Allen as well as a number of NIRAKN members including ISK Node Leader Pro Vice-Chancellor Steve Larkin, the lunch gave researchers from Australia, the United States of America and New Zealand the opportunity to discuss research interests. The lunch was addressed by Professor Moreton-Robinson and Clark Centre Director Dr Rhonda Evans, and researchers were given information about publication, scholarship, and funding opportunities.



NIRAKN members and postgraduates have been encouraged to consider publishing their work in the *Native American and Indigenous Studies* journal. Node Leader Professor Maggie Walter is a member of the journal's International Advisory Board.

NIRAKN will co-host the 2016 Annual NAISA Conference in Honolulu with a team including RMIT and led by the University of Hawaii. Work is underway ensuring arrangements for the program in Honolulu will include a significant engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers. This is the first time that Australian researchers have been involved in hosting NAISA.

Other international research relationships

The international impact of NIRAKN's activities is becoming increasingly evident.

NIRAKN was invited to be a partner organisation on two internationally based research applications for Centres of Indigenous Research Excellence, one in Canada (University of Alberta) and the other in New Zealand (University of Waikato).

Professor Moreton-Robinson has been invited to provide comment on the University of Alberta's application to secure funding under the QEII Diamond Jubilee Scholarship for Indigenous Studies graduate students to study abroad, and on proposals to establish a PhD Program in Indigenous Studies in the Faculty of Native Studies. NIRAKN participated as an international partner in a bid compiled by the University of Waikato and Waikato-Tainui Research and Development College to host a National Māori Centre of Research Excellence, Te Kāpuia. While the funding application was ultimately not successful, a new Pacific Partnerships Alliance has been formed in order to discuss issues of concern to Indigenous researchers across Australia and Aotearoa/New Zealand.

In order to facilitate the internationalisation of members' research engagements, Management Committee has made funding originally designated to support Node Leaders' international travel available to all Network Participants through an International Travel Bursary scheme. An application form and criteria have been distributed to members and are available on the NIRAKN website, and it is anticipated that this scheme will support the development of additional international research relationships throughout the network.

NIRAKN Members conducted a number of international visits in order to extend their research and establish international research relationships.

NIRAKN Director Professor Moreton-Robinson was invited to give a number of important international keynote addresses and public lectures in 2014, and throughout these addresses promoted NIRAKN and Indigenous research. In June, she presented at the 'Paradigm Busting, Paradigm Building: Indigenous Social Science in the 21st Century' Symposium at the American University of Paris, alongside leading indigenous scholars from around the world. Professor Moreton-Robinson gave a public lecture entitled 'Indigenous Studies in the First World: Contested Territory, Cultural Entrapment and Race in the 21st Century' in London hosted by the Birkbeck Race Forum and the Centre for Feminist Research at Goldsmiths. She also gave a public lecture on 'The Possessive Logics of a White Colonising Aesthetic: Representations of Indigenous Children in the Work of Brownie Downing' at the University of Leeds. Professor Moreton-Robinson participated in two events at the University of Leeds' White Spaces Network alongside Professor Chris Andersen, the Director of the Rupertsland Centre for Métis Research in the Faculty of Native Studies, University of Alberta, NIRAKN Research Fellow Dr Alissa Macoun and ISRN Research Fellow Dr David Singh, chairing a Roundtable on Indigeneity, Whiteness and Race, followed by a postgraduate masterclass.

In October 2014, Professor Moreton-Robinson was invited to present as part of a plenary panel on 'Global Engagements with Whiteness as property' at the Critical Race Studies 7th Annual symposium, UCLA. This was an historical event showcasing the impact of Professor Cheryl Harris's seminal work published in the Harvard Law Review twenty years ago. Fellow invited panel members included Professor Albie Sachs, Visiting Professor of Law and Gruber Global Constitutionalism Fellow, Yale Law School, Professor Tanya Hernandez, Fordham University School of Law and Professor George Bisharat, UCLA Hastings College of Law.

Professor Moreton-Robinson and Research Fellows Dr Macoun and Dr Singh met with Dr. Malia Villegas, Director of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Policy Research Center and Sarah Cline Pytalski, NCAI Policy Research & Evaluation Manager, in Washington DC in June to discuss future opportunities for exchange and collaboration between the NCAI and Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander scholars with an interest in applied policy research. While in the United States, Professor Moreton Robinson and Dr Singh met with Professor Josh DeWind, Director of the Migration Program and the Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship (DPDF) Programs at the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) to discuss possibilities for future research development in Indigenous human rights. Professor Moreton-Robinson and Dr Singh also met with Professor Sigmund Grønmo, former Rector of the University of Bergen in Norway and Adjunct Professor at Sami University College, to discuss issues in Indigenous higher education internationally while Professor Grønmo was in Australia in October.

NIRAKN members from the Health and Yuraki nodes played a key role at the International Network of Indigenous Health Knowledge and Development (INIHKD) Conference held on 5-10 October in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Yuraki Node Leader Associate Professor Jaky Troy was invited to make a keynote presentation on the link between language revitalisation and better health outcomes. NIRAKN members Dr Odette Best, Dr Mick Adams, Prof Bronwyn Fredericks and Marlene Thompson (Longbottom) gave presentations on their work. Dr Adams advocated on behalf of Indigenous Australian health researchers at the Indigenous Health Research Funding session which had representatives from the NHMRC, New Zealand Health Research Council, Canadian Institute of Health Research and the National Institute of Health (USA) As a member of the Conference planning committee, Dr Adams played a key role in the Conference and led the Australian delegation.

Yuraki node members also made a number of international visits to pursue research interests and forge international research relationships. Professor John Maynard visited Brazil's Sports History Center at the



Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro in June 2014. Professor Kim Scott was a panellist in the 'Voices from Australia' panel and the 'Round Table: Kim Scott, Gail Jones, Tom Wharton, Priya Sarukkai Chabria, Hiromi Goto, Helga Ramsey-Kurtz.' at the European Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies Triennial Conference: 'Uncommon Wealth: Riches and Realities, at Innsbruck in April 2014. Associate Professor Kathy Butler was the Toi huarewa Visiting Indigenous Fellow at the Victoria University of Wellington in Aotearoa New Zealand in September-October 2014. Natalie Harkin presented a Masterclass 'Poetry Workshop: Writing Into Invisible Spaces' and readings as part of the Arc Poetry Magazine/Tree Reading Series at the International Writers Festival in Ottawa, Canada.

In July 2014, Law Node Leader Dr Mark McMillan presented a paper co-authored with Dr Terri Libesman regarding Indigenous children, violence and the rule of law at the *International Colloquium: Epistemologies of the South: South-South, South-North, North-South global learning* at The Centre for Social Studies (CES) in the School of Economics at the University of Coimbra, Portugal.

NIRAKN members also hosted International visitors.

Members of the ISK node hosted a number of International visitors in 2014. A/Prof ku'ualoha ho'omanawanui, from the University of Hawaii was at Warawara Department of Indigenous Studies, Macquarie University on 16th October 2014. Professor Jeff Berglund, of Northern Arizona University, visited the University of Tasmania in August where he gave a seminar, as outlined above. UTAS also hosted Dr Tahu Kukutai from the National Institute of Demographic and Economic Analysis, Waikato University in October.

Sir Tipene O'Regan, retired Assistant Vice-Chancellor Māori of the University of Canterbury and former long-serving Chairman of the Ngāi Tahu Māori Trust Board, Adjunct Professor in the Ngāi Tahu Research Centre at the University of Canterbury and a Fellow of the University of Auckland where he chairs Ngā Pae o Te Maramatanga, the Centre for Māori Research Excellence, visited Charles Darwin University in August 2014. He gave the 2014 Vincent Lingiari Lecture, entitled 'The economics of Indigenous Survival.'

The Yuraki Node again hosted Professor Scott Manning Stevens from the D'Arcy McNickle Centre for American Indian and Indigenous Studies at the Newberry Library, Chicago at the University of Newcastle and at AIATSIS in June 2014. Yuraki was also pleased to host Professor Chris Mullaard at the University of Newcastle for a number of events in September as outlined above. Formerly Professor of Education and Ethnic Studies at the University of Amsterdam as well as Visiting Professor at the University of London, Chris is also Chair of the Bernie Grant Trust, former Chair of London Notting Hill Carnival Ltd, Governor and Visiting Professor of the Royal Agricultural College (Cirencester), Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Wiltshire, and the Chairman and CEO of Focus Consultancy.

Dr Miriam Jorgensen, the Research Director for the Native Nations Institute at the University of Arizona and its sister program, the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development, visited the Australian National University, University of Melbourne, and Charles Sturt University in connection with the Law Node's Indigenous Nation Building workshops and teaching.

- **Community Engagement and Outreach**

NIRAKN's community engagement and outreach ensured traditional media and community engagement was complemented and supported by our online and social media presence. Node Leaders and network participants continued to promote NIRAKN throughout their professional activities.

Community engagement

NIRAKN has worked to engage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in network activities. In 2014, we circulated two editions of the NIRAKN Newsletter to our extensive 'Friends of NIRAKN' email list through which we share relevant news with interested researchers, community members and organisations. Copies of the newsletters are available from www.nirakn.edu.au

This is in addition to our other regular contact with NIRAKN members and friends through our weekly NIRAKN Supernews 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. Our dedicated NIRAKN postgraduate email list also distributed information specifically relevant to Indigenous RHD students.

Partner organisations are encouraged to allow a number of their staff to participate in Capacity Building activities and some partner organisation representatives have participated in Node meetings to discuss research and other projects. 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.

In addition, NIRAKN members hosted professional workshops aimed at community members. Professor Kathie Clapham hosted a community forum for Aboriginal community leaders entitled 'Can research improve the social health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people in the Illawarra?' on 9th December as part of the Indigenous Multi-Disciplinary Health Research Coalition Global Challenge Project at the Australian Health Services Research Institute, University of Wollongong.

Dr Mark McMillan gave a presentation to the National Native Title Tribunal, Sydney, in December 2014 on NIRAKN related research into Indigenous Nation Building in Australia. Dr McMillan also was a co-presenter and speaker with Alison Vivian, Damein Bell, Tim Hartman, Miriam Jorgensen, Daryle Rigney at a Salon for the Australian Fulbright Alumni Association (Victoria) called 'A Re-imagined Future: Indigenous Nations within the Nation State' in Melbourne in November.

The network was promoted in the tertiary sector through a number of public talks by network members and staff.

Professor Bronwyn Fredericks gave a presentation authored by herself and Professor Moreton-Robinson on Indigenous Research Capacity Building to *The Annual 12th Higher Education Summit*, held on 20-21 May 2014 at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, Adelaide, South Australia. See: <http://www.slideshare.net/informaaz/bronwyn-fredericks>.

NIRAKN Research Fellow Dr Macoun and ISRN Research Fellow Dr Singh gave a presentation about the work of NIRAKN to QUT's Higher Education Research Network (HERN) Executive meeting.

Website and Social Media

NIRAKN's website (www.nirakn.edu.au) continued to evolve, following significant upgrades in December 2013 and January 2014. The site's main task is to provide NIRAKN members, Indigenous postgraduates and members of the community with information about the Indigenous research environment, including the goals, activities and achievements of the network and our participants. It also provides a virtual archive of network events, newsletters and reports. The website has generated significant interest given our small field of study.



Information about network participants, activities and governance arrangements is available on the site, which operates as a central point for the dissemination of information about Network events. The site brings together important information and resources for Indigenous researchers and also operates as a portal for information about Indigenous scholars' research interests and achievements. There is a publically available NIRAKN News blog, as well as members' resources and node discussion forums. The website is intended to encourage and inspire Indigenous researchers at all points in their research journeys, provide avenues for interested researchers to get involved in NIRAKN and magnify the impact of our research and capacity building activities.

Overall, the NIRAKN website experienced growth in user access over the calendar year of 2014. While we do not have data available for the previous calendar year prior to the site upgrade in December 2013, access figures reflect steady growth. NIRAKN Hub benchmarks the performance of the site against industry averages for sites with similar content across the globe (capacity building, research, Indigenous, tertiary education).

Between 1 January – 31st December 2014, the NIRAKN website recorded 7,633 visits (6,366 from Australia), generating a total of 22,471 page views. Of these visitors to the site, 55% were new users accessing the site from Australia.

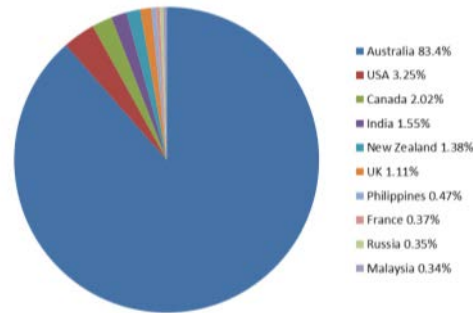


The top 10 countries generating visitors to the site are the following:

- Australia (83.4%)
- USA (3.25%)

Top 10 Global Visitors To NIRAKN Website

- Canada (2.02%)
- India (1.55%)
- New Zealand (1.38%)
- UK (1.11%)
- Philippines (0.47%)
- France (0.37%)
- Russia (0.35%)
- Malaysia (0.34%)



We are pleased with the attention generated by the site since the latest redesign and are confident this will continue to grow. The website is found at www.nirakn.edu.au

NIRAKN's Facebook page (National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network – Nirakn) and Twitter account (@The_NIRAKN) continue to maintain modest but growing groups of followers. Both accounts are regularly updated, and disseminate information about network activities as well as other significant opportunities for Indigenous researchers.

Traditional media

Research supported by NIRAKN achieved a growing media profile in 2014, and NIRAKN Researchers have actively promoted their work in local, regional, national and international media.

The launch of the Health Node's book, Yatduligin, attracted national media attention and gave the Node's activities a national media profile. Dr Best and Professor Fredericks were interviewed about the research that led to the book by Fran Kelly on ABC Radio National during Primetime in November. The book was also profiled in stories on ABC regional media outlets and in a piece by Dr Best and Professor Fredericks on the Croakey (Crikey Health) blog called 'It's our time to talk now: Indigenous Voices Within Nursing.'

Dr Linda Ford received funding from NIRAKN's Internal Research Grants scheme for a project to develop a Marrithiyel language smartphone application. The project was profiled by SBS News: <http://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/2014/10/27/app-helps-preserve-endangered-indigenous-language>.

Associate Professor Rowena Ball's research relating to the RNA replication and hydrogen peroxide achieved a national and specialist media profile, sparking pieces in outlets ranging from The Sydney Morning Herald, ABC Science, and the Canberra Times, to Australasian Science, the Conversation, the Royal Society of London, to the Australian Science Media Centre. Professor Bronwyn Fredericks shared Associate Professor Ball's commitment to engaging with the community through a range of media sources, with her work and commentary appearing in outlets ranging from the National Indigenous Times, MiningConnection.com, BMAG, The Morning Bulletin, and ABC Wide Bay.

Professor Larissa Behrendt continues to write regularly for The Guardian Australia on current legal and political issues affecting Indigenous people (<http://www.theguardian.com/profile/larissa-behrendt>). Dr Roxanne Bainbridge also spoke with ABC Radio National in September regarding her research into Indigenous youth suicide and mental health.

- **Governance**

NIRAKN is an administratively complex organisation, and governance arrangements are designed to ensure effective administrative policies and procedures coordinate the network's activities and ensure our continued success into the future.

NIRAKN Hub and Nodes

NIRAKN's Network Hub, through the Director, has overall responsibility for the coordination and delivery of NIRAKN's program and for the network's operational and governance requirements.

The Hub is led by Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson and based at the Indigenous Studies Research Network (ISRN) at QUT. NIRAKN is staffed by NIRAKN Research Fellow Dr Alissa Macoun, and an Administrative Assistant position occupied in 2014 by Lisa Binge (who has subsequently moved into another role). ISRN staff provide additional administrative and secretariat support to NIRAKN on a full time basis, and include Network Convenor Adam Robinson, ISRN Research Fellow Dr David Singh, and a Finance Officer (a position filled in 2014 by Linda van Rensberg and Cameron Woodhouse). The Hub experienced staff turnover, which placed a workload burden on other staff and resources. QUT again provided strong institutional support for NIRAKN in 2014, allocating significant ISRN staff time along with an additional \$50,000 per annum above that committed in the funding agreement to facilitate the network's extensive administrative and governance requirements.

The Hub coordinates NIRAKN's operations, oversees governance requirements including committee meetings, delivers the network's major research and capacity building events as well as communications and marketing. In addition to the extensive administrative and other work required to deliver the network's national program and events, the Hub in 2014 continued to develop and implement governance arrangements and associated procedures to support network operations. Node Leaders were assisted to review their node Statements of Work in order to ensure these were maintained and delivered, and the Hub provided templates and guidance to Node Leaders regarding both ongoing and Annual Reporting requirements. The Hub coordinated a rolling Indigenous Researcher Affiliate membership application process, NIRAKN bursaries for International travel, and coordinated three funding rounds of NIRAKN Internal Research Grants.

NIRAKN's four nodes are responsible for developing and conducting research, delivering research capacity building workshops as well as providing professional advice and support to NIRAKN institutional commitments, and a restructure of the Indigenous Sociology and Knowledges Node to members. Node membership is fluid and NIRAKN members can choose to participate in the activities of multiple nodes.

All nodes met regularly during 2014, holding at least two face-to-face meetings and delivering programs of meetings and activities appropriate to their membership and focus. There will be changes to the composition of some Node Leadership teams in 2015 due to changing academic responsibilities and the network's efforts to formally incorporate research in Sciences and Technology (see section 5, Challenges and Mitigation strategies for more detail).

Each node is led by prominent Indigenous scholars and brings together network members in an area of pressing research need. In 2014, Nodes and Node Leaders were:



Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Node, led by

Professor Bronwyn Fredericks, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement) and BMA Chair in Indigenous Engagement, Central Queensland University



Professor Kathleen Clapham, Professor (Indigenous Health), Australian Health Services Research Institute (AHSRI), University of Wollongong



Professor Pat Dudgeon, School of Indigenous Studies, University of Western Australia (resigned from Node Leadership end 2014)

Indigenous Law Node, led by

Professor Larissa Behrendt, Professor of Law and Director of Research, Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning at the University of Technology, Sydney

Dr Mark McMillan, Senior Lecturer, Melbourne Law School, University of Melbourne

Dr Asmi Wood, Senior Lecturer, ANU College of Law, Australian National University



Indigenous Sociology and Knowledges Node, led by

Professor Steve Larkin, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Leadership), Charles Darwin University



Professor Maggie Walter, Pro Vice-Chancellor Aboriginal Research and Leadership, University of Tasmania

Yuraki – History, Politics and Culture Node, led by

Professor John Maynard, Professor Umuliko Indigenous Higher Education Research Centre, The Wollotuka Institute, University of Newcastle

Associate Professor Jakelin Troy,

Director of Research (Indigenous Social and Cultural Wellbeing), AIATSIS

Associate Professor Kathleen Butler, The Wollotuka Institute, University of Newcastle was appointed as an additional Node Leader in 2014.



The Director and Management Committee also took the opportunity to convene a meeting of all NIRAKN members (Chief Investigators on the ARC's Special Research Initiative for An Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researchers Network) in Adelaide in December. This NIRAKN National Members' meeting included face-to-face meetings of all nodes, as well as network wide discussions about the progress of network research and capacity building programs, plans for future events and activities, funding available to members through NIRAKN, and the status of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies as a field of scholarship.

Governance Committees

The Director and Node Leaders are also involved in network governance through their positions on the *NIRAKN Management Committee* which also includes representatives from each of NIRAKN's five partner organisations.

NIRAKN's Partner Organisations are:

- United Nations University-Institute of Advanced Studies, represented on Management Committee by Sam Johnston
- Ninti-One Limited, represented on Management Committee by Dr Kevin Williams
- Waminda South Coast Women's Health and Welfare Aboriginal Corporation represented on Management Committee by Marlene Thompson
- National Congress of Australia's First Peoples represented on Management Committee by Scott Avery until June 2014
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation initially represented on Management Committee by Dr Jeff Hudson until February 2014

Management Committee met four times during 2014 to address the extensive governance requirements of a complex network. The Committee met in person in February, July, September and December, with meetings often occurring alongside other important NIRAKN events in the interests of administrative efficiency and maximising attendance. Management Committee also addressed urgent matters by email based flying minute as required.

The *NIRAKN Advisory Committee* provides the Director and Management Committee with strategic advice about the operation of the network and priorities for research. The Advisory Committee met in March in Melbourne, and gave strategic advice to the Director regarding governance matters and the focus of the network's research program.

In 2014, the Advisory Committee consisted of:

Ms Angela Leitch (Chair of Advisory Committee – *pictured right*)
Director - Indigenous Policy, Department of Education,
Training and Employment, Queensland Government

Aunty Valda Coolwell
esteemed Community Elder (*pictured right*)



Aunty Joy Murphy-Wandin
esteemed Community Elder

Ms Kirstie Parker
Co-Chair of National Congress of Australia's First Peoples

Ms Henrietta Fourmile Marrie
North Australian Program Officer, The Christensen Fund

Mr Russell Taylor
Principal (Chief Executive Officer), AIATSIS

Professor Peter Buckskin
Chair - National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Consortium (NATSIHEC) and Dean of Indigenous Scholarship, Engagement and Research, UniSA

Ms Yvette Roe
Doctor of Philosophy Candidate, University of South Australia

Associate Professor Terry Dunbar
Australian Centre for Indigenous Knowledge and Education, Charles Darwin University

Ms Samantha Faulkner
Director, Indigenous Health Unit, National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)



Message from the Chair of NIRAKN's Advisory Committee

This year NIRAKN continued to promote and further legitimise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 'ways of knowing' in the academy. In doing so it further challenged the dominant cultural system, demonstrating that the research needs of Indigenous people cannot always be met through the lenses of western researchers. The network's capacity building and focused research in 2014 continues to give me high hopes for well-trained Indigenous academics who will undertake research that is both grounded in Indigenous epistemologies and constructed with effective methodologies.

In 2014 there were three key areas I feel the need to highlight and on which I congratulate the NIRAKN Director, node leaders and members. Firstly, the majority of successful Discovery Indigenous grants awarded by the ARC were secured by research teams with at least one NIRAKN researcher; secondly, the large number of capacity building events held throughout the year; thirdly, the continued focus on research by and for Indigenous people undertaken by individuals and collective members. I look forward to reading the research and seeing the positive impacts that come from having highly trained Indigenous researchers within the academy.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the support of the ARC to the development of NIRAKN and thank them for funding such an important network. Seeing the achievements of NIRAKN over the past two years in the number of grants, publications and networks, I feel very positive and excited for the year ahead.

Angela Leitch - Chair

Research Affiliates

Funding has been provided for NIRAKN by the ARC to support a specified range of activities and network participants. The Director and Management Committee are keen for NIRAKN to be inclusive and so a category of Affiliate Membership of NIRAKN was created in order to include Indigenous researchers who were not part of the initial funding application in network activities where possible.

In late 2013, Management Committee endorsed criteria and an application process developed by the Hub which was circulated through NATSIHEC and other research networks. It was determined that NIRAKN Research Affiliates will be able to

- access and contribute to information and advice circulated by and within the Network
- access and contribute to members' sections of the website and other virtual network activities
- participate in and contribute to the research and activities of Research nodes according to the protocols established by each node where this is manageable and feasible.
- participate in and contribute to Capacity Building workshops and other functions hosted by partner Universities that do not generate a cost to the network

Research Affiliates may also be able to participate and contribute to activities that generate a cost to NIRAKN (such as Capacity building programs hosted by the network hub, conferences, etc.) if it is possible for them to offset costs to the network of this participation. Management Committee has noted that they may change the entitlements of Affiliate membership as the Network develops.

Applications for Affiliate Membership began to be received late in 2013, and since then a number of researchers have admitted to the network as Research Affiliates. Three affiliates were approved by Management Committee in February, four in July, five in September, and two in December. Their names and affiliations are listed below in Section 8, underneath those of our Network Participants.

5. Challenges and mitigation strategies

The network has been extremely successful to date. We continue to encounter and address challenges as we work towards fulfilling network goals. In 2014, some of these challenges have included:

1. While we have worked successfully with some of our community partner organisations, our collaborations with partners have not yet demonstrated their research and other potential. Administrative and funding changes facing the Indigenous sector have resulted in significant staffing changes and other challenges as organisations adjust to changing government priorities and funding structures. This has meant that National Congress and the Healing Foundation were unrepresented on Management Committee for some time during 2014 as their original representatives have now left their organisations. Our partner organisations are in the process of refining their focus and adjusting to changes in the sector. Some important NIRAKN activities, such as Research Residencies, are yet to be successfully developed. While community researchers and partner organisation staff attended some NIRAKN workshops, we have not found a significant demand from partners or researchers for an extensive series of community workshops or a program of research residencies at this stage (partly as there is

limited funding for these activities). The need to more strategically engage with our partner organisations is a challenge that will continue to be addressed as the network develops.

2. The implementation of the ISK node's major research project regarding Indigenous women's labour market engagement has not progressed. Management Committee and QUT are in discussions with University of Tasmania with view to ensuring the completion of this research. A request was submitted to the Management Committee by UTAS for approval to seek a variation from the ARC removing the node's major research project and replacing it with a number of smaller projects. Management Committee declined to approve this request and have requested that QUT as the administering organisation hold UTAS and other collaborating institutions to their commitments. Management Committee has identified a number of governance issues arising. This matter is being addressed with parties by QUT. QUT's Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Commercialisation) has met with the CEO of the ARC to ensure the ARC has been kept abreast of these issues.
3. The institutional complexity of the Indigenous Higher Education sector has represented a challenge in the administration of NIRAKN. As a research network of Indigenous scholars, members work in a variety of institutional and disciplinary locations. We find ourselves required to articulate and define frameworks for Indigenous studies as a field of inquiry in order to sustain collaborations across disciplines and institutions. The interdisciplinary nature of the network has been both a challenge to be navigated and a significant strength of our program. Similarly, the significant demand from universities for suitably qualified Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff alongside the relatively small cohort of Indigenous PhD graduates means that while our members may often be part of a small number of Indigenous researchers at their institution, their talents are highly sought after by other institutions and across the sector. This, again, has been an opportunity that has also represented a challenge. Members, particularly Node Leaders, navigate regular changes in their research commitments, governance responsibilities, and other matters relating to their institutional location which affect their participation in NIRAKN. We have fortunately been able to resolve these matters with flexibility from all parties and the assistance of the ARC. The addition of Associate Professor Butler as a Yuraki Node Leader in 2014 has assisted with the effective governance of the node as Professor Maynard resumed his role as Director of Research at Newcastle upon the completion of his ARC fellowship. Professor Dudgeon has had to resign as a Node Leader, as her significant success in attracting research funding has inhibited her ability to undertake a governance role in NIRAKN into the future. She will continue to contribute to the network as a Network Participant, and it is hoped that her replacement as an IHWB Node Leader and UWA Representative on the Management Committee will be appointed early in 2015. While we do not anticipate a problem in this instance, replacing Node Leaders is a challenging process as we seek to ensure that collaborating institutions contributing to NIRAKN are represented on the Management Committee without compromising on the disciplinary base and standing required to act as a Node Leader.
4. Management Committee noted that the requirement for NIRAKN to host events charged with recruiting undergraduate students to postgraduate research was difficult to fulfil. There is limited NIRAKN funding provided for these activities. Most NIRAKN members are not located

in Indigenous Student Support roles or in teaching roles with high levels of contact with Indigenous students. The Postgraduate Expo Recruitment Strategy, which was an attempt to decentralise our recruiting efforts, was not enthusiastically adopted outside QUT. Centralised strategies have not been particularly effective due to high levels of competition among Universities for Indigenous postgraduates and the time commitment that attending a recruitment event interstate requires of Indigenous undergraduates who are the target audience. A national postgraduate recruiting event hosted by the Hub was organised in 2014, but was cancelled due to a lack of attendees. In light of the above and at the request of Management Committee, QUT successfully sought a variation from the ARC in order to have the specific requirement to host recruitment events removed from the Network's performance indicators in future years. Ultimately, we believe that the success of the network in capacity building and collaborative research will raise the profile of Indigenous research among community researchers, undergraduate students and postgraduate researchers and, in so doing, support and sustain recruitment efforts.

5. Resourcing the administration and coordination of this large and active network continues to be a challenge. As noted in last year's report, developing policy and procedures, overseeing governance, managing network communications, and coordinating programs, research projects and events for Indigenous researchers across institutional and disciplinary boundaries is time, staff and resource intensive. QUT has provided strong institutional support for NIRAKN, allocating staff and resources from the Indigenous Studies Research Network, along with an additional \$50 000 per annum above that committed in the funding agreement to facilitate NIRAKN's administrative and governance requirements. However, the time devoted to NIRAKN has impacted on the Director's research leadership at QUT and the Hub's research outputs. After the Director's discussion with the SDVC Academic and DVC Research at QUT, an agreement was reached to fund an Associate Professor position to assist the Director with her dual roles as head of the Indigenous Studies Research Network and NIRAKN.
6. After reviewing the network's performance against performance targets in 2013, it was noted that some minor targets required adjustment. The Commonwealth's Response to the 2013 Annual Report noted that the network had made impressive achievements against an overly modest publication target of 5 publications. The Management Committee also deemed the numbers of international visitors to be hosted annually by the network (25) to have proven unrealistic. The Management Committee requested QUT seek a variation from the ARC in order to adjust these network performance targets in the targeted numbers of public, and the ARC subsequently approved this request.
7. NIRAKN's 2013 Annual Report noted challenges fostering and supporting research in science and technology driven by Indigenous knowledges within network structures. The prospect of expanding NIRAKN activities to support science and technology research was considered by Management Committee in 2014. A number of measures were endorsed to address this neglected research area within the network structure, and approval was sought from the ARC for relevant matters. From 2015, Professor Peter Radoll has been appointed as a Node Leader to a reformulated Indigenous Sociology, Knowledges, Sciences and Technology node. Management Committee is committed to working with Professor Radoll and all ISKST Node

members to ensure network participants with expertise in relevant areas are supported to develop innovative and collaborative research projects. Management committee has allocated half the node's research budget to encourage NIRAKN research grant applications in the area.

6. Account of Performance against Performance targets

Capacity		
Performance Measure	Target for 2014	2014 Achievement
Establish Research Capacity Building Program based upon a Pathway Model from undergraduate to RHD to all levels of researcher career.	Number of 'A' 'B' and 'C' Level workshops	<i>A workshops:</i> 15 workshops aimed at commencing RHD students offered at the Hub and participating Universities around the country. <i>B & C workshops:</i> 9 unique workshops aimed at more advanced RHD students, early-career and mid-career researchers run nationally and intensively in Surfers Paradise in July
Build a Graduate to RHD Pipeline	Number of 2 week research placements for undergraduates with Network Participants; number of local research heroes virtually marketed on NIRAKN website & via the network; and the award of four NIRAKN prizes for best undergraduate essays.	9 undergraduate research placements hosted; 7 local research heroes virtually marketed via network in newsletter and via NIRAKN website; 4 NIRAKN undergraduate essay prizes awarded for best undergraduate essays..

Research Findings		
Performance Measure	2014 Target	2014 Achievement
Quality and quantity of publications including: number of peer reviewed journal articles; books (single authored and edited research collections); book chapters; conferences, symposia and seminars; and may include reports commissioned by State or Federal Government	50	95 scholarly publications (including reports commissioned by Government or other bodies) by network participants, one National NIRAKN symposium hosted, along with a program of seminars.
Invitations to attend and participate in major conferences	10	89 keynote, conference and public lecture presentations
Publish two editions of the International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies	2	1 edition published in May, December edition completed but not published until early 2015.

Research Training and professional development		
Performance Measure	2014 Target	2014 Achievement

Conduct Capacity Building workshops	10	24 workshops (A, B & C) hosted
Total Number of attendees at Capacity building workshops (best working enrolment number)	12-15 participants per workshop	Workshop attendance ranged from 5-40 participants. Larger attendances at the National Capacity Building workshop (B&C) program in July extend the upper range.
Conduct of Indigenous Research Methodologies Masterclass	2	1 IRMM conducted at QUT in April
Conduct Indigenous postgraduate recruitment and promotional activities	2	1; Other activities conducted on an ongoing basis but not specifically through events

International, national and regional links and networks		
Performance Measure	2014 Target	2014 Achievement
Conduct International visits	6	16 visits
Number of International visitors	10	8
Number of international Indigenous research relationships established	2	8
Participation in international Indigenous research activities		As detailed in report
Number of Network Participants (as defined by the scheme's Funding rules)	34	44
Number of collaborating and partner organisations (as defined by the scheme's Funding rules) participating in the network	27	27
Participation on national and international bodies for Government and Community groups as relevant		As detailed in report

Community Engagement and Outreach		
Performance Measure	2014 Target	2014 Achievement
Establish NIRAKN's virtual presence via interactive website and harness social media (eg, Facebook, twitter and Youtube.	Increased website traffic (1000 hits per month)	Annual website traffic of 22 471 page views (7,633 visits). Monthly website traffic range of between 224 visits in January to high of 888 visits in October; average monthly visits in 2014 was 636 per month.
Establish channels of communication of NIRAKN activities and outcomes to our	Newsletter twice yearly and annual report	Comprehensive newsletters published in July and December 2014; 2013 Annual Report published in March 2014

communities		
Encourage scholars and others with an interest in Indigenous Research to become affiliate members of the network	Increase in affiliate member applications	Criteria and process developed and circulated in 2013 were applied, with 14 Indigenous Researcher 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	A number of network member research residencies; number of professional workshops for community researchers and PHD students; a number of visiting fellow exchange programs; a number of critical reading groups,	Community researchers linked to partner organisations and all Indigenous PHD students provided with access to NIRAKN's extensive Capacity Building workshops program; in addition to 3 community workshops on research by network participants. 1 National Critical Reading group held in Brisbane in November, along with 1 ISK node Critical Reading Group.
Positive media articles generated by the network		As detailed in report
Public talks by network staff		As detailed in report

Governance		
Performance Measure	2014 Target	2014 Achievement
Frequency and effectiveness of Management Committee	2	4 meetings
Frequency and effectiveness of NIRAKN Advisory Board	1	1

7. Activities and Plans for 2015

NIRAKN is well placed to progress our objectives as a network in 2015, as a result of many of the activities and achievements outlined above. The major strategic emphasis of the network in the coming year will be developing our programs further, extending our impact in the Indigenous Higher Education sector, and capitalising on the research strengths that have emerged. We will continue to enhance the Capacity Building Program and develop our Collaborative Research agenda. Members will collaborate in order to begin the process of finalising node based major collaborative research projects. NIRAKN will also begin to see the results of the Internal Research Grant process, particularly the impact of this seed funding in sustaining and supporting network members' research agendas and supplementing the major collaborative research efforts undertaken by each node.

Major NIRAKN Activities planned for 2015			
Month	Activity	Result Area	Led by
February	Management Committee meeting	Governance	Hub
	Yuraki Node members to seek pilot funding through the University of Newcastle for a collaborative project examining links between Aboriginal people and China	Research	Yuraki node

March	Advisory Committee meeting	Governance	Hub
March	International visiting scholar - Professor Chris Andersen (Director, Rupertsland Centre for Metis Research, University of Alberta)	Research/ Links and networks	Hub
April	Hub based A-workshop program offered nationally to Indigenous Research Higher Degree students	Capacity	Hub
	Indigenous Research Methodologies Masterclass #1	Capacity	Hub
	Yuraki Node meeting and research gathering in Broome	Research/ Capacity	Yuraki node
May	Publication of Journal (IJCIS) Issue #1-2014	Research	Hub
	ARC Mid-term Review of NIRAKN	Governance	ARC
	Law Node Scholarly Workshop with leading International Critical Race scholars	Research / Links and networks	Hub & Law Node
June	Promotion of NIRAKN and development of International research relationships (via NAISA Conference and other networks)	Links and networks	Hub
	NIRAKN Newsletter #1 2014 published	Engagement	Hub
	Network members meeting and face to face meetings of all Nodes	Governance	Hub
July	Management Committee meeting	Governance	Hub
	National B&C Workshops Program	Capacity	Hub
	National Critical Reading Group #1	Capacity	Hub
September	NIRAKN Indigenous Researchers Conference	Research	Hub
	Undergraduate Essay Contest Winners announced	Pipeline	Nodes
October	NIRAKN Management Committee meeting	Governance	Hub
	Law Node members to participate in National Indigenous Legal Conference, including discipline based postgraduate recruitment activities	Research/ Pipeline	Law Node
November	Indigenous Research Methodologies Masterclass #2	Capacity	Hub
	National Critical Reading Group #2	Capacity	Hub
December	NIRAKN Newsletter #2 2014 published	Engagement	Hub
	Publication of Journal (IJCIS) Issue #2-2014	Research	Hub

8. Register of Network Participants

Aileen Moreton-Robinson, Queensland University of Technology
Anita Lee Hong, Queensland University of Technology
Asmi Wood, Australian National University
Barry Judd, RMIT
Bronwyn Fredericks, Central Queensland University
Chris Wilson, Flinders University
Clair Andersen, University of Tasmania
Dawn Bessarab, originally Curtin, now University of Western Australia
Debbie Duthie, Queensland University of Technology
Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews, Macquarie University
Greg Blyton, Newcastle University
Ian Anderson, University of Melbourne
Jakelin Troy, AIATSIS (now University of Sydney)
Jeff Hudson, Healing Foundation (Partner Organisation)
Jill Guthrie, Australian National University
John Maynard, University of Newcastle
Juli Coffin, University of Western Australia
Karen Martin, Griffith University
Kathleen Butler, University of Newcastle
Kathleen Clapham, University of Wollongong
Kevin Williams, Ninti One (Partner Organisation)
Kim Scott, Curtin University
Larissa Behrendt, University of Technology Sydney
Len Collard, University of Western Australia
Linda Ford, Charles Darwin University
Loretta Kelly, Southern Cross University
Lynette Henderson-Yates, University of Notre Dame
Maggie Walter, University of Tasmania
Marcelle Burns, Queensland University of Technology
Mark McMillan, University of Melbourne
Marlene Longbottom, Waminda (Partner Organisation)
Michael Adams, AIATSIS
Michelle Trudgett, Macquarie University (now University of Technology Sydney)
Natalie Harkin, Flinders University
Odette Best, Queensland University of Technology
Pat Dudgeon, University of Western Australia
Peter Radoll, University of Canberra (now Newcastle University)
Rowena Ball, Australian National University
Roxanne Bainbridge, James Cook University
Sam Johnston, United Nations University (Partner Organisation)
Scott Avery, National Congress of Australia's First Peoples (Partner Organisation)

Shino Konishi, originally Australian National University now University of Western Australia
Simone Tur, Flinders University
Stephen Kinnane, Notre Dame University
Steve Larkin, Charles Darwin University
Sue Green, University of New South Wales
Sue Stanton, Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education
Terry Dunbar, Charles Darwin University
Wendy Aitken, University of Tasmania

Affiliate Members

Ali Baker, Flinders University
Bindi Bennett, Australian Catholic University
Brenda Croft, University of New South Wales
Bronwyn Carlson, University of Wollongong
Catherine Chamberlain, Monash University
Chelsea Bond, University of Queensland (now Queensland University of Technology)
Clint Bracknell, Sydney University
Faye Rosas Blanch, Flinders University
Gregory Phillips, Monash University
Janet Mooney, University of Sydney
Jenine Godwin-Thompson, University of Queensland
John Evans, University of Sydney
Lynne Stuart, University of the Sunshine Coast
Norm Sheehan, Southern Cross University

Financial Statements

2014 INCOME

ARC 2014 funding distributed as follows:	855,025
<i>Queensland University of Technology</i>	<i>670,895</i>
<i>Australian National University</i>	<i>22,500</i>
<i>University of Technology Sydney</i>	<i>12,500</i>
<i>University of Melbourne</i>	<i>22,500</i>
<i>Central Queensland University</i>	<i>61,250</i>
<i>University of Wollongong</i>	<i>3,750</i>
<i>University of Newcastle</i>	<i>61,630</i>
Queensland University of Technology	214,000
Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies	20,000
Healing Foundation	50,000
University of Melbourne	25,000
Central Queensland University	33,728
Australian National University	10,000
University of Wollongong	19,563
University of Newcastle	27,500
Charles Darwin University	260,000
University of Tasmania	149,938
University of Western Australia	30,000

Total Income Received	1,694,753
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2014 EXPENDITURE

Personnel	478,691
Scholarships	30,568
Maintenance	1,000
Travel	385,966
Other	318,529

Total Expenditure	1,214,754
Surplus (Deficit)	479,999
Balance brought forward from 2013	959,175
TOTAL CARRY FORWARD	1,439,174

10. Appendix 1: National Capacity Building Program Evaluation Report

EVALUATION OF THE NIRAKN RESEARCH CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

HILTON HOTEL, SURFERS PARADISE

JULY 14-17, 2014.

Maryrose Casey
August 2014

1 SUMMARY

The National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network (NIRAKN) is an inclusive, multidisciplinary hub and spokes model network of Indigenous researchers at various stages of their careers. 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. The foundational steps towards achieving these aims include the capacity building workshops to provide skills and knowledge development and facilitate the establishment of connections between Indigenous scholars.

The first workshop program in 2013 was extremely successful by all indicators. The purpose of this report is to evaluate the second workshop program in 2014 in line with the aims of NIRAKN to build postgraduate, early and mid career Indigenous researchers' capacity and skills; enhance research; connect researchers and enhance careers. The second series of workshops were even more successful than the first. The program was based on a multifaceted approach to capacity building offering sessions designed to meet the specific challenges facing Indigenous scholars. The workshop program exceeded the expectations of the participating Indigenous scholars from postgraduate to established academics. In each session the presentations were of a high standard of delivery, rich in content and clearly oriented to fulfilling the aims of the program. The positive response from participants was unanimous.

The level of success is well expressed in a statement by one respondent in the questionnaire about the workshops:

NIRAKN's vision is being realised in tangible ways. Everyone I spoke to felt inspired and motivated from the workshops. The need for an Indigenous space to build our strength and resilience cannot be overstated. Too many of our people leave the academy feeling disheartened and burnt out. NIRAKN provides an important support network and the opportunity to develop our knowledge and skills so we can forge ahead to initiate changes to make the academy a place where ATSI peoples can thrive and prosper (Respondent 1 2014).

2 INTRODUCTION

NIRAKN Capacity Building Workshops

NIRAKN aims to establish a community of skilled, qualified Indigenous researchers. The goals identified to support the achievement of this aim include:

- to build research capacity, expertise and experience.

- to connect Indigenous researchers at all career stages across disciplines, nationally and internationally,
- to develop a culturally supportive and inclusive research environment.

As part of working towards these goals, NIRAKN delivered a program of capacity-building workshops open to post graduates, early and mid-career Indigenous scholars at the Hilton Hotel, Surfers Paradise July 14th-17th, 2014. The sessions were led by leading established Indigenous scholars or where appropriate representatives of funding bodies and publishers.

After a plenary session introducing the participants to the history and structure of NIRAKN, the program consisted of 12 workshop sessions. The titles of the sessions were:

- Research and Engagement in communities;
- Relatedness as a Research Framework;
- Research Project Management;
- Special Forum on Publishing presented by ASP and AIATSIS;
- Academic Writing;
- the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC);
- Doing Archival Research;
- Academic Careers: promotion and levels A-E;
- Academic Careers: What does it mean to be an Aboriginal Academic?;
- Grant Writing Workshop;
- Research Collaborations;
- Copyright Australia Limited.

There were a number of innovations introduced for the second workshop series. One was the inclusion of two events where guest speakers, Professor John Dewar and Professor Lester-Irabinna Rigney, addressed the participants. A second innovation was the incorporation of the NIRAKN node meetings within the program. A third was the introduction of poster displays. Another change was that in the second series of workshops repeat sessions were not offered.

The aim of this report is to evaluate the ways in which the capacity building workshops reflected and fulfilled NIRAKN's aims.

3 EVALUATION METHODS

This evaluation, like the evaluation of the 2013 workshops, is based on three sources of information:

- my observations as a participant observer of the workshops and presentations offered.
- ten informal interviews of participants conducted by myself focused on asking people's response to their experience.

The form of these interviews was my introducing myself and my role as an external evaluator and then asking basic open ended questions about two areas. Firstly how the participant was finding the workshops they had attended. Were they useful? In what ways were they useful? In what ways were they not useful? Then I asked for any additional comments the participant would like to make in terms of the structure and content of the workshops.

- self-completion questionnaires submitted by participants.

All participants were encouraged to submit a self-completion questionnaire that was included in the pack they were given when they registered. The questionnaire was an extended version of the one used for the first workshop series in 2013. Reflecting the intentions of the workshops to build on people's capacity, skills and networks, the questions focused on pre-existing expectations and needs and the level to which the participant thought that these had been met, with a final question that invited suggestions for future sessions (questionnaire attached in the appendix). The additions to the previous version included a series of questions about capacity building resources on the participant's own campus and questions about the organisational aspects of the event; the latter included a Likert scale.

There were approximately 45 people registered to participate in the program, including 23 postgraduate candidates. The numbers in the rooms on each day suggest that there were at least 45 people present on each of the 4 days. A completed questionnaire was submitted by 23 people. This is 51.1% of the overall number of participants. The respondents had all attended a broad range of workshops.

In the questionnaire, respondents were invited to categorise themselves as postgraduate, early to midcareer, senior scholar or member of partner organisation. Of the 23 submitted questionnaires, 17 were from postgraduates (including 6 who identified as postgraduate and early to mid-career) that is approximately 74%, 4 were early to mid-career that is 17.4%. The remaining two questionnaires came from a senior scholar and a member of a partner organisation. Given the overall workshop focus on capacity building postgraduates and early career academics, the high number of postgraduate and ECR responses representing 91.4% is useful.

With the exception of the use of the Likert scale in relation to the administrative side of the event, the data collected is qualitative in keeping with the aim to ascertain meaningful answers relevant to the objectives of the workshop program. This report offers:

- An overall evaluation of the workshops and the program.
- The awareness or access to capacity building workshops on participants' home campuses.
- Suggestions to add value to future workshops

4 DISCUSSION

The workshops clearly built on the foundation laid by previous workshops and master classes run by Professor Moreton-Robinson and NIRAKN. In the 2013 series the focus was strongly on basic issues such as critical thinking, research ethics and introductions to funding bodies and methodologies. In response to feedback from participants in the 2013 workshops, there was a stronger focus on negotiating the needs of people at different levels in the 2014 sessions. Some sessions were still strongly focused on foundational knowledge extending previous sessions but all went beyond that level or created space within the workshops to engage at higher levels.

This section considers each of the presentations and workshops with discussion of the specific feedback and in relation to previously expressed needs for capacity building.

OPENING PLENARY

In 2013 an issue that was raised by a number of respondents was their desire to know more about NIRAKN. A number of respondents requested that as part of future programs a session introducing the organisation.

The 2014 program began with a plenary session that focused on introducing NIRAKN, what it is, how it came about and how and why the capacity building workshops were being run.

This plenary was a useful introduction that strongly located the workshops within NIRAKN's goals. The response from participants was positive and the network was a focus of informal discussion over the four days as people sought further clarification. Further it offered a co-operative model of practice operating on a high level.

THE WORKSHOPS

In the feedback in 2013 an important area the participants wanted future sessions to engage with was issues for Indigenous researchers in relation to cultural competencies and interrogating the 'knowing' of indigeneity and the role of Indigenous community engagement and relationship with community within research. This desire to engage with issues specific to Indigenous researchers examining their communities and histories was also an expectation of a broad number of participants in 2014.

The first two presentations '**Research and Engagement in communities**' and '**Relatedness as a Research Framework**' dealt with these areas of concern offering a range of different approaches from the three presenters. These two dynamic and interactive presentations offered different models of indigenising research and articulating Indigenous approaches.

One of the strengths of the two sessions was the generosity of the presenters in drawing on examples from their own research projects

Another productive outcome of these presentations was the questions other senior researchers raised from the floor. PG and ECRs found being part of this type of highly informed debate

about the issues around choices and approaches particularly valuable. The potential for this form of engagement to add to debate and knowledge transmission was identified as a desirable addition in the 2013 evaluations. In 2014, the active involvement of senior scholars in question sessions proved to enrich the experience and learning of the participants.

The other sessions on the first day, **Research Project Management** and **Special Forum on Publishing presented by ASP and AIATSIS**, offered practical advice in accessible forms. The session on Project Management was a solid introduction to the principles and elements of project management followed by small group exercises engaging with the issues through concrete examples. ASP presented a useful introduction to publishing scholarly texts.

The first session on the second day, **'Academic Writing'**, engaged in a dynamic way with the requirements of people at different levels, taking the issues beyond existing problems to identifying the next steps and new challenges.

This was followed by a presentation from the **'National Health and Medical Research Council'** (NHMRC). The presenter was responsive and generous providing an information rich presentation followed by the opportunity for people to ask specific questions.

In the final session on the second day **'Doing Archival Research'**, the presenters brought a depth of experience that made it informative and highly useful. Moving the information beyond a general 'how to' research effectively; they presented an overview of Aboriginal people in the archive and using the archive as Aboriginal people. They raised important issues about restricted access that researchers would need to negotiate generously sharing personal experiences of archives and how to be an effective researcher. The handout of digital archives is a useful resource.

The first two sessions on the third day, concentrated on Early Career and Mid-Career academics while offering useful insight for Indigenous postgraduates preparing for an academic career. **'Academic Careers: promotion and levels A-E'** offered sound and useful information about promotion within universities, how the promotion system works and what people need to do. The second session **Academic Careers: What does it mean to be an Aboriginal Academic?** went further examining the issues that confront and contextualise Indigenous academics careers. The participants were offered an insightful discussion of the ethical issues, responsibilities and pressures facing Aboriginal academics.

The **'Grant Writing Workshop'** on day 4 was another dynamic and useful session setting grants in context of research careers and offering a valuable guide to grant writing. The extremely useful handout provided the information in point form.

The session on **'Research Collaborations'** brought the presentations back to starting point of Indigenous research and ways of operating. Through a rich discussion of a complex project consisting of multiple partners, the three researchers shared their processes and choices.

The final session the **'Copyright Agency workshop'** introduced participants to issues in relation to copyright and the Copyright Agency, what it does and the service it offers authors. As in the 2013 program the presentation was clear and informative, introducing participants to what constitutes copyright and relevant legal issues and what CAL can offer them both as a collection agency and through the cultural fund.

GUEST SPEAKER EVENTS

One of the innovations in 2014 was the inclusion of two guest speaker events.

The first of these was within the daily program; Professor John Dewar speaking about the Innovative Research Universities. This exposure to a Vice-Chancellor talking about the meta organisation of universities in Australia and how these coalitions brand themselves was an invaluable contribution to participants' understanding and knowledge of academia.

The second event was a social function with Professor Lester-Irabinna Rigney as guest speaker. For many of the respondents Professor Rigney presentation was a highpoint of the week. This event explored another way for participants to learn from the experiences of established scholars.

Fulfilling different aims both these events enriched the workshop program.

NIRAKN NODE MEETINGS

The incorporation of the NIRAKN node meetings within the program was a positive step for the respondents. It worked well within the structure of the program strengthening awareness and participation in the research focus of NIRAKN.

AWARENESS OF CAPACITY BUILDING ON HOME CAMPUSES.

The respondents' answers to questions about capacity building on the campuses indicate that 83% do not have workshops or courses specifically for Indigenous postgraduates. 95% were aware of general capacity building workshops on their campuses, of these 57% had participated in courses including ethics and online training modules.

ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS

Using a Likert scale the respondents were asked to rate the length of program, the registration process and the catering. The responses were 100% positive in all areas.

ISSUES RAISED IN RESPONSES

The responses in the questionnaires are overwhelmingly positive. The main focus of specific comments was the recognition of the generosity of the senior scholars present, all of whom are identified by name repeatedly throughout the responses as inspirational. The response to the sessions was so positive that the suggestion was made by a number of respondents that NIRAKN consider filming the presentations and linking them as podcasts to the site. This would act as a resource for people who could not attend the workshop or those who would like to hear presentations again.

Suggested future changes were in relation to the challenge of creating a program that catered for people at different levels. The postgraduates were largely well satisfied with the sessions. However there was a sense in which participants' thought that some present were not in a position to make the most of the workshops. The suggestion was made that postgraduates should have reached at least the milestone of confirmation before they attend the program.

The other request for different offerings to be included came from mid-career academics who would value methodological and theoretical discussions pitched for people who are already undertaking post-PhD research.

5 CONCLUSION

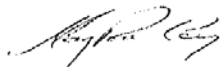
This workshop program was designed to build Indigenous researchers' capacities to produce high quality research, develop networks and build academic careers. The workshops were well planned to further these central aims. The participants' responses clearly indicate that the workshops overall and individually were successful in this endeavour. A recurring comment through most of the questionnaires was 'Congratulations to the team' involved in organising the event. In terms of respondents' views, the 2014 program was even more successful than the one held in 2013. The workshops built on previous workshops and capacity building in a way that facilitated investigation of the next steps participants at every level could take to develop their research. In the words of one attendee: 'Being a participant has filled my spirit with enthusiasm, consolidation and grounding. It has all been relevant and inspiring and totally useful' (Respondent 11, 2014). Another described the program as 'Just deadly!! A life changing/empowering experience' (Respondent 16, 2014).

The content and approach of the workshops were information rich and accessible. All the presenters are to be congratulated on their generosity in sharing personal academic and research journeys. One of the aims of NIRAKN is to connect researchers. As in 2013, this is also listed the main expectation of the workshops by participants. In 2014, the opportunity to network with peers and to meet and discuss their projects with senior academics was the highpoint of the workshops for the respondents. Postgraduates particularly valued the opportunity to listen to senior academics discussing and debating issues and practices. The participants also valued the opportunity to talk to established Indigenous academics about their own projects during informal spaces during the program.

The innovations that were incorporated into the workshop program including the guest speakers and the node meetings enriched the offerings to participants in productive ways extending knowledge about academia and sharpening the focus on research. The idea of a poster display, though limited at the 2014 workshop, has potential to be a constructive step as it highlights individual research projects and offers ideas and models to early career researchers.

The 2013 program was an impressive and innovative step towards meeting the challenges that NIRAKN has identified in building the capacity of Indigenous scholars and laying the groundwork for future academic careers. The program in 2014 managed to be even more impressive and innovative. There is no doubt that the quality of information and the terms on which it was offered within this program will support the development of future Indigenous scholars.

Thank you for the opportunity to be part of this exciting initiative.



Associate Professor Maryrose Casey
ARC Future Fellow
Director Theatre, Performance and Music Higher Degree by Research Program
Monash Indigenous Centre
Monash University

11. Appendix 2: Research Outcomes

Selected Network Participants' Achievements: Publications

The following is a list of selected scholarly works published by Network Participants during 2014:

Adams, M. (2014). *Men's Business. A Study into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Men's Sexual and Reproductive Health*. Casurina.

Anderson, M., Beckton, D., **Bond, C.**, Brien, D. L., Fergie, D., Forrer, G., **Fredericks, B.**, Gould, J., Harald, P., King, L., Kosick, M., **Longbottom, M.**, Milroy, A.K., Persaud, N., Sandri, R., Stuart, L., Sturm, U., Ward, R., White, N., and Withyman, C. J. (2014). 'Collaborative scholarly creative writing: two poems. 'Thoughts flow from mind to hands' and 'Coconut damper: a working recipe'. *TEXT, Journal of Writing and Writing Courses*, 18 (2), Available at: <http://www.textjournal.com.au/speciss/issue27/content.htm>.

Anderson, M., **Fredericks, B.**, and Brien, D. L. (2014). 'Beyond all the trends: Torres Strait Island foods, past, present and future' *Journal of Home Economics in Australia*, 21(2): 28-31.

Arens, A. K., **Bodkin-Andrews, G.**, Craven, R. G., & Yeung, A. S. (2014). Self-concept of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australian students: Competence and affect components and relations to achievement. *Learning and Individual Differences*, 32, 93-103.

Bainbridge, R. McCalman, J., Clifford, A. & Tsey, K. (2014). *Cultural Competency approaches in the delivery of health services for Indigenous people* (Issues Paper). Closing the Gap Clearinghouse.

Bainbridge, R., Tsey, K., McCalman, J., & Towle, S. (2014). 'The quantity, quality and characteristics of Indigenous Australian mentoring: A systematic review' *BMC Public Health*, 14(1263).

Ball, R. (2014). 'The Bhopal disaster and peroxide bombs: Nanoscale aspects of oscillatory thermal instability' Chapter 9 in T. Faunce (Ed.) *Nanotechnology Towards the Sustainocene*. Pan Stanford, pp. 193–214.

Ball, R. (2014). 'Regulation of global carbon cycles by vegetation fires' *Climate Research* 59: 125–133.

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Network participants also provided the following commissioned reports to Government or other funding bodies:

ACIL Allen, in collaboration Professor Mark Rose and **Dr Mark McMillan** (2014) *Independent Review of the Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies* (May 2014)

Clapham, K. and Winch, S. 2014. *Aboriginal Chronic Disease Care Pathways*. Illawarra and Shoalhaven Local Health District.

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Kinnane, S., Wilks, J., Thomas, S., Wilson, K., and Hughes, T., (2014) *'Can't be what you can't see: the transition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to higher education*, Literature Review, Office for Learning and Teaching, Department of Education, Sydney.

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Selected Network Participants' Achievements: Keynotes, Papers and Seminars

The following is a list of selected keynotes, invited presentations, papers and seminars delivered by Network Participants during 2014:

Adams, M., Anderson, C., Bainbridge, R., Ball, R. Bessarab, D., Clapham, K. Collard, L., Dudgeon, P., Duthie, D., Fredericks, B., Longbottom, M. 'The development a health research capacity building program for Indigenous Australian researchers: The NIRAKN Health Node'. The International Network in Indigenous Health Knowledge and Development (INIHKD), Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, 5-10 October.

Andersen, C. 'Indigenising Universities: Looking at the UTAS Model'. AIATSIS 2014 Conference, Breaking Barriers in Indigenous Research & Thinking: 50 years on, Canberra, 27 March.

Andersen, C. 'Comparing the Indigenisation of Universities' NTEU Indigenous Forum Newnham campus, University of Tasmania, 8 May.

Andersen, C. 'Against the Odds: Finding Place and Space' ANZCIES Conference, Brisbane, 26 November.

Bainbridge, R. and McCalman, J. 'Social and Emotional Wellbeing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health', School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Sciences. James Cook University, Cairns, 17 June.

Bainbridge, R., McCalman, J & Tsey, K. (2014). 'Improving Aboriginal Australian community governance through strengthening Aboriginal and government capacity,' Working Paper, 11th International Society for Third-Sector Research Conference: Civil Society and the Citizen, Muenster, Germany, 22-25 July.

Ball, R. "A new recipe for primordial soup". ANZIAM Conference, Rotorua, New Zealand, 2–6 Feb.

Ball, R. 'Women's careers: Out with the linear pipeline and in with the new nonlinear paradigm' Address given at the International Women's Day Award ceremony, University House, Australian National University, Canberra, posted at <https://anu-au.academia.edu/RowenaBall>.

Ball, R. 'Thermodynamic optimisation and exergetic integration of solid sorbent cycling systems for CO₂ capture' Inaugural ASCENT Workshop, UNSW, Sydney, 13–14 March.

Ball, R. 'Endex stabilization of thermally unstable and explosive liquid phase systems'. Hazards 24, Edinburgh, Scotland, 7-9 May.

Ball, R. 2014. 'Singular thermochemical oscillations in detection of liquid explosives and control of thermal runaway'. Proc. 10ISICP, Poitiers University, Poitiers, France, 2–6 June.

Ball R. 'Stability and oscillations – steam engines, planetary systems, and the origin of life'. Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools Forum, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory, 8–9 October.

Ball, R. Invited speaker at the 2014 Conference on Numeracy, mathematics and Indigenous Learners, Adelaide, South Australia, 10–11 November.

Ball, R. and Brindley J. 'Hydrogen peroxide as driving agent for replication and evolution in the RNA World' EANA 2014 –The 14th European Astrobiology Conference,. University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, 13-16 October.

Best, O. and **Fredericks, B.** 'Decolonizing nurse/midwifery education: reclaiming the spaces of teaching and learning Indigenous health within nursing/midwifery education: an Australian perspective' The International Network in Indigenous Health Knowledge and Development (INIHKD), Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, 5-10 October.

Bodkin-Andrews, G. 'Nandiri Mariwari Bangawarra Gumada [Seeing Hate –Strengthening Spirit]- Resiliency against Racism' NAISA 2014: Native American & Indigenous Studies Association 6th Annual Meeting, University of Texas at Austin, United States, 29-31 May.

Bodkin-Andrews, G. 'Nandiri Mariwari - Bangawarra Gumada (Seeing Hate – Strengthening Spirit): Resiliency against Racism' Racism and the health and wellbeing of children and youth – Understanding impacts, finding solutions Symposium, University of Melbourne, June 26-27.

Bodkin-Andrews, G. 'Bubalamai Bawa Gumada (Healing the Wounds of the Heart): The search for resiliency against racism for Aboriginal Australian students' Quality and Equity: What does Research Tell Us- Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER), Victoria, August 2-5.

Brereton, M., Roe, P., Schroeter, R., **Lee Hong, A.** 'Beyond Ethnography: Engagement and Reciprocity as Foundations for Design Research Out Here' Proceedings of the SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (2014) [Best Paper Award]

Butler, K. Aboriginal Cultures and a Spirit of Place: Ancient origins and Twenty First Century Relevance', Keynote Address, APYO Conference, University of Sydney, November 2014.

Burns, M. 'What is this 'thing' called society?', World Indigenous Legal Conference, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, 24-27 June.

Burns, M. 'Society and the recognition of Indigenous Peoples', Indigenous Knowledges Symposium: The Indigenous Subject in International Law, University of South Australia, Adelaide, 6 May.

Chamberlain C, Fredericks B, and Eades S. 'Diabetes in pregnancy: a growing challenge for our future' NACCHO Health Futures Summit 2014, Melbourne Convention Centre, Victoria, 24-26 June 2014.

Clapham, K. 2014. Invited Speaker at Pediatric Injury Prevention and Management Research Forum, Injury in Aboriginal children and health inequality - Specific research challenges. Sydney, 1 August.

Clark, RA, **Fredericks, B., Adams, M.,** Atherton, J. Howie-Esquivel, J., Dracup, K., and Buitendyk, N. 'Addressing health literacy and cultural teaching issues in Australian Indigenous and Non-Indigenous heart failure patients using Avatars: technology development and pilot testing', Australian Cardiovascular Health and Rehabilitation Association Conference 2014, Melbourne, Victoria, , 12 – 14 August.

Clark, R.A., **Fredericks, B., Adams, M.,** Atherton, J., Howie-Esquivel, J., Dracup, K. and Buitendyk, N. ' Addressing health literacy and cultural teaching issues in Australian Indigenous and Non-Indigenous heart failure patients using Avatars: technology development and pilot testing' 18th Annual Scientific Heart Failure Society of America 2014, Caesars Palace Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada, 14-17 September.

Dudgeon, P. 'National Empowerment Project' (Invited Presentation) Suicide Prevention Australia Conference, Perth July 2014.

Fredericks, B. 'Of Old and New: The social texts and messages conveyed by Australian universities', Courting Blakness: Recalibrating the Sandstone University, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland, 5-6 September.

Fredericks, B., Adams, M., Clark, R.A., Atherton, J., Howie-Esquivel, J., Dracup, K. and Buitendyk, N. 'The development of a culturally specific heart failure self-management iPad teaching tool for Indigenous Australians' The International Network in Indigenous Health Knowledge and Development (INIHKD), Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, 5-10 October.

Fredericks, B. and Moreton-Robinson, A. 'Indigenous Research Capacity Building' The Annual 12th Higher Education Summit, Grand Chancellor, Adelaide, South Australia, 20-21 May.

Fredericks, B., Skinner, R., McFarlane, B., CroftWarcon, P. Creamer, S. and Mann, J. 'Enabling Indigenous education success beyond regional borders', Digital Futures Conference, University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba, Queensland, 25-27 June.

Fredericks, B., Skinner, R., McFarlane, B., Croft, P. Creamer, S. and Mann, J. 'Revisiting, revitalising and recommitting to an Indigenous education program: An Enabling Program Case Study' New Zealand and Australian Research in Education Conference, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, 30 November – 2 December.

Habibis, D. Elder, C. and **Walter, M.** 'Articulations of Ethnicity, Race and Nationhood: Aboriginal Perspectives on Race, Race Relations and Governance' XVIII World Congress of Sociology, Yokohama, Japan, 13-19 July.

Howie-Esquivel, J., Roman, Z., Clark, R.A., **Fredericks, B** and, Dracup, K. 'Culturally-Appropriate Education Can Improve Self-Care in Hispanic Patients with Heart Failure: A Pilot Study', 18th Annual Scientific Heart Failure Society of America 2014, Caesars Palace Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada, 14-17 September.

Kukutai, T. and **Walter, M.** 'Indigenizing Official Statistics.' IAOS Conference 2014, Danang, Vietnam, 8-10 October.

Larkin, S. 'Bringing on Indigenous Scholars,' 2014 National Indigenous Studies Conference: Breaking Barriers in Indigenous Research and Thinking, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra, 26-28 March.

Larkin, S. 'Critical Race Theory and Higher Education: Towards a remaking of the University', Keynote Address, First Year in Higher Education Conference, Darwin.

Larkin, S. 'Critical Race Theory and Indigenous Higher Education: The ACIKE and the transformation of the University', Keynote Address, 40 Year Anniversary Conference of the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education, Batchelor.

Larkin, S. 'Critical race Theory and Indigenous higher education: towards a remaking of the university', Keynote Address, National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Symposium, Sydney, 9 September.

Larkin, S. 'Epistemology and race: making the 'invisible' visible in Evaluation', Keynote Address, Australasian Evaluation Society Conference, Darwin.

Larkin, S. 'Race and the Australian Public Service' Key Note Address. Australian Critical Race and Whiteness Studies Association (ACRAWSA) 2014 Conference & Annual Meeting. 4-5 December, Brisbane.

Larkin, S. 'Supporting Indigenous Researchers', Keynote Address, NHMRC Indigenous Health Forum, Brisbane.

Lee Hong, A., Melanie, L., **Duthie, D.** and **Best, O.** 2014. 'Means to ends' integration for stakeholder engagement' 2014 National Indigenous Studies Conference: Breaking Barriers in Indigenous Research and Thinking, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra, 26-28 March.

Longbottom, M. 'Changing research practice and protocol: Research with Aboriginal women in Australia' Seminar, RAS, School of Public Health, University of Texas, United States of America. 20 October.

Longbottom, M., Fredericks, B., Sherwood, J., Bolt, R., Speare, R., Usher, K., Buettner, P., Tsey, K., Judd, J. and Waminda. "Culture Makes You Stronger" Aboriginal women's voices from the South Coast of NSW' 2014 AIATSIS National Indigenous Studies Conference, National Convention Centre, Canberra, 26- 28 March.

Longbottom, M., Fredericks, B., Sherwood, J., Bolt, R., Speare, R., Usher, K., Buettner, P., Tsey, K., Judd, J. and Waminda. "Culture makes you stronger;" Research as a self-determining process in Indigenous Australian communities' The International Network in Indigenous Health Knowledge and Development (INIHKD), Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, 5-10 October.

Martin, K. 'Aboriginal research, ethics & methodology' Griffith School of Behavioural Research, Griffith University Gold Coast, 2 September.

Martin, K. 'Aboriginal re-search', Te Wangana O Aotearoa: Mangere campus, Auckland, 23 October.

Martin, K. 'Aboriginal knowledges in higher education in the 21st Century: hindsight, insight, foresight' James Cook University, Cairns, 11 December.

Martin, K. and Walter, M. 'The Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children: Indigenous Children Growing Up Strong,' Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth webinar, 6 May.

Maynard, J. 'Agents of our own Destiny – Aboriginal Survival or Self Determination,' Writing and Teaching Aboriginal History – A Special Symposium in Honour of Emeritus Professor Richard Broome, La Trobe University, 20 February.

Maynard, J. 'Dreaming of the Past – Aboriginal Perspectives on History – Practice, Delivery and Omissions', 2014 National Indigenous Studies Conference: Breaking Barriers in Indigenous

Research and Thinking, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra, 26 March.

Maynard, J. 'Yuraki – An Aboriginal Perspective on History,' Keynote Address, Autumn SSTAR Conference, University of Newcastle, 2 May.

Maynard, J. 'East coast Encounter' Panel member, National Reconciliation Week Public Forum, National Maritime Museum, Sydney, 31 May.

Maynard, J. 'More Than Service – Black Diggers and the Great War' Special NAIDOC Week Forum, NSW History Council, NSW State Library, Sydney, 10 July.

Maynard, J. 'The Politics of War and the "Battle of Balaclava"', Gallipoli to Coniston – Remembering Frontiers Conference, UTS, Sydney, 28-29 August.

Maynard, J. 'Missing Voices – Aboriginal Dissent and Patriotism in WWI', Peace and Patriotism in Twentieth Century Australia Symposium, History Week, NSW History Council, Sydney, 9 September.

Maynard, J. 'Serving Our Country – Aborigines and WWI' Defence Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Network (DATSIN) Conference, Brisbane, 6 November.

McMillan, M. 'Holding on to the Hope of Law' 2014 Elliott Johnston Memorial Lecture, Flinders Law School and Yunggorendi First Nations Centre, Flinders University, Adelaide, 21 October.

McMillan, M. 'Indigenous Rights to Education within the Nation State' Keynote Address, Australian and New Zealand Education Law Association Conference, Adelaide, 2 October 2014.

McMillan, M. 'Responsibility to Complexity in Structural Justice' Keynote Address, The Minutes of Evidence Project: Just Encounters – Bringing together Arts, Education and Research, Melbourne, 15 August.

McMillan, M. 'Indigenous Nations within the United Nations System' Asia – Pacific Model United Nations Conference, Brisbane, 30 June.

McMillan, M. 'Which legal system/s is being recognised in Indigenous Nation Building?: Aboriginal Nations' internal recognition across national boundaries' Keynote Address, World Indigenous Legal Conference, Brisbane, 25 June.

McMillan, M. 'Reconciliation, Constitutional Recognition and our journey after Sorry' Panellist with Tim Goodwin and Jillian Prior, Australian Government Solicitor Reconciliation Working Group in partnership with the Castan Centre for Human Rights and Tarwirri, 11 June.

McMillan, M. 'An Assembly of our First Nations and a Treaty' Panellist with Mick Gooda and Tony McAvoy, National Native Title Conference, Coffs Harbour, 2 June.

McMillan, M. and Libesman T. 'Indigenous children, violence and the rule of law' International Colloquium: Epistemologies of the South: South-South, South-North, North-

South global learning, Paper and speaker, The Centre for Social Studies (CES), School of Economics, University of Coimbra Coimbra Portugal, 11 July.

McMillan, M. and McRae, C. 'Law, Identity and Dispossession – The Half-Caste Act of 1886 and contemporary legal definitions of Indigeneity in Australia' IILAH (Institute for International Law and the Humanities) Legal Histories Seminar, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, 19 November.

McMillan, M. with Gover, K., Gaze, E., Stone, A., Genovese, A., Tehan, M., Weis, L., O'Brien, P., and Kirkby, C. 'MAKING SENSE OF MALONEY V R (2013)' IILAH (Institute for International Law and the Humanities) and CCCS (Centre for Comparative Constitutional Studies) Roundtable, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, 31 October.

McMillan, M. with Baling, J., Evans, J., Brown, L., Dullard, C., and McMillan, N. 'The Minutes of Evidence Project' IILAH (Institute for International Law and the Humanities) Constellations Series –University of Melbourne, Melbourne, 10 October.

Moreton-Robinson, A. 'Indigenous Studies in the First World: Contested Territory, Cultural Entrapment and Race in the 21st Century' Keynote address, 2014 National Indigenous Studies Conference: Breaking Barriers in Indigenous Research and Thinking, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra, 26 March.

Moreton-Robinson, A. 'Panellist – Indigenous Studies in a Heretical Key: Colonizing the Academy' with Andersen, C. and Hokowhitu, Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) Annual Conference, Austin, Texas, United States of America, 31 May.

Moreton-Robinson, A. 'The Possessive Logics of a White Colonising Aesthetic: Representations of Indigenous Children in the Work of Brownie Downing' Public Lecture, White Spaces Network, University of Leeds, Leeds, United Kingdom, 10 June 2014

Moreton-Robinson, A. 'Indigenous Studies in the First World: Contested Territory, Cultural Entrapment and Race in the 21st Century' Public Lecture, The Birkbeck Race Forum and the Centre for Feminist Research at Goldsmiths, Birkbeck, London, United Kingdom, 12 June.

Moreton-Robinson, A. 'Whiteness as Property: An Australian Context' in Global Engagements with Whiteness as property panel, Critical Race Studies 7th Annual symposium: Whiteness as Property, A 20 Year Appraisal, UCLA, Los Angeles, United States, 2-4 October.

Moreton-Robinson, A. 'Indigenous Studies in the First World: Contested Territory, Cultural Entrapment and Race in the 21st Century' Keynote address, Challenging Identities, Institutions and Communities: 2014 Conference of TASA (The Australian Sociological Association), University of South Australia, Adelaide, 24 November.

Moreton-Robinson, A. 'Research capacity building: embedding an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Strategy within universities' Keynote address, Global Cities Research Institute workshop, RMIT, Melbourne, 26 November.

Moreton-Robinson, A. 'Indigenous Studies in the First World: Contested Territory, Cultural Entrapment and Race in the 21st Century,' Key Note Address, Australian Critical Race and

Whiteness Studies Association (ACRAWSA) 2014 Conference & Annual Meeting, Brisbane, 4-5 December.

Radoll, P. 'Indigenous Perspectives on Leadership in Australia', Leadership Development Program for Indigenous Business Australia, John Robinson Consulting Services, Canberra.

Radoll, P. 'Engaging Indigenous Students with ICTs', Keynote Address, Bangamalanha Conference, Western Institute of TAFE, Dubbo.

Scott, K. 'Abiding stories' Annual Barry Andrews Lecture (Keynote address) 'Worlds Within' Association for the Study of Australian Literature Annual Conference, University of Sydney, 9 July.

Scott, K. 'Where Have You Been', Keynote lecture, European Association for Studies on Australia conference: 'Encountering Australia: Transcultural Perspectives,' Prato, Italy, September 24.

Scott, K. Panellist with Lazaroo, S., Lay, B. and Strauss, J., European Association for Studies on Australia conference: 'Encountering AUstralia: Transcultural Perspectives,' Prato, Italy, September 26.

Skinner, R., McFarlane, B., **Fredericks, B.**, CroftWarcon, P. Creamer, S. and Mann, J. 'We need to be Innovative and Consistent in Meeting the Needs of Indigenous Australian Students in Enabling Programs'. *4th Enabling Educators Symposium*, CQUniversity, Bundaberg, 25 June.

Skinner, R., McFarlane, B., **Fredericks, B.**, CroftWarcon, P. Creamer, S. and Mann, J. 'Tertiary Entry Program (TEP)' *4th Enabling Educators Symposium*, CQUniversity, Bundaberg, 25 June.

Thompson, C. and **Fredericks, B.** 'Research Ethics' Health Collaborative Research Network (CRN) Keynote Address, CQUniversity, Rockhampton, Queensland, 28 April.

Trudgett, M. & Page, S. (2014). 'Featuring on today's catwalk we have... The Model of Best Practice for Supervising Indigenous Australian Doctoral Students,' Paper, World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education (WIPCE), Hawaii, 22nd May 2014.

Walter, M. 'Telling the Story of Indigenous Families,' Keynote Address, Excellence in Research in Early Years Education: Collaborative Research Network: CRN Whole of Network Program, Melbourne, 4-7 February.

Walter, M. 'Doing Indigenous Statistics', Paper, Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) Conference, Austin, Texas, United States, 29-31 May.

Walter, M. 'The Vexed Link Between Indigenous Social capital and Social Mobility', Seminar, Centre for Aboriginal Economic and Policy Research (CAEPR), Australian National University, Canberra, 23 September.