

# ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

## 2012

Cairns  
Singapore  
Townsville



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# THE CAIRNS INSTITUTE

## Researching tropical societies

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# MISSION & VISION

To enhance human life in the tropics and contribute to a brighter, more equitable and enriching future for its peoples, through globally informed scholarship, research excellence and a commitment to social justice.

To be an outstanding research, consulting and training institution distinguished by academic excellence, professionalism, internationalism and scholarship in the human, social and cultural dimensions of research carried out across James Cook University.

The Cairns Institute prides itself on engaged research and development activities with an applied focus. We aim for outcomes that are relevant to all our partners in government, communities, industry and other sectors.

## AIMS

This Institute gives concrete expression to the University's aim to become one of the world's leading research universities in the tropics. As a repository of regional knowledge and research capacity, it is perfectly positioned to make a significant contribution to the development of a sustainable quality of life for tropical communities.

Around half of the world's population – some three billion people – and 80 per cent of the planet's animal and plant species live in the tropics. From economic and educational deprivation to disease, loss of culture and the impacts of climate change, the social, economic and environmental challenges facing the tropical zones of northern Australia and the world are immense.

The Institute is dedicated to providing innovative, solution-orientated research with local, national and global tropical application. Its location in north Queensland provides a real-world context and tropical research opportunities unparalleled in Australia.



Photo of Cairns Institute building under construction

# OVERVIEW

James Cook University has established an institute for advanced studies in sustainable industries, economies, people and societies in the tropics. The Institute brings together the expertise and intellectual resources of more than 20 academic disciplines, creating a uniquely robust and relevant research, consulting, training and teaching hub for Northern Australia, South and South-East Asia and the Pacific.

The Cairns Institute values and pursues research and development activities with an applied focus and global reach. The Institute dedicates its research and praxis to the vital human, social, economic and cultural dimensions of the tropics. It aims to have a beneficial impact on the livelihoods and communities of northern Australia and the global tropics and to engage and build upon existing JCU research capabilities in these areas.

## Training & Professional Development

The Cairns Institute has a strong interest in developing human and organisational capabilities in the tropics to make its work relevant to industry, government and communities. In recognition that individuals need to maintain, upgrade and update skills throughout their working life, the Institute has a commitment to the acquisition of knowledge, skills, and capabilities by individuals, communities, organisations and societies through training.

In 2012 the Institute was successful in attracting funding from the Attorney General's Department to run a Native Title Master Class. This master class provided graduate and early career anthropologists with targeted skills based training for Native Title work, with a particular focus on northern Australia. Topics covered in the course included: the roles of anthropologists in Native Title work and the Native Title process, cultural awareness and working with indigenous knowledge, contemporary kinship and concepts of Aboriginal 'society', defining the claimant group, legal frameworks and registration requirements,

linguistics, genealogical research and mapping descent groups. Participants also covered: documenting the claim and the nature of 'evidence', writing connection reports and supplementary reports, addressing Terms of Reference, dealing with ethical issues and maintaining objectivity. Participants gained valuable insight from industry experts and had the opportunity to consider scenarios based on real cases.

The Mamu Parent and Community Engagement Program (PaCE) was also contracted to the Institute in 2012. The aim of this program was to strengthen local engagement with schools by planning and delivering workshops and events that enhanced community capacity to build strong leadership and support children's' learning at home. Parents and care givers were involved in workshops and activities and as a result an Innisfail Indigenous Parent Group was formed.

## Conferences & Seminars

In 2012 the Institute co-hosted three conferences with a total of 618 national and international delegates.

The *International Women's Conference* was held in June 2012 and co-convened by Dr Nonie Harris, Dr Deb Miles and Professor Hurriyet Babacan. The title of the conference was *Connecting for Action in the Asia-Pacific Region* and it attracted over 126 attendees including eight women from Pacific countries sponsored through the AusAID International Seminar Support Scheme. It focused on four major themes of global importance to women: building sustainable communities; women and economic development; making women's lives safer; and women's leadership and governance.

The *Racisms in the New World Order: Realities of Culture, Colour and Identity* conference was held in August 2012

and convened by Professor Hurriyet Babacan and Narayan Gopalkrishnan. It attracted 140 delegates.

The third conference in September 2012 was *Creating Futures PNG*. It was sponsored and supported by Queensland Health, The Cairns Institute, University of Papua New Guinea, Department of Health, and Janssen-Cilag. The conference was held in Port Moresby and attended by over 350 delegates from Australia and Papua New Guinea.

Also in 2012 the Institute also hosted nine seminars, twelve workshops (2 international), one book launch, eight roundtable meetings, one public lecture, and one international colloquium in 2012.



# ACTING DIRECTOR'S REPORT



In 2012 the Cairns Institute continued to be a leader in researching tropical societies under the leadership of Professor Hurriyet Babacan (Foundation Director), its six Tropical Leaders and their teams and connections to all faculties. Unfortunately, in October, Hurriyet resigned due to ill health. Professor Sue McGinty became Acting Director in November.

Applications for two new **Centres** were successful in 2012. The *Language and Culture Research Centre* (LCRC) brings together linguists, anthropologists, educationalists, other social scientists and those working in the humanities, under the leadership of Distinguished Professor Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and Adjunct Professor RMW Dixon. The *Centre for Research and Innovation in Sustainability Education* (CRISE) investigates the important role of education (both formal and informal) in contributing to the creation of ecologically, socially and economically sustainable communities under the leadership of Professor Bob Stevenson.

The **Cairns Institute building** progressed throughout 2012. The site clearing, site and access establishment, civil works began in October 2011 and from late 2011 – 2013 the construction and fit out continued with an expected completion date of April 2013.

The **Indigenous Art Centre Alliance** (IACA) was established in 2011 with a manager, Pamela Bigelow, appointed to begin working with art centre members in 2012. The Alliance gives the 12 community-based art and craft centres of North Queensland the opportunity to develop professionally and commercially with IACA supporting them through advocacy and lobbying, as well as providing skills development and training opportunities.

The first Cairns Institute **newsletter** was produced in October 2012 (@TCI) and it will be published quarterly to showcase our work to the JCU community and beyond.

Through eight key research themes the Cairns Institute continued to attract and engage multidisciplinary researchers on a range of research and outreach activities in 2012. A few highlights are listed below with details in later sections.

**1. Regional Economic Development.** Massive growth in the resources sector in northern Australia is stressing receiving communities and major regional centres alike. There is a considerable fly-in-fly-out (FIFO) workforce from north Queensland to the mines in Qld, WA and PNG with significant social and economic impacts of mining. In 2012 we worked with the FIFO coordinator and Advance Cairns on two research projects.

The Institute engaged with Regional Development Australia committees on work relating to the development of northern Queensland and more broadly. We developed a proposal to establish a tropical knowledge hub addressing a number of issues in Northern Australia and Asia Pacific. An intersectoral forum was held in July 2012.

The Board, CEO and Chairperson of Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) held its meeting at JCU at the invitation of the Professor Hurriyet Babacan. The Institute worked with them to meet stakeholders in north Queensland region and they also met with Institute researchers. The Vice Chancellor addressed their Board Meeting and we will engage with them on rural development projects and a possibility of a research project.

Hurriyet Babacan and Allan Dale secured a significant Collaborative Research Network with Charles Darwin University concerning the future of northern Australia in 2012.

Much of Professor Natalie Stoeckl's research work fits under this Regional Economic Development and themes 2, 3, 4 and 6. She specialised in collaborative cross-disciplinary research using models that combine economic, environmental and social variables to explore interactions between socio-economic and ecological systems.

**2. Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Futures.** Professor Komla Tsey's Empowerment Research Program (ERP) continued its research work in 2012 on the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We partnered with Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples' Alliance (RAPA), involving 19 Traditional Owner groups in Far North Queensland (FNQ), to work collaboratively on Indigenous knowledge, livelihoods and governance. A collaborative funding submission was prepared via the Institute with RAPA and CSIRO and submitted to the National Environment Research Program and was funded for \$90,000. In implementing this project we have forged stronger links with RAPA and CSIRO.

The Cairns Institute was also engaged by the Mamu Aboriginal Corporation in 2012 to work with the local community and Indigenous parents and carers to help them become more involved with schools and their children's education in the Innisfail

District. This project coordinated and supported the implementation of the Parent and Community Engagement (PaCE) Program across the Innisfail Indigenous Community through collaboration with the Mamu Aboriginal Corporation.

**3. Sustainability & Tropical Environments.** Allan Dale secured a National Environmental Research Program (NERP) project to review the Australian system of governance of landscape scale greenhouse gas abatement, and in partnership with Bob Pressey, he also secured an Australian Centre for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (ACEAS) grant to bring together a national publication team around conservation planning issues in northern Australia.

Also under this theme Natalie Stoeckl led a project that looked at the socio-economic systems and reef resilience and another project funded under the Northern Australia Water Future Assessments program to look at the social and cultural values associated with Australia's tropical rivers.

**4. Social Justice & Community Wellbeing.** Professor Chris Cunneen's major work for 2012 under this theme was the Indigenous Legal Needs Project (ILNP) which launched its Northern Territory Report in Darwin in November.

Hurriyet Babacan was asked to chair the homelessness leadership group, an intersectoral, government-services committee, which looks at addressing homelessness in Cairns and FNQ.

**5. Education Futures.** In 2012 Bob Stevenson received a grant from the Federal Office of Learning and Teaching (OLT) for a project to develop and study a state-wide systems approach to embedding Education for Sustainability (Efs) in teacher education.

Also in 2012 Roxanne Bainbridge continued her work on an ARC funded project that will develop a whole-of-community approach to engage Indigenous learners with education and provide evidence of a model that works in the Yarrabah community.

**6. Governance & Political Innovation.** An initiative under this theme was the Native Title for Anthropologists master class run in April 2012 for graduate and early career anthropologists.

Allan Dale led a project under this theme that will focus on the potential application of emerging ecosystem service markets to secure landscape-scale resilience for biodiversity in the face of climate change.

**7. International Aid Development.** A number of initiatives in Papua New Guinea (PNG) were explored including a series of discussions with the Department for Community Development and a Memorandum of Agreement in July 2012, and we began negotiating an MOU with the PNG Office of Higher Education (OHE) which will involve strengthening public sector universities, human capital research and office for higher education policy frameworks and the formation of the North Qld Education Cluster to be chaired by Director of OHE and Director of the Cairns Institute.

**8. Language, Culture, Agency & Change.** A very prestigious Australian Laureate Fellowship (ALF) was awarded to Distinguished Professor Alexandra Aikhenvald by the Australian Research Council (ARC) and the Language and Culture Research Centre (LCRC) was extremely active with many workshops and seminars throughout the year.

Under the leadership of Professor Ton Otto the Culture, Agency and Change research group published a large number of papers.

Arising from the fellowship of Professor Ryan Daniel, a cluster of work is being started looking at creative industries in Northern Australia. Charles Darwin University (CDU) agreed to partner with us on this work. Preliminary discussions were held with Arts Queensland and a joint submission was prepared with a focus on community cultural arts. Additionally, a cultural atlas of northern Australia, a signature project of the Institute, began and there will be a web access to this by early next year.

A new set of challenges will come in 2013 with the ending of the Federal Government's Establishment Grant and the completion of the new building.

**Professor Sue McGinty**  
*Acting Director*



# GOVERNANCE

The Cairns Institute was led by the Foundation Director, Professor Hurriyet Babacan, from 2009 – November 2012 and Acting Director, Professor Sue McGinty from November 2012. During this time the Institute appointed leading national and international scholars including six

Tropical Leaders, Visiting Scholars, and Senior Fellows and Fellows. Along with Higher Degree research students and Post-doctoral researchers, the Institute has expansive capacity for working across the tropics.

## Management Committee

The Management Committee of the Cairns Institute provides oversight and direction of the Institute's operations and is responsible to the Vice-Chancellor for the proper conduct of its affairs. The Director of the Institute reports to the Management Committee. Committee membership for 2012 included:

**Professor Chris Cocklin** (Chair), Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor

**Professor Nola Alloway**, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Faculty of Arts, Education and Social Sciences

**Professor Sue McGinty**, Associate Dean Research, Faculty of Arts, Education and Social Sciences

**Professor Robyn McGuiggan**, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Faculty of Law, Business and Creative Arts

**Dr Alastair Birtles**, Associate Dean Research, Faculty of Law, Business and Creative Arts

**Professor Hurriyet Babacan** (ex-officio), Foundation Director, The Cairns Institute

# International Advisory Board

The International Advisory Board's role is to advise the Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor, The Cairns Institute Management Committee and the Director of The Cairns Institute on strategic and academic matters relating to the development of The Cairns Institute, realisation of its vision, and implementation of its strategic intent.

Appointed by the Vice-Chancellor, its members are distinguished people of international reputation, recognised by their peers as having made an outstanding contribution to one or more of the academic disciplines represented within the Institute. Members of the

**Professor Chris Cocklin** (ex-officio)  
Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor, James Cook University

**Mrs Margo Chapman**  
Director, GE Chapman Pty Ltd

**Professor Barbara Glowczewski**  
Director of Research, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale, Collège de France

**Professor Jon Tikivanotau M Jonassen**  
Department of Political Science, College of Business, Computing & Government, Brigham Young University, Hawai'i

**Associate Professor Tarcisius Tara Kabutaulaka**  
Center for Pacific Islands Studies, University of Hawai'i

**Emeritus Professor Joel S Kahn**  
Emeritus Professor of Anthropology, School of Social Sciences, La Trobe University

**Professor Bruce Kapferer**  
Professor of Anthropology, University of Bergen, Norway

**Dame Carol Kidu**  
Member of Parliament, Papua New Guinea

International Advisory Board are appointed for a period of five years and will normally meet at least annually in Cairns with the Vice-Chancellor, Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Director, Management Committee and academic leaders of the Cairns Institute, as part of its review and planning cycle.

Membership of the International Advisory Board in 2012 was:

**Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG**  
Retired Justice of the High Court of Australia

**Professor Tom Kompas**  
Director of Crawford School of Economics and Government, and Foundation Director of the Australian Centre for Biosecurity and Environmental Economics, Australian National University

**Professor Lily Kong**  
Vice-President (University and Global Relations), National University of Singapore

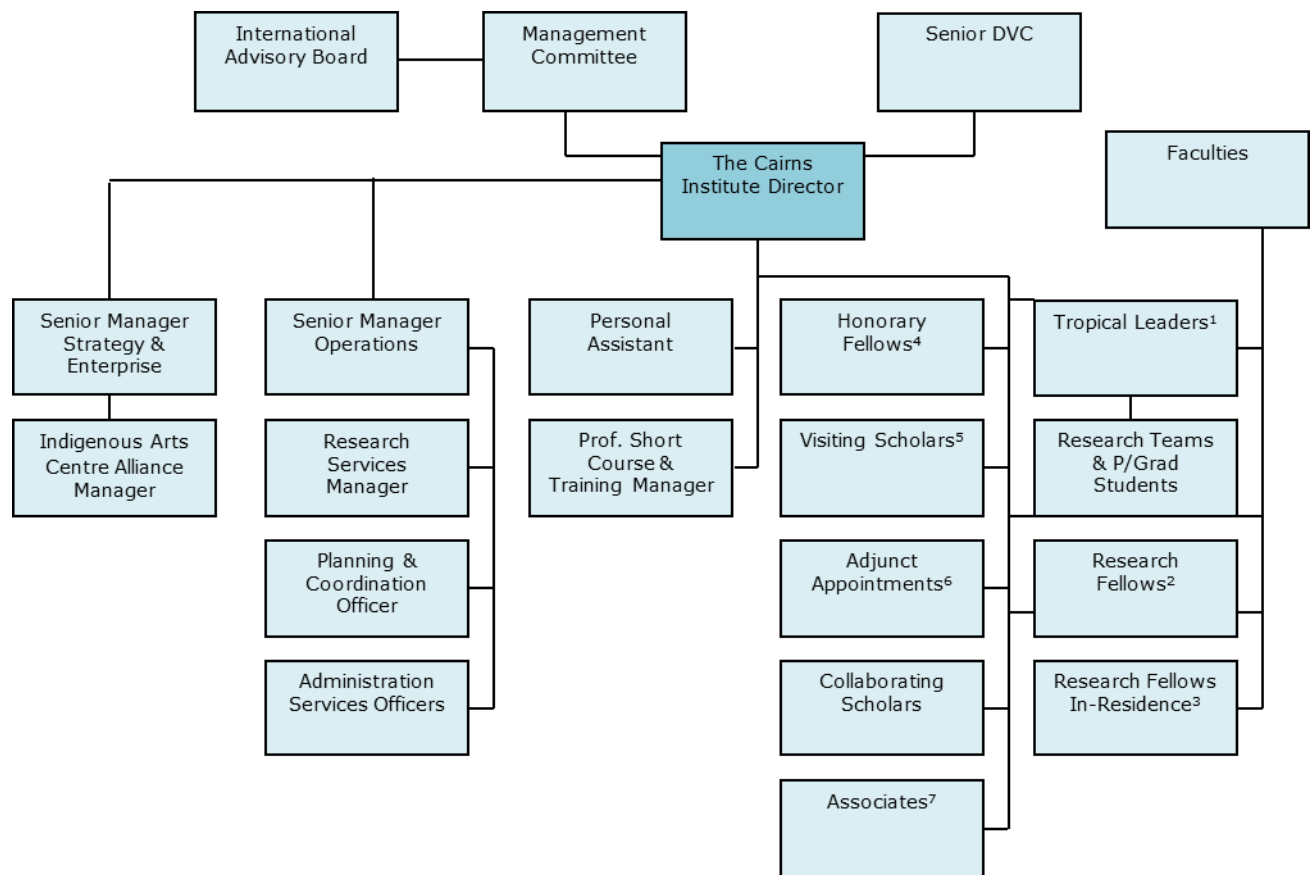
**Professor Ambigapathy Pandian**  
Research Leader, International Literary Research Unit, School of Languages, Literacies and Translation (SoLLaT), Universiti Sains Malaysia

**Ms Joann Schmider**  
Wet Tropics FNQ Rainforest Aboriginal People Traditional Owner (Director, ComUnity ACETs Pty Ltd)

**Dr Gunnar M Sørbo**  
Senior Researcher, Chr Michelsen Institute (CMI), Norway

**Professor Alistair Ulph**  
Executive Director, Sustainable Consumption Institute, University of Manchester

# Organisational Chart



1 Faculty of Arts, Education & Social Sciences and the Faculty of Law, Business & Creative Arts

2 Appointed for 5 years, renewable by the Board on recommendation of the Director, The Cairns Institute

3 Appointed for 6 months to 1 year on the recommendation of the Head of School, PVC and the Director, The Cairns Institute

4 Appointed for 5 years by the VC on the recommendation of the Management Committee

5 Appointed by the Board on the recommendation of the Director, The Cairns Institute

6 Appointed under James Cook University's Adjunct Appointments Policies and Procedures on the recommendation of the Director, The Cairns Institute

7 Appointed by the Director to stakeholder agencies and individuals affiliated with The Cairns Institute

# MEMBERSHIP

## Tropical Leaders

### Distinguished Professor Alexandra (Sasha) Aikhenvald



Distinguished Professor Alexandra Aikhenvald is an Australian Laureate Fellow and Tropical

Leader, People & Societies of the Tropics. She is also Director of the Language and Culture Research Centre (LCRC) which brings together linguists, anthropologists, other social scientists and those working in the humanities. Sasha's current major focus is investigating languages of the world, especially tropical areas of Amazonia and New Guinea. The aim is to deepen our understanding of the interrelationship between language and culture, investigating the issue of practical outcomes (such as educational activities for the regional communities). Her major project now is the Australian Research Council (ARC) Australian Laureate Fellowship 'How gender shapes the world: a linguistic perspective' (2012-2017) focusing on the expression and conceptualisation of gender across languages and cultures. Sasha supervises eight PhD students who are all working on a grammar of a previously undescribed language, from PNG, Mexico, Taiwan, Peru and China.

### Professor Chris Cunneen



Professor Chris Cunneen is Tropical Leader, Justice & Social Inclusion. Chris has an international

reputation as a leading criminologist specialising in Indigenous people and the law, juvenile justice, restorative justice, policing, prison issues and human rights. Chris has participated with a number of Australian Royal Commissions and Inquiries (including the Stolen Generations Inquiry, the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody and the National Inquiry into Racist Violence), and with the federal Australian Human Rights Commission. He taught criminology at Sydney Law School (1990-2005) where he was appointed as Professor in 2004. He was also the Director of the Institute of Criminology (1999-2005) at the University of Sydney. Chris has held research positions with the Indigenous Law Centre, University of New South Wales (UNSW), and the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research. Between 2006 and 2010 he was the NewSouth Global Chair in Criminology at UNSW and continues as a Conjoint Professor at UNSW Law Faculty. He is also an Adjunct Professor at the Institute of Criminology, University of Victoria, Wellington, New Zealand.

### Professor Ton Otto



Professor Ton Otto is Tropical Leader, People & Societies of the Tropics. Throughout his career Ton has

sustained his interest in processes of social and cultural change and has written extensively about religious change, cargo cult movements, political and economic transformation, warfare, the politics of tradition, heritage and identity, and the management of natural resources, with a regional focus on Melanesia. He is recognised internationally as an expert in Pacific studies and Manus ethnography. He also writes about methodological and epistemological issues and engages with material and visual culture through exhibitions and films. He is involved in the development of the interdisciplinary collaboration between anthropology and design. At present he deals in particular with questions of local agency in relation to constructions of history, heritage and change, and the development of participatory research methods in the study of these questions.

### Professor Bob Stevenson



Professor Bob Stevenson is Tropical Leader, Education for Environmental Sustainability and Director of the Centre for

Research & Innovation in Sustainability Education. Bob's research focuses on theory-policy-practice relationships in environmental/sustainability education and its history and marginalised status as an educational reform in K-12 schooling. He has critically examined international and national policies and discourses and has developed seminal explanations of the discrepancies between policies and practice in environmental education, arguing for more inclusive and participatory approaches to policy formulation. His current research interests centre on the current and potential sites of learning about issues of environmental sustainability by young people and how schools, peers, electronic media and the home, are being used and can be constructively used to work toward a more sustainable and just society.

### Professor Natalie Stoeckl



Professor Natalie Stoeckl is Tropical Leader, Regional Economic Development.

Natalie is an economist with a keen interest in the environmental and social/distributional issues associated with economic growth with extensive experience in a variety of non-market valuation techniques. What distinguishes her from many other economists is her track record of collaborative cross-disciplinary research using models that combine economic, environmental and social variables to explore interactions between socio-economic and ecological systems. She has published widely in both national and international forums and supervises many (mostly multidisciplinary) research students.

### Professor Komla Tsey



Professor Komla Tsey is Tropical Leader, Education for Social Sustainability. Komla has more

than 25 years' of research experience and provides leadership as part of transdisciplinary teams across the School of Education, the Cairns Institute and beyond to undertake developmental research in the field of education for social sustainability; build a longer-term education for social sustainability collaborative research agenda; and mentor and support emerging researchers to become independent competitive researchers. Komla is passionately committed to the ethical conduct of research, and to ensuring that research that he leads demonstrates tangible benefits for the research participants. Over the past decade, Komla has led a research team at JCU and the University of Queensland to operationalise and build a research evidence-base for Aboriginal-developed community empowerment programs. He is an expert in leading diverse research programs into politically sensitive and contemporary health, education, welfare and other social issues concerning Australia's Indigenous and rural Ghanaian communities and beyond. He utilises original and collaborative empowerment and participatory approaches to improving understanding of social circumstances and the relationship between these and government policies, thereby improving and sustaining health and wellbeing in population subsets.

## Research Leader

### Associate Professor Allan Dale



Allan is Leader – Tropical Regional Development. He has a strong interest in integrated

natural resource policy and management in northern Australia. He has both extensive research and policy expertise in governance systems and in integrated natural

resource management. His work is particularly focused on the future of northern Australia and the Great Barrier Reef. He is also Chair of Regional Development Australian Far North Queensland and Torres Strait. His past research helped inform the policy and investment foundations for the nation's regional natural resource management system, and he was also responsible for natural resource policy in the Queensland Government. Allan has also been

the CEO of the Wet Tropics Regional NRM Body before returning to this international research role. As Leader – Tropical Regional Development he also accesses an international network of research expertise in the governance field, with particularly strong linkages throughout Charles Darwin University, Griffith University and CSIRO.



# Post Doctoral Researchers

## Dr Roxanne Bainbridge



Dr Roxanne Bainbridge is Senior Research Officer (Empowerment Research Program). Her

research interests are Aboriginal empowerment education, social determinants of Aboriginal health and wellbeing, and gendered roles and relationships in Aboriginal societies. She has a current ARC Discovery Indigenous project: *Inspiring Indigenous youth to build resilience and sustain participation with education and employment: the role of targeted mentoring support*, as well as an ARC Discovery - Indigenous Researchers Development project, *A whole-of-community approach to promoting engagement into education in a discrete Indigenous community: A mixed method study*. Roxanne has various other projects funded by the Menzies Institute, the Queensland Government, the Sax Institute, and the Queensland Centre for Social Science Innovation.

## Dr Susan Jacups



Dr Susan Jacups joined the Cairns Institute in late 2012, with funding provided by Rural Health

Continuing Education Stream. Since then Susan has delivered *Cannabis education and harm reduction* workshops to youth workers, clinical staff and community members in Cairns and remote Cape York Indigenous communities. This project ran from 2012 to June 2013 and was evaluated with positive responses. Prior to arriving at the Cairns Institute she conducted her PhD studies, comprising of equal components of 'human health', 'landscape ecology' and 'statistical analysis'. The overarching theme centred on mosquitoes: as vectors

of disease, their breeding habitats, and evaluations of the anthropogenic ecological changes conducted to reduce their breeding.

## Dr Mark Post



Dr Mark Post (PhD, La Trobe University) worked on compiling a digital corpus of Upper Belt Minyong (Tani,

Tibeto-Burman), and drafting an etymological dictionary and descriptive grammar of the language. He also continued comparative/typological work on nominalisation and stance marking in Tibeto-Burman, and co-edited the fifth volume in the conference series *North East Indian Linguistics*.

## Dr Elena Mihas



Dr Elena Mihas (PhD, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee) spent 2012 at LCRC as part of her two-year Post-

doctoral Fellowship on ARC Discovery Project *The grammar of knowledge*. She undertook a fine-grained analysis of number of topics of Ashéninka Perené grammar (including subordination strategies, expression of information-source meanings, nominal temporal morphology, and ideophones) and worked with the native community on the text collection project, to be published by the Nebraska University Press. She presented a paper on 'Expression of information-source meanings in Ashéninka Perené (Arawak)' at the International Workshop on Grammar of Knowledge, at LCRC. In April-May 2012, she undertook fieldwork research in Chanchamayo Province, Peru (supported by a grant from the Firebird Foundation for Anthropological Research). At the end of the year, her original 2-

year Fellowship was replaced by a new 5-year one within the Australian Laureate Fellowship Project.

## Dr Anne Schwartz



Dr Anne Schwartz has a PhD from the Humboldt University, Berlin, on 'Aspects of morphosyntax and tonology in Buli', based on extensive

fieldwork on this Gur language from northern Ghana. She completed her three-year Post-doctoral Fellowship within LCRC (CI) (2009-2012). Her field research spanned a total of nine months in the Sucumbios province in the north-eastern Amazonian region of Ecuador. She has prepared parts of a grammatical description of Ecuadorian Siona/Secoya, an electronic dictionary, a text corpus based on digitally aligned audio/video recordings. A video DVD for community purposes has been stored with the Firebird Foundation and the Archive for Ecuadorian Languages maintained by FLACSO, Ecuador.

## Dr Snowy (Neus) Evans



Dr Snowy Evans has been a Senior Research Officer with the Cairns Institute and School of Education since

2010. Snowy is broadly interested in sustainability and education within multiple contexts, including pre-school to year 12, higher-education, and community levels. Snowy's earlier research was based on education for sustainability in the primary school sector. In more recent times she has shifted the focus to the university-based pre-service teacher education context.

# Research Fellows

Research Fellows are members of the University committed to, and actively involved in, realising the vision and strategic intent of the Cairns Institute through affiliated research, teaching and/or professional consulting. Research Fellows are not eligible for teaching release. The appointment of Fellows is at the discretion of the Management Committee, on the recommendation of the Director of the Cairns Institute. Appointment is for a period of 5 years, renewable.

**Professor Michael Ackland**

Roderick Chair of English, School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Associate Professor Peter Aitken**

School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Sciences (Anton Breinl Centre)

**Professor Neil Anderson**

Pearl Logan Chair of Rural Education, School of Education

**Dr Hurriyet Babacan**

Adjunct Professor, School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Dr India Bohanna**

School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Sciences

**Dr Helen Boon**

School of Education

**Dr Lawrence Brown**

School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Sciences

**Professor Yvonne Cadet-James**

School of Indigenous Australian Studies

**Professor Peter Case**

School of Business

**Dr Garry Coventry**

School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Professor Ryan Daniel**

School of Creative Arts

**Professor Caroline de Costa**

School of Medicine & Dentistry

**Professor RMW Dixon**

Adjunct Professor, School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Associate Professor Wendy Earles**

School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Jennifer Gabriel**

School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Professor David Gillieson**

School of Earth & Environmental Sciences

**Professor Jonathan Golledge**

School of Medicine & Dentistry

**Dr Narayan Gopalkrishnan**

School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Associate Professor Susan Gordon**

School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Sciences

**Associate Professor Deborah Graham**

School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Professor Russell Hawkins**

School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Associate Professor Clare Heal**

School of Medicine & Dentistry

**Professor Edward Helmes**

School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Associate Professor Lyn Henderson**

School of Education

**Associate Professor Rosita Henry**

School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Dr Peter Horton**

School of Education

**Associate Professor Mohan Jacob**

School of Engineering & Physical Sciences

**Dr Adrian T H Kuah**

School of Business

**Professor Robert Lawn**

School of Marine & Tropical Biology

**Associate Professor Ickjai Lee**

School of Business

**Associate Professor Darren Lee-Ross**

School of Business

**Associate Professor Hayden Lesbirel**

School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Dr Siquwen Li**

School of Business

**Dr Wendy Li**

School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Associate Professor David Lindsay**

School of Nursing, Midwifery & Nutrition

**Associate Professor Bruce Litow**

School of Business

**Dr Anita Lundberg**

School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Professor Sue McGinty**  
School of Indigenous Australian Studies

**Associate Professor Russell McGregor**  
School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Professor Gianna Moscardo**  
School of Business

**Dr Stephen Naylor**  
Campus Dean, JCU Singapore

**Dr Paul Nelson**  
School of Earth & Environmental Sciences

**Professor Philip Pearce**  
School of Business

**Professor Bob Pressey**  
ARC CoE Coral Reef Studies

**Professor Bruce Prideaux**  
School of Business

**Dr Murray Prideaux**  
School of Business

**Associate Professor Frances Quirk**  
School of Medicine & Dentistry

**Professor Jeffrey Sayer**  
School of Earth & Environmental Sciences

**Associate Professor Venkatesh Shashidhar**  
School of Medicine & Dentistry

**Emeritus Professor Rosamund Thorpe**  
School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Associate Professor Stephen Torre**  
School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Professor Steve Turton**  
School of Earth & Environmental Sciences

**Dr Sean Ulm**  
School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Professor Kim Usher**  
School of Nursing, Midwifery & Nutrition

**Dr Hilary Whitehouse**  
School of Education

**Dr Eric Wolanski**  
School of Marine & Tropical Biology

**Dr Mike Wood**  
School of Arts & Social Sciences

**Associate Professor Ahmad Zahedi**  
School of Engineering & Physical Sciences

**Professor Zhang-Yue Zhou**  
School of Business

## Honorary Fellows

Honorary Fellows are distinguished individuals of international standing, who have made an outstanding contribution to our knowledge of peoples and societies in the tropics worldwide and/or their quality of life and wellbeing.

**Professor Maria Serena I. Diokno**  
Professor of History, University of the Philippines Diliman and Executive Director, Southeast Asian Studies Regional Exchange Program (SEASREP) Foundation

**Professor Vilsoni Hereniko**  
Director and Professor, Center for Pacific Islands Studies, University of Hawai'i

**Professor Charles Higham**  
Professor, Department Anthropology, Gender and Sociology, University of Otago, New Zealand

**Professor Edvard Hviding**  
Head of Department, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Bergen, Norway

**Professor Bruce Kapferer**  
Professor of Anthropology, University of Bergen, Norway

**Hon. Nursyahbani Katjasungkana MP**  
Member of Indonesian Parliament and Director, Institute for Indonesian Women's Association for Justice

**Professor John Quiggan**  
Australian Research Council Federation Fellow in Economics and Political Science, The University of Queensland

# Adjuncts

Adjunct appointments are a mechanism for recognising in a formal way suitably qualified and experienced individuals who have a close association with, and make a significant contribution to, the academic activities of the University in a largely honorary capacity on an ongoing basis.

**Prof Matthew Allan**

Adjunct Professor

**Dr Christopher Ballard**

Adjunct Associate Professor, Division of Pacific and Asian History, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University

**Dr Jennifer Bowers**

Adjunct Professorial Research Fellow, Chief Executive Officer, Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health Queensland

**Mr Lawrence Bragge**

Adjunct Research Fellow, Community Relations Consultant to PNP Petroleum Industry

**Professor Paul Carter**

Adjunct Professor, Chair in Creative Place Research, School of Communication and Creative Arts, Deakin University

**Dr Lesley Clark**

Adjunct Professor, Director, PacificPlus Consulting

**Ms Janette Clonan**

Adjunct Associate Professor, Owner & Principal, Clonan Connections

**Dr Stephan Dahl**

Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Senior Lecturer in Marketing, Hull University Business School

**Dr RMW Dixon**

Adjunct Professor, School of Arts and Social Sciences

**Dr Ernest Grant**

Adjunct Research Fellow, Cultural Advisor and Cultural Officer, Department of Education, Queensland

**Professor Romy Greiner**

Adjunct Professor, Professor of Tropical Knowledge, Charles Darwin University

**Dr Rod Griffith**

Adjunct Senior Research Fellow, Principal, Rod Griffith & Associates

**Dr Lawrence Kalinoe**

Adjunct Professor, Secretary, Department of Justice and Attorney General, Papua New Guinea Government

**Professor David Kavanamur**

Adjunct Professor, Director General, Office of Higher Education, Papua New Guinea

**Dr Elin Kelsey**

Adjunct Principal Research Fellow, Consultant, Elin Kelsey & Company

**Dr Tracie Mafile'o**

Adjunct Professor, Director of Research & Postgraduate Studies, Pacific Adventist University

**Professor James Mangan**

Adjunct Professor, Founding and Executive Academic Editor, IJHS; Founding Editor, SGS; Fellow of the Royal Historical Society; and Emeritus Professor, University of Strathclyde

**Dr Henrietta Marrie**

Adjunct Professor (Professional), Program Manager, Northern Australia, The Christensen Fund

**Professor Wadan Narsey**

Adjunct Professor

**Tim Nevard**

Adjunct Research Fellow (Professional), Director, Pensthorpe Conservation Trust

**Professor Biman Prasad**

Adjunct Professor, Adjunct Professor, Griffith University, Professor of Economics, The University of the South Pacific

**Professor Elspeth Probyn**

Adjunct Professor, Professor of Gender and Cultural Studies, The University of Sydney

**Ms Sandra Robinson**

Adjunct Research Fellow, Principal Consultant, Sandy Robinson & Associates

**Dr Diann Rodgers-Healey**

Adjunct Professor, Executive Director, Australian Centre for Leadership for Women (ACLW)

**Dr Albert Schram**

Adjunct Professor, Vice-Chancellor, Papua New Guinea University of Technology

**Professor Daniela Stehlik**

Adjunct Professor, Pro Vice-Chancellor, The Northern Institute, Charles Darwin University

**Professor Kenneth Sumbuk**

Adjunct Professor, Executive Dean, School of Humanities & Social Sciences, University of Papua New Guinea

**Marlene Thompson**

Adjunct Research Fellow (Academic), Research Coordinator, Waminda Women's Health and Welfare Service Aboriginal Corporation

**Professor Craig Volker**

Professor, Divine Word University, Madang, Papua New Guinea

## Administration

There was some movement in Administration staffing in 2012. The team included for all or part of the year the following people:

**Kerry Blair**

Project Officer

**Mandy Brock**

Administrative Officer

**Brigitta Flick**

Publication Officer, LCRC

**Natasha Garvey**

Project Officer

**Danielle Hickey**

Project Officer

**Shannon Johnston**

Personal Assistant to the Director

**Katrina Keith**

Manager, Research Services

**Dianna Madden**

Project Officer (replaced Vivienne Sadler)

**Jennifer McHugh**

Project Officer

**Kate Munro**

Training Manager

**Amanda Parsonage**

Personal Assistant to Professor Aikhenvald, LCRC

**Elena Rhind**

Administrative Officer

**Vivienne Sadler**

Administrative Officer (replaced Kylie Wilson)

**Jim Turnour**

Senior Manager Operations

**Sarah-Jane Warne**

Senior Manager, Strategy & Enterprise Development

**Anna Wasterval**

Personal Assistant to the Director (replaced Shannon Johnston)

**Kylie Wilson**

Administrative Officer

# Research Fellows in Residence

In 2012 the Institute hosted eleven Research Fellows in Residence to engage in full-time research and participate in the intellectual life of the Institute.

**Mr Abhishek Bhati**, School of Business. Abhishek's focus during his residency was on a project *Stakeholder responses to vandalism at tourist sites: A Singapore and Bangkok comparison*, which he hopes will contribute to a gap in tourism literature and expand the boundaries of tourism knowledge on managing tourist behaviour.

**Dr Taha Chaiechi**, School of Business. Taha's project was *Socio-economic systems and reef resilience*, which is part of a bigger project funded under the National Environmental Research Program (NERP). Taha used the time to develop an index of climate variability based on econometric techniques.

**Professor Ryan Daniel**, School of Creative Arts. Ryan's project during his residency was *Artists and careers: Issues affecting the development of the creative industries in regional North Queensland*, and his goal was to develop a significant body of data through survey and interview to publish and develop further funding applications.

**Associate Professor Chris Davies**, School of Law. The project that Chris worked on in 2012 was on *International comparative sports law*. His focus was on the use of evidence in the Court of Arbitration for Sport and racism in sport, and he hoped to publish a number of journal articles after this residency.

**Dr Cliff Jackson**, School of Education. Cliff's project was *Enhancing science education in the tropics*, and his goal was to generate journal articles from three collaborative projects he was involved in from 2010-2012.

**Heron Loban**, School of Law. Heron's project was *The regulation of book up / book down and Torres Strait Islander people* – a form of micro-finance extended by trader to consumer. Heron used the time to conduct a literature review and complete participant interviews as well as prepare articles for publication.

**Dr Tom Middleton**, School of Law. Tom's project was *Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) – new financial services powers*. His goal was to analyse ASIC's new consumer protection powers and to publish journal articles and a book chapter.

**Professor Gianna Moscardo**, School of Business. Gianna's project was on *Innovation in tourism practices* and her goal was to publish, to collect data, and to develop funding applications.

**Dr Laurie Murphy**, School of Business. Laurie's research focus whilst a fellow in residence was a project titled *Tourism and community wellbeing*. She spent the time collecting data from key stakeholders to identify ways in which rural tourism contributes to community wellbeing and how these contributions can be measured.

**Dr Josephine Pryce**, School of Business. Jo's project was *The sustainability of working lives: Insights from tradespeople* which aims to expand on the work that considers quality of working life. The data will contribute to maintenance of future labour markets within the region.

**Ms Mandy Shircore**, School of Law. Mandy spent her time on a project titled *Access to justice in Moynihan reforms in North Queensland* and on developing Work Integrated Learning (WIL) opportunities for law students in North Queensland.



# RESEARCH

## Theme 1: Regional Economic Development

**Natalie Stoeckl** *Tropical Leader, Regional Economic Development, Cairns Institute; School of Business; & TropWATER*

**Hurriyet Babacan** *Director, Cairns Institute*

**Anna Blackman** *School of Business*

**Jon Brodie** *TropWATER*

**Peter Case** *School of Business*

**Taha Chaiechi** *School of Business*

**John Connell** *School of Business*

**Allan Dale** *Leader Tropical Regional Development, Cairns Institute*

**Amy Diedrich** *Centre for Tropical Environmental & Sustainability Sciences*

**Michelle Esparon** *Centre for Sustainable Tropical Fisheries and Aquaculture*

**Marina Farr** *PhD Candidate, School of Business*

**Simon Foale** *School of Arts and Social Sciences*

**Steven Lewis** *TropWATER*

**Paul Lynch** *School of Business*

**Laurie Murphy** *School of Business*

**Josephine Pryce** *School of Business*

**Bruce Prideaux** *School of Business*

**Sizhong Sun** *School of Business*

**Michelle Thompson** *School of Business*

**Renae Tobin** *Centre for Sustainable Tropical Fisheries and Aquaculture*

**Jim Turnour** *Senior Manager Operations, Cairns Institute*

**Sarah Warne** *Senior Manager Strategy and Enterprise, Cairns Institute*

**Riccardo Welters** *School of Business*

Far North Queensland is a gateway to the Asia-Pacific offering enormous economic potential. The region's potential, however, is constrained by economic and social pressures as well as environmental and natural resource limitations. Diversification, innovation and improved capacity for sustaining livelihoods are essential to achieve beneficial economic development outcomes for the tropics. Under the theme Regional Economic Development we are focussing on promoting stronger economic development and diversification of industry to sustain livelihoods in the tropics; understanding the functioning of the regional economy and fostering improved business capacity; developing an economic index for Northern Queensland; enhancing quality, sustainability and innovation in Asian Pacific tourism development; improving economic livelihoods in the Asia Pacific; fostering entrepreneurship in the creative arts; and increasing food security in the region.

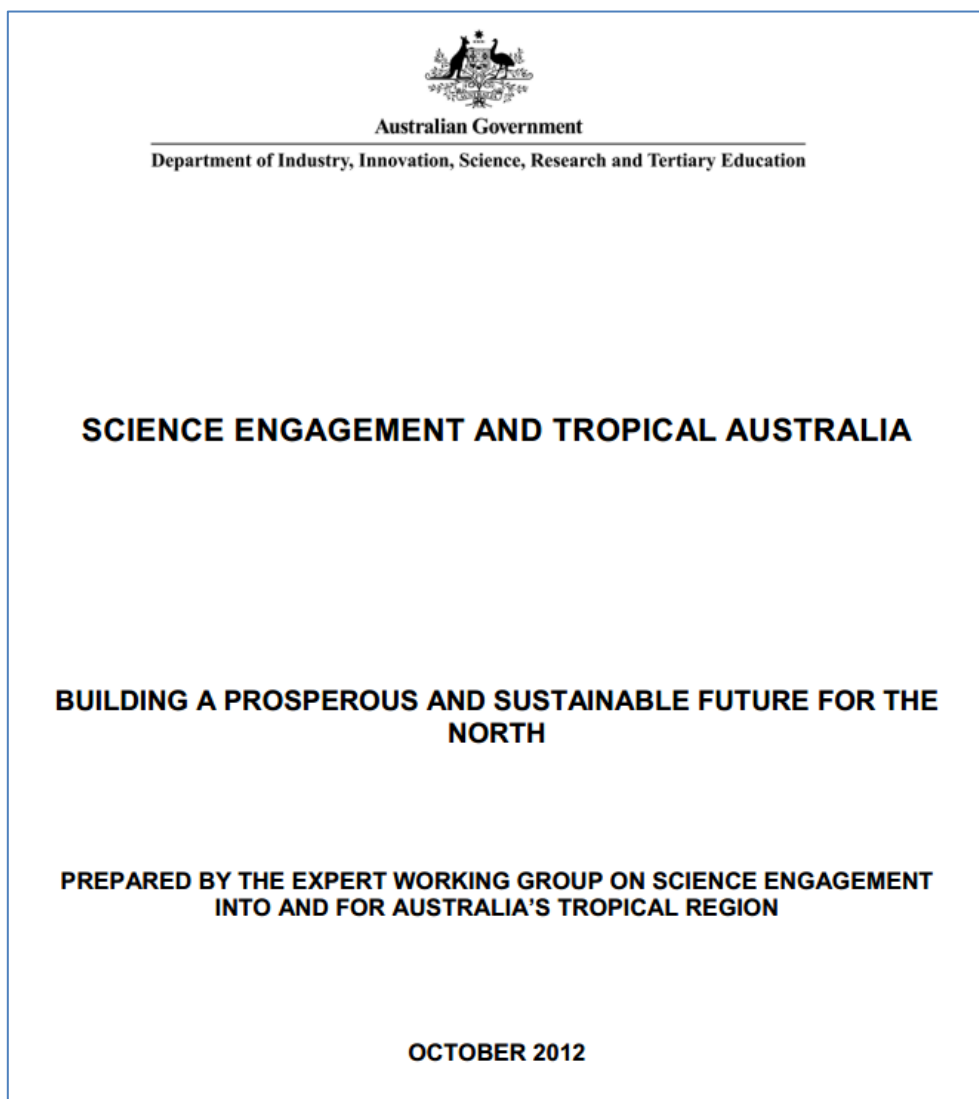
In 2012 **Natalie Stoeckl** and Taha Chaiechi continued their work on a project that is trying to identify ways of promoting biodiversity conservation without compromising the other goals of private land managers. The goal was to find out if it is cheaper for northern land managers to 'specialise' or 'diversify' so they looked at the way land managers use 'inputs' (e.g., land, labour and machinery) to create both market *and* non-market 'outcomes' (such as biodiversity or 'happy'/contented people). They will compare diversified properties with specialised ones to find out if diversification helps lower costs or raise productivity.

**Natalie Stoeckl** was also selected to give the last lecture in October, 2012. Her presentation was titled *Development in the Torrid Zone: Panacea or Poison Chalice?* and focused thought on questions that need to be asked, matters that need to be addressed and problems that must be solved if we hope to ensure that future 'development' of the Torrid Zone does less harm than good. She described some of the financial, ecological, social and distributional consequences of different types of 'development' and queried decision-making processes that may serve to exacerbate and/or perpetuate its negative side-effects such as loss of leisure, environmental degradation and/or other socioeconomic ills. Using data, models and insights gleaned from various researchers across a broad range of disciplines, the lecture took a holistic look at 'development' in Northern Australia.

The Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education funded a project on science engagement and communication. Four Expert Working Groups were set up across Northern Australia focusing on different aspects and the Institute was asked to lead the 'Tropical Expert Working Group'. The Working Group was established with key stakeholders from across Northern Australia and is chaired by the former Queensland Chief Scientist, Dr Peter Andrews and was asked to develop a discussion paper about key issues facing science engagement and communication. The discussion paper was completed and submitted to the Department, for public release. **Allan Dale** led the operation and final report of the Inspiring

Australia's Expert Working Group for Science Engagement in Tropical Australia is available on the department's website. This project positioned the Cairns Institute to lead this work and to be competitive in the next round of project funding.

The Institute was a partner to a submission to the Federal Government to be a part of their Collaborative Research Network (CRN) along with ANU and Australian Institute of Marine Science. The application was successful and a partnership agreement was signed with The Northern Institute with Allan Dale leading from the Cairns Institute. The collaboration has multiple dimensions including a focus on climate change, urban population growth and Indigenous livelihoods. Three Institute researchers are involved in a number of research projects as part of the CRN. There will be a post-doctoral fellow based in Cairns, coordination and facilitation fees and two PhDs (approximately \$498,000). The CRN is important to our work in northern Australia and stronger links have been forged between Northern Institute (CDU) and the Cairns Institute. The Director of the Northern Institute visited JCU and a number of projects were discussed to be progressed, focusing on northern Australia.



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<http://www.innovation.gov.au/science/InspiringAustralia/ExpertWorkingGroup/Documents/TropicalRegionEWGreport.pdf>

## Theme 2: Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Futures

**Komla Tsey** *Tropical Leader, Education for Social Sustainability, Cairns Institute & School of Education*

**Chris Cunneen** *Tropical Leader, Justice & Social Inclusion, Cairns Institute & School of Law*

**Alexandra Aikhenvald** *Tropical Leader, People & Societies of the Tropics, Distinguished Fellow & Australian Laureate Fellow, Cairns Institute*

**Neil Anderson** *School of Education*

**Roxanne Bainbridge** *Senior Research Fellow, Cairns Institute*

**India Bohanna** *School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Sciences*

**Cath Brown** *Research Officer, Cairns Institute*

**Yvonne Cadet-James** *School of Indigenous Australian Studies*

**Taha Chaiechi** *School of Business*

**Alan Clough** *School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Sciences*

**Peter d'Abbs** *School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Science*

**Aur lie Delisle** *PhD Candidate, School of Business*

**David Durrheim** *School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Science*

**Jacinta Elston** *Associate Dean, Indigenous Health*

**Michelle Esparon** *Research Officer, Centre for Sustainable Tropical Fisheries and Aquaculture*

**Adrian Esterman** *School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Science*

**Kate Galloway** *School of Law*

**Deborah Graham** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Rosita Henry** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Susan Jacups** *Postdoctoral Research Officer, Cairns Institute*

**Jenni Judd** *Faculty of Medicine, Health & Molecular Sciences*

**Janya McCalman** *Senior Research Officer, Cairns Institute*

**Robyn McDermott** *School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Science*

**Sue McGinty** *Acting Director, Cairns Institute*

**Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Helene Marsh** *Centre for Tropical Water and Aquatic Ecosystem Research*

**Peter Massey** *School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Science*

**Kathryn Meldrum** *School of Education*

**Adrian Miller** *School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Science*

**Kate Munro** *Training Manager, Cairns Institute*

**Richard Murray** *School of Medicine & Dentistry*

**Ton Otto** *Tropical Leader, People and Societies of the Tropics, Cairns Institute & School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Bernadette Rogerson** *School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Science*

**Joann Schmider** *Project Officer, Cairns Institute*

**Rick Speare** *School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Science*

**Anne Stephens** *Senior Research Officer, Cairns Institute*

**Pauline Taylor** *School of Education*

**Jim Turnour** *Senior Manager Operations, Cairns Institute*

**Melissa Vick** *School of Education*

**Valda Wallace** *School of Indigenous Australian Studies*

**Rachael Wargent** *Research Officer, Cairns Institute*

**Sarah Warne** *Senior Manager Strategy and Enterprise, Cairns Institute*

**Felecia Watkin-Lui** *School of Indigenous Australian Studies*

**Mike Wood** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders living in Far North Queensland contribute to the uniqueness of life in the tropics. They represent 14.3% of the region's total population; four times the national average. The research outcomes we are working towards under the theme Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Futures are: supporting Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander leadership and support groups to promote community level health and wellbeing; building effective Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander alcohol treatment, rehabilitation and prevention programs; improving child protection and decreasing family violence in Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities; building research capacity in Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander researchers across Australia; developing sustainable Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities; preserving Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage and language; and improving access to justice in Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities.

Under the leadership of **Komla Tsey** the Empowerment Research Program (ERP) continued its research work in 2012 on one of Australia's most significant problems: the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The hallmark of ERP is that the research team works alongside individuals and communities to help them identify, confront, and appropriately process the challenges they face, and be supported in their capacity to effect change and address the problems that so deeply impact upon their lives and those they are in relationship with. Empowerment is "a strategy that directly addresses lack of

control over destiny. Through challenging social and physical risk factors in a collective setting, people gain a belief they can control their worlds, a sense of their commonality, an ability to work together to acquire resources, and an actual transformation of socio-political condition”<sup>1</sup>.

An example of a collaborative research project that the ERP conducted in 2012 was the “Beat da Binge” project in Yarrabah. Beat da Binge was developed by Gindja Treatment and Healing Indigenous Corporation in partnership with other Yarrabah community organisations and funded through the Federal Government’s National Binge Drinking Strategy. The project sought to understand why Indigenous youth drink at harmful levels. The ERP team worked with the community to embed empowerment/wellbeing promotion as important parts of their binge drinking prevention initiative, and collaborated with specialist drug and alcohol researchers to design and implement the evaluation components of the project. The project resulted in a 14% reduction in binge drinking and improvement in awareness of binge drinking (29%) and the meaning of standard drinks (19%). Importantly, the research team were able to identify what the young people meant by saying “we drink because we are bored.” Being “bored” was defined as feeling a lack of purpose or meaning in life, training, employment or activities. Being able to define the core problem, the participants in the study were then able to articulate possible solutions, e.g., the importance of mentoring to young people by community leaders. This is a positive step forward for the ‘at risk’ group and it resulted in a 2013 National Drug and Alcohol Awards award for Excellence in Services for Young People for Gindja and provided further opportunity for the ERP team to continue its work in capacity building within the Yarrabah community.

Other highlights from the ERP in 2012 included the team publishing 12 papers in peer reviewed journals and receiving grants from the National Health and Medical Research Council; Queensland Centre for Social Science Innovation; the Queensland Drug and Alcohol Council; and Queensland Health. The work of the team was selected to showcase the research impact of James Cook University research programs.

**Roxanne Bainbridge** from the ERP received a three-year Australian Research Council Discovery Indigenous Award related to a project to inspire Indigenous youth to build resilience and sustain participation with education and employment. Also from the ERP, **Janya McCalman** completed her PhD and **Cath Brown** finished her Masters of Public Health Degree.

Another researcher working under this theme was **Susan Jacups**. Noticing a deficit in cannabis reduction interventions (gap not filled by research grants or service delivery programs), Susan applied for Rural Health Continuing Education (RHCE) stream 2 grant to develop new workshops specific to rural and remote Indigenous people and those working in service delivery to those areas. She collaborated with the National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre (NCPIC) and created two workshops late 2012. These workshops were then delivered across Cairns and Cape York by Susan in early 2013. Evaluations indicated workshops were well received, enabling NCPIC to commence the process for accreditation. Susan also assisted the ERP team with the evaluation of the ‘Beat da Binge’ project in Yarrabah.

**Natalie Stoeckl** teamed up with others from TRaCK (Tropical Rivers and Coastal Knowledge) to combine socioeconomic, hydrological, ecological and social models and insights, investigating the effects of different types of ‘development’ on Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Northern Australia. In this project the economic modelling highlighted the fact that standard types of development (e.g., expansion of the agricultural sector) generate much greater economic benefits for non-Indigenous households than for Indigenous households, thus opening, rather than closing the gap. Also, the hydrological, ecological and social extension work clearly highlighted the importance of considering interactions between socioeconomic and biophysical systems when assessing the desirability (or otherwise) of development.

In the second half of 2012, **Natalie Stoeckl**, Silva Larson and Michelle Esparon received funding from the Tropical Ecosystems Hub of the NERP for a 2.5 year project titled *The Relative social and economic values of residents and tourists in the WTWHA*. This project seeks to learn more about what residents and visitors in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area (WTWHA) think is most/least important. A very interesting extension to this project came through an exciting collaboration with the Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples’ Alliance (RAPA) who are helping to ensure that the team are able to ‘hear the voice’ of Aboriginal Traditional Owners from this area too. The project includes some questions relating to Indigenous cultural values – the overall hope being that we can provide background information to RAPA for their development of a project in future years that investigates such values more carefully, and in a culturally appropriate ways. The first six months of the project were essentially a ‘planning’ period involving literature reviews and several workshops with key stakeholders. They identified key ‘values’ for assessment, key problems and management issues facing decision makers, and appropriate assessment methods. This information was used to devise two questionnaires (one for tourists, one for residents).

<sup>1</sup> Wallerstein, N. (1992). Powerlessness, empowerment, and health: Implications for health promotion programs. *American Journal of Health Promotion*, 6, 197-205.

## Theme 3: Sustainability & Tropical Environments

**Natalie Stoeckl** *Tropical Leader, Regional Economic Development, Cairns Institute; School of Business & TropWATER*

**Bob Stevenson** *Tropical Leader, Education for Environmental Sustainability, Cairns Institute & School of Education*

**Allan Dale** *Leader Tropical Regional Development, Cairns Institute*

**Hurriyet Babacan** *Director, Cairns Institute*

**Helen Boon** *School of Education*

**Jon Brodie** *TropWATER*

**Yvonne Cadet-James** *School of Indigenous Australian Studies*

**Peter Case** *School of Business*

**Taha Chaiechi** *Senior Lecturer, School of Business*

**John Connell** *School of Business*

**Allison Cottrell** *School of Earth & Environmental Sciences*

**Aur lie Delisle** *PhD Candidate, School of Business*

**Amy Diedrich** *Centre for Tropical Environmental & Sustainability Sciences*

**Wendy Earles** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Michelle Esparon** *Research Officer, Centre for Sustainable Tropical Fisheries and Aquaculture*

**Marina Farr** *PhD Candidate, School of Business*

**Simon Foale** *School of Arts and Social Sciences*

**Stephanie Januchowski** *Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies*

**David King** *School of Earth & Environmental Sciences*

**Silva Larson** *School of Business*

**Steven Lewis** *TropWATER*

**George Lukacs** *TropWATER*

**Sue McGinty** *Acting Director, Cairns Institute*

**Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Helene Marsh** *Centre for Tropical Water and Aquatic Ecosystem Research*

**Katie Moon** *School of Earth and Environmental Sciences*

**Bob Pressey** *ARC CoE Coral Reef Studies*

**Bruce Prideaux** *School of Business*

**Renae Tobin** *Research Fellow, Centre for Sustainable Tropical Fisheries and Aquaculture*

**Komla Tsey** *Tropical Leader, Education for Social Sustainability, Cairns Institute & School of Education*

**Sarah Warne** *Senior Manager Strategy and Enterprise, Cairns Institute*

**Felecia Watkin-Lui** *School of Indigenous Australian Studies*

**Riccardo Welters** *School of Business*

**Michael Wood** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

The tropics have half the world's population and 80% of our planet's biodiversity. There are significant threats to this biodiversity such as climate change, deforestation, environmental degradation and loss of plant and wildlife species. There are major difficulties for people attempting to sustain livelihoods in the face of such environmental and industrial demands on land, water and other natural resources. Ecological preservation requires a strong focus on the impact of human behaviour accompanied by cohesive planning and governance arrangements for a sustainable future for the tropics. The research outcomes we are working towards and around identifying and responding to the challenges of sustainability through education and community engagement in social and environmental planning and management in the tropics. Our research focus is on: population growth, infrastructure development and management of natural resources; tropical design and planning for built environments; climate change adaptation and individual and community resilience; community responses to emergencies and disasters; movement of peoples from the Pacific; cultural heritage and biodiversity conservation; human impacts on landscapes, including sustainable agriculture, water, energy and waste management.

In March 2011, the Northern Australia Water Future Assessments program funded **Natalie Stoeckl**, Silva Larson, Riccardo Welters and Barbara Neil to investigate social and cultural values associated with Australia's Tropical Rivers. The team set out to learn more about perceptions of the importance of rivers for a range of social and cultural activities, and about their likely reactions to alterations in stream flow or water quality. They found that the most important 'values' were biodiversity, life, and bequest, with widespread agreement across respondents about their importance. Although commercial values ranked sixth out of nine in terms of importance, they emerged as the highest management priority because they received the lowest levels of satisfaction, associated with concerns over issues such as pollution, overuse and lack of monitoring. Many respondents were strongly opposed to 'development' that could affect their ability to use Tropical Rivers for social and cultural purposes, and most respondents felt that any change which stopped the flow of perennial rivers would have a significant, negative impact on social and cultural values.

**Natalie Stoeckl** also led a project that looked at the socio-economic systems and reef resilience that seeks to learn more about (a) what the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area (GBRWHA) does for people, and (b) what people do to the GBRWHA. The team collected data from more than 4,300 residents and visitors to the coast adjacent to the GBRWHA and preliminary analysis of the responses indicates that environmental and aesthetic factors (such as healthy coral reefs, lack of visible rubbish, clear oceans) and GBRWHA-based activities (such as spending time on the beach, and fishing/boating) are rated as more important to residents' wellbeing than are the incomes and jobs associated with some industries. Similarly, it seems that environmental and aesthetic factors are often more important drawcards for tourists than are things such as low prices and high-quality accommodation. In the future the team will also compare and contrast various non-market 'valuation' techniques, hoping to improve our understanding of methods used to describe and assess trade-offs between a broad range of environmental, social and economic factors. Overall, this project demonstrates that changes in the economy (e.g., higher beef prices) affect the environment (e.g., more sediment) and that these economic and environmental changes will affect the overall quality of life of the region's residents and also the 'health' of the tourism industry.

Also under this theme **Allan Dale** facilitated the Queensland Minister for Natural Resources' Community Reference Panel for Water Resource Planning in the Wet Tropics in 2012 and also acted as Independent Chair of the Mulgrave Aquifer Community Reference Panel. In partnership with Terrain Natural Resource Management, he helped secure the policy foundations for the nation's Carbon Farming Initiative and he assisted the Centre for Tropical Environmental & Sustainability Sciences to secure a major research grants into biochar and regional climate adaptation.

Allan also secured a National Environmental Research Program (NERP) project to review the Australian system of governance of landscape scale greenhouse gas abatement. In partnership with Bob Pressey, he secured an Australian Centre for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (ACEAS) grant to bring together a national publication team around conservation planning issues in northern Australia. He also completed a significant governance analysis of the Great Barrier Reef, contributing to both State and Commonwealth strategic assessment processes.



## Theme 4: Social Justice & Community Wellbeing

**Chris Cunneen** *Tropical Leader, Justice & Social Inclusion, Cairns Institute & School of Law*

**Komla Tsey** *Tropical Leader, Education for Social Sustainability, Cairns Institute & School of Education*

**Fiona Allison** *Senior Research Officer, Cairns Institute*

**Hurriyet Babacan** *Director, Cairns Institute*

**Nerina Caltabiano** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Alan Clough** *School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Sciences*

**Allan Dale** *Leader Tropical Regional Development, Cairns Institute*

**Glenn Dawes** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Wendy Earles** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Narayan Gopalkrishnan** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Deborah Graham** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Russell Hawkins** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Charmaine Hayes-Jonkers** *PhD student, School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine and Rehabilitation Sciences*

**Heron Loban** *School of Law*

**Janya McCalman** *Senior Research Officer, Cairns Institute*

**David MacLaren** *School of Medicine & Dentistry*

**Gianna Moscardo** *School of Business*

**Kate Munro** *Cairns Institute*

**Boris Pointing** *Senior Research Officer, Cairns Institute*

**Michelle Redman-MacLaren** *School of Nursing, Midwifery and Nutrition*

**Sarah Warne** *Senior Manager Strategy and Enterprise, Cairns Institute*

The United Nations sets out a human rights framework for what constitutes a 'just' society. The key elements are social, economic and cultural rights. These include the right to: an adequate standard of living; education; work; equal pay for equal work; housing; health; freedom from torture; access to a fair legal system; and the right of minorities to enjoy their own culture, religion and language. The tropical world faces significant issues in relation to human development and quality of life. The wellbeing of individuals and communities is affected by social, ecological, economic, institutional and cultural domains and involves access to resources, information, relationships and power. The research outcomes we are focusing on under this theme are about assisting communities respond to social and environmental change, overcome marginalisation and increase social inclusion through projects committed to social justice, health and wellbeing. Our focus is on: human rights; juvenile justice, policing and corrections; systemic issues in child protection; poverty, economic disadvantage and homelessness; racism; social inclusion/exclusion; social determinants of health and wellbeing; and a wellbeing index for Northern Queensland.

**Chris Cunneen's** major work for 2012 under this theme was the Indigenous Legal Needs Project (ILNP) funded by an ARC Linkage Project grant. The Indigenous Legal Needs Northern Territory Report was launched in Darwin on 6 November 2012 by the Hon Minister John Elferink MLA (Attorney General, Minister for Justice and Minister for Corrective Services). The Hon Minister Alison Anderson MLA (Minister for Regional Development and Minister for Indigenous Advancement) was also present. The launch was attended by a range of service providers and community members. At the launch, a formal response to the Report was provided by Ministers Anderson and Elferink and by project partners: NAAJA (North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency), NAAFVLS (North Australian Aboriginal Family Violence Legal Service) and NTLAC (NT Legal Aid), as well as Larrakia Nations and NTCOSS (NT Council of Social Services).

The NT Report identified priority legal issues: overall, housing, and in particular tenancy, emerged as the predominant legal issue during focus groups and stakeholder interviews, with 54.1% of all focus group participants identifying problems in this area. The Report also indicated that only one in three Aboriginal people who identified an issue with housing sought legal advice or assistance. Other priority areas were discrimination, neighbourhood issues, social security, child protection, credit and debt and consumer issues. The report is available on the ILNP website [www.jcu.edu.au/ilnp/](http://www.jcu.edu.au/ilnp/)



Also under the theme Social Justice & Community Wellbeing **Allan Dale** together with **Hurriyet Babacan** reviewed strategic directions for Human Service delivery in the Far North Queensland and Torres Strait Region.

In 2012 **Boris Pointing** moved to the Cairns Institute from the School of Public Health and completed the third year of the evaluation research contract with Cairns Council for the *Inner-city Safety Partnership* between JCU and Cairns Regional Council. This built on a previous research project into alcohol-related violence linked to licensed premises in the Cairns night-time economy, as well as continuing the ongoing research program into CCTV effectiveness. Articles arising from the CCTV research were published in *Injury Prevention* and *Crime Prevention and Community Safety* – these highlighted that the CCTV system in Cairns prevented or interrupted 40% of assaults, and defined a realist Evaluation context for open-space, urban CCTV systems. An economic analysis of the Cairns CCTV systems' contribution to the reduction of assault consequences was presented at the World Safety 2012 conference in New Zealand. Boris received a scholarship to present this research, which was co-sponsored by The World Health Organisation and the New Zealand Government.

In 2012 **Hurriyet Babacan** took up the role of chair of the homelessness leadership group, an inter-sectoral, government-services committee, which looks at addressing homelessness in Cairns and FNQ. Cairns is one of the 'hot spots' of homelessness in Qld. Boris also wrote research reports measuring the level of homelessness in the Shire of Douglas; this process assisted individual agencies and the service system as a whole to enhance their capacity to address this issue and found that community agencies such as neighbourhood and community centres, as well as the Mossman Justice Group spent approximately 10% of their staff resourcing providing services to homeless people, or those at risk of homelessness.

As part of the partnership with Charles Darwin University, Boris also did an analysis of Indigenous employment programs and successes in the Commonwealth Public Sector and national private sector.

## Theme 5: Education Futures

**Bob Stevenson** *Tropical Leader, Education for Environmental Sustainability, Cairns Institute & School of Education*

**Komla Tsey** *Tropical Leader, Education for Social Sustainability, Cairns Institute & School of Education*

**Raoul Adam** *School of Education*

**Neil Anderson** *School of Education*

**Hurriyet Babacan** *Director, Cairns Institute*

**Roxanne Bainbridge** *Senior Research Fellow, Cairns Institute*

**Helen Boon** *School of Education*

**Philemon Chigeza** *School of Education*

**Chris Cunneen** *Tropical Leader, Justice & Social Inclusion, Cairns Institute & School of Law*

**Snowy Evans** *School of Education*

**Kelsey Halbert** *School of Education*

**Clifford Jackson** *School of Education*

**Victoria Kuttainen** *Roderick Scholar in Comparative Literature*

**Michelle Lasen** *School of Education*

**Sue McGinty** *Acting Director, Cairns Institute*

**Kathryn Meldrum** *School of Education*

**Samantha Morgan** *Scholarship Holder, Graduate Research School*

**Jennifer Nicholls** *Scholarship Holder, School of Education*

**Ton Otto** *Tropical Leader, People and Societies of the Tropics, Cairns Institute & School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Theresa Petray** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Louisa Tomas** *School of Education*

**Felecia Watkin-Lui** *School of Indigenous Australian Studies*

**Riccardo Welters** *School of Business*

**Hilary Whitehouse** *School of Education*

**Zhang-Yue Zhou** *School of Business*

In recent years federal and state educational policies have promulgated, under the banner of education for sustainability (EfS), an important role for education in contributing to the current and future social and environmental well-being of Australia's population and landscape. Education for sustainability has been conceptualised as developing individual and community capacities for becoming informed and active participants in creating ecologically, economically, socially and culturally sustainable and just communities and societies. Such a highly complex and ambitious, as well as ambiguous and contested, conceptualisation raises many questions for education and educational research. Related questions concerning appropriate school curriculum, teacher preparation and professional development, community education, and research frameworks, methodologies and collaborations, all have important implications for improving life for people in the tropics. The research focus under this theme are about: improving participation and education outcomes for Indigenous people across their lifespan; school leadership and capacity building for sustainability education in the Asia-Pacific; systemic factors affecting education participation and success in the tropics; and professional development for teachers affected by geographical isolation.

In 2012 **Bob Stevenson**, Tropical Leader (Education for Environmental Sustainability), received a \$151,000 grant from the Federal Office of Learning and Teaching (OLT) for a project to develop and study a state-wide systems approach to embedding EfS in teacher education. JCU was the lead institution with Griffith and Queensland University of Technology as partners. Representatives from all eight teacher education institutions and other agents of change in the Queensland education system, including Education Queensland, Queensland College of Teachers, the Australian Association of Environmental Education and the Australian Teacher Education Association were engaged in a multi-level systems approach. Collaboration occurred at the state, institutional and intra-institutional (course) levels to develop curriculum practices that are aligned with the Australian National Curriculum and other national documents and to reflect a shared vision of EfS.

The main outcomes at the state level from the project were a revised systemic model, based on and supported by a state-wide multi-site case study, for embedding sustainability in teacher education that can inform a shift in all States from fragmented change to a systemic approach that effects change at multiple levels. At the within institutional level, innovative teacher education approaches and strategies were developed that can assist lecturers, regardless of their experience or specialisations, to embed EfS in their courses. To disseminate the state level findings, the beginnings of a national network of teacher education institutions were created in which members are collaborating and sharing ideas, perspectives and resources. Key researchers working with Bob on this project were Snowy Evans and Michelle Lasen.

Also under this theme **Roxanne Bainbridge** continued her work on an ARC funded project that will develop a whole-of-community approach to engage Indigenous learners with education and provide evidence of a model that works. Developed in the Yarrabah community, the model will contribute policy-relevant knowledge for improving Indigenous educational outcomes and meeting the Commonwealth Government's Closing the Gap targets.

## Theme 6: Governance & Political Innovation

**Hurriyet Babacan** *Director, Cairns Institute*

**Alexandra Aikhenvald** *Tropical Leader, People & Societies of the Tropics, Distinguished Fellow & Australian Laureate Fellow, Cairns Institute*

**Chris Cunneen** *Tropical Leader, Justice & Social Inclusion, Cairns Institute & School of Law*

**Allan Dale** *Leader Tropical Regional Development, Cairns Institute*

**Aur lie Delisle** *PhD Candidate, School of Business*

**Jenny Gabriel** *PhD Candidate, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Rosita Henry** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Helene Marsh** *Centre for Tropical Water and Aquatic Ecosystem Research*

**Ton Otto** *Tropical Leader, People & Societies of the Tropics, Cairns Institute & School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Jim Turnour** *Senior Manager Operations, Cairns Institute*

**Felecia Watkin-Lui** *School of Indigenous Australian Studies*

**Michael Wood** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

Governance is increasingly recognised as a key factor in societal development. Many societies in the tropics face significant challenges of governance including capacity, systems, corruption and resources. Good governance is epitomised by predictable, open consultative policy-making and a public sector with a professional ethos in furthering the public good. Also essential is the rule of law, transparent processes, a strong civil society participating in public political affairs and effective monitoring systems to ensure checks and balances in decision making. A growing global effort aims to develop and strengthen governance, planning and appropriate forms of democracy and political innovation in tropical societies. Our research goal under this theme is to improve the effectiveness and inclusiveness of governance and connectivity across corporate, government and non-government sectors. Our focus is on: policy formation and strategy development in local government, agencies and businesses; developing evaluation capacity in non-profit organisations; public sector capacity building in Asia Pacific; improving the capacity of health systems and health professionals (workforce); and governance and diplomacy in natural resource management, science, sustainability and international relations. **Allan Dale** together with **Hurriyet Babacan**, developed major proposals for the Institute to establish itself as an international hub in building strong governance systems and social impact capacity in tropical countries and regions.

A 2012 Governance and Political Innovation initiative was the **Native Title for Anthropologists Professional Short Course** run in April. This master class provided graduate and early career anthropologists with targeted skills-based training for native title work, with a particular focus on northern Australia. Topics covered in the course included: the roles of anthropologists in native title work and the native title process, cultural awareness and working with Indigenous knowledge, contemporary kinship and concepts of Aboriginal 'society', defining the claimant group, legal frameworks and registration requirements, linguistics, genealogical research and mapping descent groups. Participants also covered documenting the claim and the nature of 'evidence', writing connection reports and supplementary reports, addressing Terms of Reference, dealing with ethical issues and how to maintain objectivity. Throughout this course participants gained valuable insights from industry experts and had the opportunity to consider scenarios based on real cases.

The presenters include a range of academics, consulting anthropologists, Traditional Owners, lawyers and anthropologists from representative bodies and the Native Title Tribunal: Professor Alexandra Aikhenvald; Professor Chris Cunneen; Therese Ford (National Native Title Tribunal); Jenny Gabriel; Rosita Henry; Dr Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy; Katie O'Rourke; Professor Ton Otto; Noel Pearson (Cape York Partnerships); Anthony Redmond; George Skeene (Yirrganydji Elder); Dr Michael Wood.

## Master class in Native Title for Anthropologists So you want to work in Native Title?

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<b>Convenor:</b>	Dr Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy
<b>Date:</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2012
<b>Time:</b>	8:30am-5:00pm daily
<b>Location:</b>	James Cook University, Cairns
<b>Registration:</b>	<a href="http://alumni.jcu.edu.au/MCNativeTitleAnthropologist2012">http://alumni.jcu.edu.au/MCNativeTitleAnthropologist2012</a>
<b>Cost:</b>	\$1860 (incl GST and non-refundable deposit) General fee waiver scholarships and travel bursaries available (see below)
<b>Non Refundable Deposit:</b>	\$100 (all participants). This \$100 will be put towards Tjapukai dinner and show and must be paid to secure a spot in the course)

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### About the Workshop:

This master class provides graduate and early career anthropologist with targeted skills based training for native Title work, with a particular focus on northern Australia. Topics covered in the course include: the roles of anthropologists in Native Title work and the Native Title process, cultural awareness and working with indigenous knowledge, contemporary kinship and concepts of Aboriginal 'society', defining the claimant group, legal frameworks and registration requirements, linguistics, genealogical research and mapping descent groups. Participants will also cover: documenting the claim and the Nature of 'evidence', writing connection reports and supplementary reports, addressing Terms of Reference, dealing with ethical issues and how to maintain objectivity. Throughout this course participants will gain valuable insight from industry experts and have the opportunity to consider scenarios based on real cases. This course will equip anthropologists to transition from study or other areas of practice to Native Title field work.

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### The Presenters:

The presenters include a range of academics, consulting anthropologists, Traditional Owners, lawyers and anthropologists from rep bodies and the NTT. [Further information on the presenters is available here.](#)

Professor Chris Cunneen  
Professor Ton Otto  
Noel Pearson  
Dr Michael Wood  
Therese Ford

Anthony Redmond  
Professor Alexandra Aikhenvald  
Katie O'Rourke  
Louise Allwood TBC

Rosita Henry  
George Skeene  
Dr Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy  
Jenny Gabriel



[www.jcu.edu.au/cairnsinstitute](http://www.jcu.edu.au/cairnsinstitute)



## Theme 7: International Aid Development

**Hurriyet Babacan** *Director, Cairns Institute*

**Neil Anderson** *School of Education*

**Wendy Earles** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Narayan Gopalkrishnan** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Rosita Henry** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**David MacLaren** *School of Medicine & Dentistry*

**Ton Otto** *Tropical Leader, People and Societies of the Tropics, Cairns Institute & School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Michelle Redman-MacLaren** *School of Nursing, Midwifery and Nutrition*

**Komla Tsey** *Tropical Leader, Education for Social Sustainability, Cairns Institute & School of Education*

**Jim Turnour** *Senior Manager Operations, Cairns Institute*

**Michael Wood** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), established in 2000, set humanitarian benchmarks for countries to achieve by 2015. The MDGs are: the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, universal primary education, gender equality and empowering women, reducing child mortality and improving maternal health, fighting HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensuring environmental sustainability and forming global partnerships for development. The countries in the tropical world, particularly our neighbours in the Pacific Islands, need assistance and support to achieve these outcomes. The Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has identified that improvements in the lives of the poor have been unacceptably slow, and hard-won gains are being eroded by the climate, food and economic crises. Expertise and knowledge must be shared if life in the tropics is to be enhanced for all. The research outcome we are hoping for is to strengthen Australia's engagement with our neighbours in the Asia-Pacific to meet international sustainable development goals. Our focus is on empowerment programs as tools for community development in Papua New Guinea; women's development and leadership in Asia Pacific; development of public health capability in Papua New Guinea, especially in the management of chronic and communicable diseases; and supporting sustainable environmental and infrastructure development in the Asia-Pacific.

In 2012 the Institute forged strong links with Papua New Guinea (PNG). In March a PNG Government delegation visited Cairns to sign off on the first two of 18 projects to be driven by the Cairns Institute. The projects were designed in collaboration with the PNG Department for Community Development (DFCD) and were designed to provide the PNG Government with social data that was not available. James Cook University signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the DFCD which outlined the way they will collaborate on the suite of projects. The MOA was forged after two years' of discussion with our nearest overseas neighbour.

Another PNG initiative in 2012 was the Creating Futures PNG 2012 Conference. It was sponsored and supported by Queensland Health, the Cairns Institute, University of Papua New Guinea, Department of Health, and Janssen-Cilag. Creating Futures is a biennial conference that was previously always been held in Cairns, but in 2012 Creating Futures was held in Port Moresby to bring relevant knowledge and expertise to mental health practitioners and community development workers in PNG. This meeting was auspiced jointly by the National Department of Health of PNG, the University of PNG and the Cairns Institute. There were 20 workshops clustered in the following streams: clinical practice; child and youth issues; mental health nursing; health promotion; social context and social change; and special issues and special populations.

In June 2012 the Institute also convened the second International Women's Conference in Cairns. The title of the conference was *Connecting for Action in the Asia-Pacific Region* and it focused on four major themes of global importance to women: building sustainable communities; women and economic development; making women's lives safer; and women's leadership and governance. The aim of the Conference was to respond to the ongoing challenges experienced by women and girls in the Asia Pacific region, including Indigenous women from all countries including Australia. The conference attracted 133 delegates including 79 speakers, and with a small grant from the AusAID International Seminar Support Scheme (ISSS) we were able to sponsor eight participants from Papua New Guinea (3), Thailand (1), The Solomons (2), New Caledonia (1) and Fiji (1).





## Theme 8: Language, Culture, Agency & Change

**Alexandra Aikhenvald** *Tropical Leader, People & Societies of the Tropics, Distinguished Fellow & Australian Laureate Fellow, Cairns Institute*

**Ton Otto** *Tropical Leader, People and Societies of the Tropics, Cairns Institute & School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Bard Aaberge** *PhD student, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Grant Aiton** *PhD student, Scholarship holder, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Juliane Boettger** *PhD student, Scholarship holder, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**RMW Dixon** *Adjunct Professor, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Michelle Dyer** *PhD student, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Christiane Falck** *PhD student, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Barbara Glowczewski** *Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale, Collège de France*

**Shelley Greer** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Rosita Henry** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Rafiul Islam** *PhD student, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**John Kerby** *PhD student, Scholarship holder, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Andrew Krockenberger** *School of Marine & Tropical Biology*

**Tianqiao Mike Lu** *Postdoctoral research fellow, Cairns Institute*

**Russell McGregor** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Elena Mihas** *Postdoctoral Research Associate, Cairns Institute*

**Yankee Modi** *PhD student, Scholarship holder, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Chia-jung Pan** *PhD student, Scholarship holder, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Mark Post** *Postdoctoral research fellow, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Meg Rintoul** *Honours student, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Robin Rodd** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Sasha Rubel** *PhD student, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Mikko Salminen** *PhD student, Scholarship holder, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Satoshi Sanada** *PhD student, School of Education*

**Hannah Sarvasy** *Scholarship Holder, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Dineke Schokkin** *Scholarship Holder, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Anne Schwartz** *Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Cairns Institute*

**Rachel Charlotte Smith** *PhD student, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**William Steed** *School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine & Rehabilitation Sciences*

**Kenneth Sumbuk** *Adjunct Professor*

**David Tibbetts** *PhD student, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Stephen Torre** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Sean Ulm** *ARC Future Fellow, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Daniela Vavrova** *PhD student, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Craig Volker** *Adjunct Professor*

**Mike Wood** *School of Arts & Social Sciences*

**Sihong Zhang** *Scholarship Holder, School of Arts & Social Sciences*

Language is the unique resource of humankind. It enables people to live together, communicates laws, knowledge and legacies across generations and is the unique vehicle for the aesthetic expression of non-material culture such as legends, ceremonies and songs. The remarkable linguistic diversity of tropical societies is in danger and under protection from the UNESCO Intangible Heritage Program. The documentation and maintenance of linguistic and cultural diversity is a necessary component of people's identity, sustainability and well-being. Our research is around supporting cultural expression, creativity, identity and the preservation and documentation of tropical cultural and linguistic heritage. Our focus is on: the investigation of languages and the correlation between languages, environment and cultures working towards understanding the mechanisms of human communication and cognition; documentation and maintenance of endangered languages and cultures focusing on language preservation and language change; the investigation of the diverse histories and cultural traditions, imaginations of the future, and the processes of agency and change for people and societies in the tropics; cultural heritage, community involvement, and archaeology, anthropology and museum studies; development of a cultural atlas for Northern Queensland; creativity, cultural expression and imagination in the tropics, including the potential of modern technologies for Indigenous agency; and the theoretical and applied perspectives on immigration, cultural diversity, multiculturalism and national identity.

Many of the activities within this theme are undertaken through the Language and Culture Research Centre (LCRC) nested within the Institute and the Faculty of Arts, Education and Social Sciences, with Professor Aikhenvald as Director and Prof RMW Dixon as Deputy Director. It was again a year of considerable success. It was marked by the Australian Research Council's award of an Australian Laureate Fellowship to Distinguished Professor Alexandra Aikhenvald for the project *How language shapes the world: a linguistic perspective*. The ARC's citation reads:

Alexandra's Australian Laureate Fellowship will help her further and expand her work in the area of correlations between languages and cultures, and analysing endangered languages in tropical areas (especially Papua New Guinea). It will also be instrumental in strengthening real linguistics within JCU, Australia and worldwide, and creating a multidisciplinary team of researchers working on gender, with a focus on previously undescribed languages.

Just 17 ALFs are awarded by the ARC each year, across every discipline, and across the 38 universities of Australia. This is the first ALF to be awarded to a scholar in linguistics. Besides salary for the Fellow, an ALF covers two five-year Post-doctoral Research Fellowships and two four-year PhD scholarships, plus funds to cover immersion fieldwork in indigenous communities.

Alexandra Aikhenvald also received a three-year ARC Discovery Project *How languages differ, and why?* with chief investigators Aikhenvald and Dixon, and partner investigators Willem Adelaar and Lourens de Vries from the Netherlands.

As in previous years, 2012 was notable for the quality and quantity of book publications. Dixon and Aikhenvald each had a monograph published by Oxford University Press. Dr Tian-Qiao Lu published the monograph he wrote during his two-year Post-doc with the Institute/LCRC in 2010-12. There were also two edited volumes, plus paperback or electronic reissues of previously-published monographs, and numerous papers and book chapters.

The Eleventh International Workshop organised by Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald and RMW Dixon was held at the LCRC in July 2012 with 16 participants from nine universities (five of them overseas). Oxford University Press's referees responded promptly, and the volume was accepted by year's end. It contains revised versions of 13 of the 15 presentations.

The LCRC local workshop 'Language and kinship' in August started with Alexandra Aikhenvald presenting a brief position paper, then it featured nine presentations by members of LCRC and one by Professor Alan Dench, Graduate Dean of Western Australia.

Also, in 2012 the focus of the Culture, Agency and Change research group led by Tropical Leader Ton Otto was on mobilising the critical potential of research in relation to value debates in politics, administration and the wider society. To this end they worked on bringing the results of two international conferences to publication. Seven contributions from their 2010 conference on the forms of reciprocity and exchange that field researchers engage in through their research projects and products (organised by Ton Otto and Rosita Henry in collaboration with Professor Barbara Glowczewski, CNRS Paris) were accepted for publication as a special issue by the A-ranking Australian journal *The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology* with an introductory paper by the organisers. The results of the major international conference on the anthropology of value, organised by the Institute in collaboration with Aarhus University, were accepted for publication by the widely read and highly appraised international journal *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory*, ensuring the widest possible exposure of the Cairns conference (17 papers in all, published as two special issues with introductory articles by Ton Otto and Rane Willerslev). A final important publication project was also brought to completion in 2012, namely the volume *Design Anthropology: Theory and Practice* (Bloomsbury 2013), which is one of the first major publications in this emerging field that aims to develop new ways for social scientist to be involved in design and intentional social change.

Finally, as a sequel to the first value conference, Ton Otto in collaboration with the universities of Aarhus (Steffen Dalsgaard) and Bergen (Bruce Kapferer) organised the conference 'Values of Dominance and Difference', in Cairns from 9-11 August 2012. The focus of this international conference was on cross-disciplinary debate, and it gathered 21 contributors from Australia, Denmark, France, Finland, Norway, Sri Lanka, UK and the US who represented the disciplines of anthropology, economics, law and sociology. We addressed the following two questions in particular: 1. In view of the power as well as the obvious limitations of monetary systems for comparing and measuring different kinds of values, is the development of alternative systems for comparing and quantifying values such as 'quality of life' or 'social wellbeing' a viable and desirable solution or rather the reproduction of a biased model, that excludes alternative forms of valuation? 2. How can societies deal with different value systems in a way that does not lead to the total domination of one system by another? Can we design procedures and political institutions that make it possible to discuss, negotiate, and respect value differences both within and between political, economic and cultural units? The results of the second value conference will also be published.



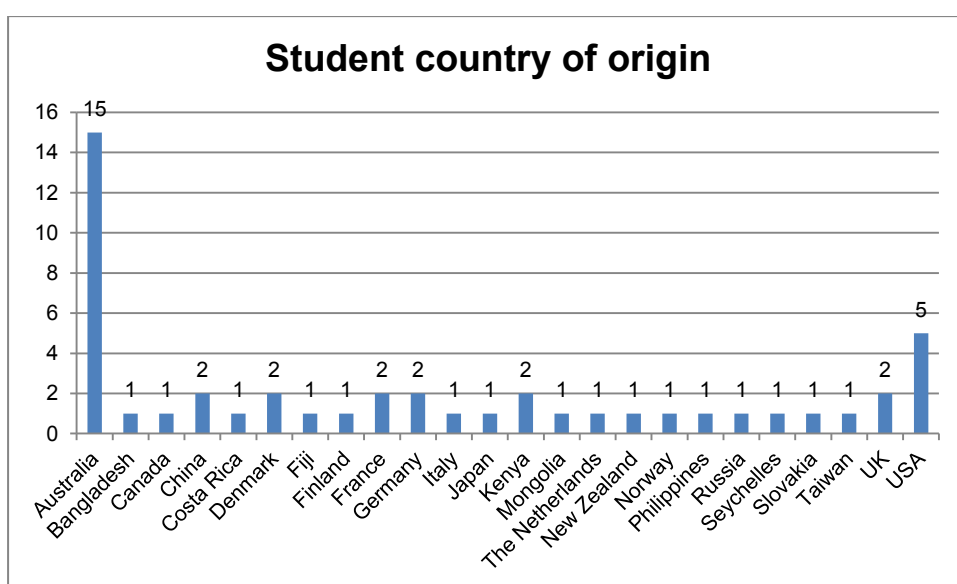
Alexandra Aikhenvald travelling on the Rio Negro, Amazonia

# GRADUATE TRAINING

## 2012 Student Members

A total of 48 students were supervised by Cairns Institute Tropical Leaders and other researchers in 2012.

- 18 PhD students were enrolled through the School of Arts and Social Sciences
- 7 PhD students were enrolled through the School of Business and one jointly through the School of Business and the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences
- 6 PhD students were enrolled through the School of Law plus another 1 PhD through UNSW Law School and one SJD also through UNSW
- 5 PhD students were enrolled through the School of Education
- 4 PhD students were enrolled through the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences and one jointly through Schools of Business and Earth and Environmental Sciences
- 3 PhD students were enrolled through the ARC Centre of Excellence
- 1 PhD student was enrolled through Griffith University
- 1 PhD student was enrolled through Aarhus University, Denmark
- Professor Natalie Stoeckl was Principal Supervisor for seven School of Business students: Zulgerel Altai, Melissa Bos, Diana Castorina, Adriana Chacon, Aurelie Delisle, Michelle Esparon, Marina Farr, Diane Jarvis, Qian Li, and Secondary Supervisor for Cheryl Fernandez, Christina Hicks, Judi Lowe and Aleferiti Tawake
- Professor Chris Cunneen was Principal Supervisor for Fiona Allison, Fiona Campbell, Signe Dalsgaard, Nadia David, Maggie Hall(UNSW) Heron Loban, Belinda Russon (SJD) and Rebecca Smith
- Professor Alexandra Aikhenvald was Principle Supervisor for Grant Aiton, Juliane Boettger, John Kerby, Chia Jung Pan, Mikko Salminen, Hannah Sarvasy, Dineke Schokkin and Sihong Zhang and Secondary Supervisor for Chiara Bresciani and Daniela Vavrova
- Professor Ton Otto was Principle Supervisor for Chiara Bresciani, Christiane Falck, Rachel Smith (Aauhus), David Tibbetts, Daniela Vavrova and Secondary Supervisor for Bard Aaberge, Juliane Boettger, Michelle Dyer, Rafiul Islam, Satoshi Sanada and Dineke Schokkin
- Professor Bob Stevenson was Principle Supervisor for Ellen Field, Fiona Mwaniki, Catherine Naum, Jennifer Nicholls and Peta Salter
- Professor Komla Tsey was Principle Supervisor for Janya McCalman and Vinnitta Mosby
- Dr Allan Dale was Secondary Supervisor for Ruth Potts (Griffith University)
- Professor Hurriyet Babacan was Principle Supervisor for Peta Standley
- The students' countries of origin were varied as illustrated below.



# NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL LINKAGES

## Visiting Scholars

- The Institute hosted twelve Visiting Scholars in 2012 with further scholarships deferred until 2013. The twelve scholarships were valued at a total of \$131,010.
- Visiting Scholars outputs in 2012 included 4 books (1 book published, 3 submitted, including 1 edited book); 7 book chapters (2 published and 5 submitted); 6 journal articles (5 published or accepted for publication and 1 submitted); 1 special issue of a journal edited and accepted for publication; 17 conference papers/presentation (16 accepted or presented and 1 submitted); 4 discussion papers/reports (3 published and 1 in preparation); 2 blog articles published; 11 workshops presented; 8 funding submissions (5 submitted and 3 in preparation).
- Collaborative partnerships developed include engagement with the Remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Teacher Education Program (RATEP); meetings with reef related stakeholders in preparation for an online visitor survey related to climate change and the reef; the homelessness at risk indicators matrix is now being used by the Portland Pulse Project and the Coalition for Livable Future's Equity Atlas project (Portland State University) and is included in courses on designing healthy and sustainable communities.

Visitor	Organisation	Country
Professor Andrew Butcher	Professor of Speech Pathology and Audiology, School of Medicine, Flinders University	Australia
Dr Ravi de Costa	Associate Professor, Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University	Canada
Professor Gerrit J. Dimmendaal,	Professor of African Linguistics, University of Cologne	Germany
Dr Carola Emkow	Research Fellow at Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig	Germany
Associate Professor Tazim Jamal	Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences, Texas A&M University	United States
Professor Steve Johnson	Distinguished Visiting Professor and Fullbright Fellow, Chulalongkorn University	Thailand
Dr Regina Knapp	Research Fellow at Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig	Germany
Professor Brian Lewthwaite	Professor, Curriculum, Teaching and Learning, University of Manitoba	Canada
Professor Ilango Ponnuswami	Professor & Head, Department of Social Work, Bharathidasan University	India
Professor Biman Prasad	Professor of Economics and Dean of the Faculty of Business and Economics, University of the South Pacific	Fiji
Associate Professor Anthony Shakeshaft	Assistant Director, National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, University of New South Wales	Australia
Professor Karen Sykes	Director of Research School of Social Sciences and Professor of Anthropology, University of Manchester	United Kingdom

# MEDIA AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

## Media Coverage – Examples

### Talk of the town

#### Research to study at-risk languages

LANGUAGE has always intrigued Alexandra Aikhenvald, even when she was a child.

"I grew up in the Soviet Union, which was very multilingual," she said. "It always fascinated me why languages were so different, why one language has one set of sounds and a different language has another."

"People next door to each other could speak something that was completely unintelligible to the other. The lady down the road from us spoke Tatar, my grandparents spoke Russian and Yiddish."

Today, Professor Aikhenvald, the director of James Cook University's Language and Culture Research Centre in Cairns and a research leader at The Cairns Institute, is fluent in 10 languages, a linguistics specialist and will head up one of 17 JCU projects to receive almost \$6 million from the Australian Research Council.

The project, *How Languages Differ and Why*, has received \$350,000 over three years to focus on the languages of Papua New Guinea, Amazonia and indigenous North Queensland.

Her research team includes Professor Bob Dixon from The Cairns Institute and Dutch professors Willem Adelaar and Lourens de Vries, who are specialists in the languages of South America and Iran.

"We'll be able to describe a number of endangered languages and also answer the question of why they are so different in Papua New Guinea and South America," she said.

Roz Pulley

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"PNG is a small place, but there are so many languages there. One reason is geography. There are also cultural patterns of hostility, exclusion and trying to be different."

Prof Aikhenvald said Australia had 250 different languages before white settlement. "Now, no more than about 100 languages are still remembered, sometimes there is just one person left. Only less than 20 are still being learnt by children."

"Queensland was one of the greatest areas of diversity because of geography. People used to be separated by dense rainforest. In the desert, there was basically one language and no natural obstacles."

Prof Aikhenvald said the project would investigate which linguistic features were most likely to be borrowed, which were most likely to be retained, and the reasons for this.

JCU senior deputy vice-chancellor Professor Chris Cocklin said JCU Cairns had received \$2 million in Australian Research Council funding, while JCU Townsville received \$3.8 million for a range of projects including the study of climate in the last interglacial period, issues of justice and coral reefs.

Dr Roxanne Bainbridge, a senior research officer at The Cairns Institute, will get \$615,000 over three years to look at how mentoring for indigenous youth can improve year 12 attainment rates and job outcomes.



**LIFELONG FASCINATION:** Professor Alexandra Aikhenvald at James Cook University has received a \$350,000 grant from the Australian Research Council to study the languages of Papua New Guinea, Amazonia and indigenous North Queensland.

Professor Chris Cocklin, tropical leader at The Cairns Institute, was given \$425,000 to compare youth punishment in Australia and Britain, while Dr Susan Laurance from tropical biology at JCU Cairns will spend

\$365,000 over three years researching the impacts of drought on tropical forests.

Professor Michael Bird, from the school of earth and environmental sciences, received \$180,000 to investi-

gate pre-human records of vegetation from northern Australian savannahs and \$160,000 to develop technology for field studies into climate change, water resources, ecology and human impact in tropical Australia.

*Beaches & Valleys Sun*, 14 November 2012, p. 1

### Pitching for more CCTV

A CAIRNS academic will pitch his acclaimed research to the State Government to support the city's bid for more surveillance cameras and fewer alcohol-fueled crimes.

James Cook University senior researcher Boris Pointing will meet Local Government Minister David Crisafulli to outline findings of his study into the effectiveness of CCTV cameras in Cairns, a network he believes sets a benchmark for regional cities throughout Australia. His 22-day survey of incidents in

DAMON GUPPY

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the Cairns CBD, conducted in 2010 and 2011, showed the CCTV network helped authorities foil 40 per cent of late-night assaults, equating to 200 fewer incidents each year.

Mr Pointing, who works for JCU's

Cairns Institute, said the security system's success was largely due to instinct and foresight of operators and their communication with security officers.

"There is underlying uncertainty about what makes CCTV work and we were focused on the human systems behind the technology," he said.

"The Cairns study has been really interesting as we looked at the individual camera operators and what catches their attention in the CBD

and gets them to notify street security."

"Cairns has 90 cameras, including 73 in the CBD, but cameras alone are not the answer."

"If they're not operated properly from a human perspective, then you're not maximising their potential."

Cairns Regional Council has applied to the State Government for a grant worth more than \$100,000 to expand its CCTV network and include wi-fi technology.

The new cameras would be installed on the fringes of the CBD where assaults, robberies and other disturbances have occurred.

"The funding is awaiting approval but Mr Crisafulli in the past has hinted the grant would be rubber-stamped."

Mr Pointing said Cairns' security network had the potential to be replicated as a crime prevention tool by other cities in regional Australia.

►► Do you support extra CCTV coverage? Have your say at [cairns.com.au](http://cairns.com.au)

*The Cairns Post*, 14 Nov 2012, p. 7



## Alliance to nurture Indigenous art



A new partnership aims to develop exciting opportunities for the north's Indigenous art centres to develop professionally and commercially.

Pam Bigelow is the inaugural manager of the Indigenous Art Centres Alliance and is tasked with supporting northern Queensland's 12 community-based Indigenous art centres.

The Indigenous Art Centres Alliance is based at the James Cook University in Cairns, as part of a partnership between the Alliance and The Cairns Institute.

Director of The Cairns Institute Professor Hurriyet Babacan said the partnership promised to be an exciting and mutually beneficial one.

"The Cairns Institute is thrilled to be working with the Alliance as it will play a significant role in the development of creative industries for Indigenous people," she said.

"Contributing to Indigenous communities in regional and remote areas is an important part of our role and in time there will be research opportunities to support the work of the Alliance in areas such as marketing."

The Indigenous Art Centres Alliance was established in 2011. Its board includes representatives of each of the 12 community-based art and craft centres of northern Queensland.

Arts Queensland provided \$100,000, matching the Federal Office for the Arts' funding and enabling a manager to be appointed so the Alliance could begin working with the art centres in 2012.

Ms Bigelow said Indigenous art centres were critical to the task of nurturing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art production within Indigenous communities.

"Indigenous owned and governed, the art centres work to maintain traditional culture, create employment and raise the national and international profile of Indigenous art and culture.

"These centres will be given exciting opportunities to develop professionally and commercially with the Indigenous Art Centre Alliance supporting them through advocacy and lobbying, as well as providing skills development and training opportunities."

*Birmuvingathi Maali Netta Loogatha | My Country | 2012 |  
Synthetic Polymer Paint on Linen | 136 x 60cm  
Mornington Island Art | Photo: Alcaston Gallery*



## Parents to be given skills to support Indigenous education

Practical workshops and events will be run in Innisfail to give Indigenous parents greater confidence in supporting their children at school.

The Cairns Institute at James Cook University has been engaged by the MaMU Aboriginal Corporation to work with the local community and Indigenous parents to help them become more involved with schools in the Innisfail District.

A meet and greet family fun day will be held on Saturday, February 25, 12-3pm at Warrina Lakes so the community can give feedback on the project's upcoming events and activities.

Director of The Cairns Institute Professor Hurriyet Babacan said community consultation had found practical support such as workshops about budgeting for school expenses, dealing with transport issues and understanding the school curriculum would be valuable for parents.

"The project is part of the Australian Government funded Parent and Community Engagement Program (PaCE) which ran workshops to identify a range of areas where the involvement between Indigenous parents and schools could be strengthened," Professor Babacan said.

"We are really looking forward to working with local Indigenous parents and schools to strengthen education in the Innisfail district.

"Having Indigenous parents and their community fully connect with local schools is critically important to children getting a good education."

Ms Kellee Roberts, a well-known member of the local Indigenous community, has started working as a Community Engagement Officer and has been meeting with local parents, elders and community organisations over the past few weeks.

"People are looking forward to the project getting underway and I encourage both parents and the community to come to the family fun day on Saturday the 25th February," she said.

"It will be a chance to meet the project team and for us to get further feedback on upcoming events and activities plus we are going to have a lot of fun activities for the kids."




# PUBLICATIONS

## 2012 Publications

In 2012 Institute staff, Tropical Leaders and their teams, Research Fellows with full time attachments to the Institute, and Visiting Scholars produced 8 books, 14 book chapters, 44 journal articles, 9 conference papers, 4 reports, and 1 thesis. The complete list can be viewed at [http://www.jcu.edu.au/cairnsinstitute/info/JCU\\_134245.html](http://www.jcu.edu.au/cairnsinstitute/info/JCU_134245.html).

## Newsletter

The Cairns Institute also produced a newsletter, @TCI, with the first issue going out in October 2011 to all JCU staff plus a mailing list of over 600 recipients. The newsletters can be viewed at [http://www.jcu.edu.edu.au/cairnsinstitute/info/JCU\\_134246.html](http://www.jcu.edu.au/cairnsinstitute/info/JCU_134246.html).



### Who we are and what we do


In 2009 James Cook University established The Cairns Institute, an institute for advanced studies in the social sciences and humanities. The Cairns Institute brings together the expertise and intellectual resources of more than 20 academic disciplines, creating a uniquely robust and relevant research, consulting, training and teaching hub for Northern Australia, South and South-East Asia and the Pacific.

This Institute gives concrete expression to the University's aim to become one of the world's leading research universities in the tropics. As a repository of regional knowledge and research capacity, it is perfectly positioned to make a significant contribution to the development of a sustainable quality of life for tropical communities.

Around half of the world's population – some three billion people – and 80% of the planet's animal and plant species live in the tropics. From economic and educational deprivation to disease, loss of culture and the impacts of climate change, the social, economic and environmental challenges facing the tropical zones of northern Australia and the world are immense.

The Institute is dedicated to providing innovative, solution-orientated research with local, national and global tropical application. Its location in north Queensland provides a real-world context and tropical research opportunities unparalleled in Australia.

The Institute has been led through its establishment by the Director, Professor Hurriyet Babacan, and has appointed leading national and international scholars with expansive capacity for working across the tropics.



Our research themes and some examples of our projects are listed below or you can check the complete list on our website <http://www.jcu.edu.au/cairnsinstitute/> and a number of projects are highlighted in this newsletter.

**REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- The relative values of water for trade-offs

**ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER FUTURES**

- Building a cohort of indigenous research leaders in community health development

**SUSTAINABILITY & TROPICAL ENVIRONMENTS**

- Conservation planning for a changing coastal zone

**SOCIAL JUSTICE & COMMUNITY WELLBEING**

- National research study of the civil and family law needs of indigenous people

**EDUCATION FUTURES**

- Cooktown boarding facility and Cairns Flexible Learning Centre scoping study

**GOVERNANCE & POLITICAL INNOVATION**

- Cultural competency in NSW Health Services

**INTERNATIONAL AID DEVELOPMENT**

- Community Learning Development Centre (CLDC) information research (PNG)

**LANGUAGE, CULTURE, AGENCY AND CHANGE**

- Are some languages better than others?

**October 2012**

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## THE CAIRNS INSTITUTE

A brighter future for people in the tropics

Page 1

Cover page of @TCI, the Cairns Institute News, October 2012 issue.

# AWARDS & PEER RECOGNITION

## Honours & Awards

Janya McCalman was awarded the James Cook University Faculty Staff Award for 17 publications during her PhD candidature in 2012.

## SERVICES TO THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

### Editorial Boards

Publication	Publisher	Role	Member	Rank ISI <sup>1</sup>
<i>Academia Sinica</i>	Institute of Linguistics	International Advisory Board	Alexandra Aikhenvald	
<i>Anthropological Forum</i>	Routledge	International Advisory Board	Ton Otto	1
<i>Anthropological Linguistics</i>	Indiana University	Editorial Board	RMW Dixon	
<i>Anthropological Notebooks</i>	Slovenian Anthropological Society	International Editorial Board	Ton Otto	1
<i>Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology</i>	Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology Inc	Editorial Board	Chris Cunneen	1
<i>Australian Indigenous Law Review</i>	Indigenous Law Centre, UNSW	Editorial Board	Chris Cunneen	
<i>Brill studies in language, cognition and culture</i>	Brill	Editor	Alexandra Aikhenvald	
<i>Crime Media Culture</i>	Sage	International Advisory Editorial Board	Chris Cunneen	1
<i>Current Issues in Criminal Justice</i>	Institute of Criminology Press	Editorial Board	Chris Cunneen	
<i>Environmental Education Research</i>	Routledge	International Advisory Board	Bob Stevenson	1
<i>Explorations in Linguistic Typology</i>	Oxford University Press	Series Co-editor	Alexandra Aikhenvald	
<i>Glossa</i>	Universidad del Turabo	Review Board	Alexandra Aikhenvald	
<i>Institute of Criminology Monograph Series</i>	Institute of Criminology	Series Editor	Chris Cunneen	

Publication	Publisher	Role	Member	Rank ISI <sup>1</sup>
<i>Journal of Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management</i>	ANZAM	External Reviewer	Hurriyet Babacan	
<i>Journal of Environmental Education</i>	Routledge	Co-Executive Editor	Bob Stevenson	1
<i>Ethnic and Racial Studies</i>	Routledge	External Reviewer	Hurriyet Babacan	1
<i>Journal of Language Contact</i>	Brill	Associate Editor	Alexandra Aikhenvald	
<i>Journal of Linguistic Diversity, Language Documentation and Conservation</i>	UH Press	Editorial Board	Alexandra Aikhenvald	
<i>Journal of Sociolinguistics</i>	Wiley-Blackwell	Editorial Board	Alexandra Aikhenvald	1
<i>Language and Linguistics Compass</i>	Wiley-Blackwell	Editorial Board	Alexandra Aikhenvald	
<i>Language Documentation &amp; Conservation</i>	University of Hawai'i Press	Editorial Board	Alexandra Aikhenvald	
<i>Lincom Studies in American Linguistics</i>	Lincom	Europa Member of Advisory Board	Alexandra Aikhenvald	
<i>The Oxford Guides to the World's Languages</i> [Book series]	Oxford University Press	Advisory Board	Alexandra Aikhenvald	
<i>Sociolinguistics</i>	John Benjamins	Editorial Board	Alexandra Aikhenvald	
<i>Studies in Structural and Functional Linguistics</i>	John Benjamins	Book Series Editor and Editorial Board	Alexandra Aikhenvald	
<i>Studia Linguistica</i>	Wiley-Blackwell	Editorial Board	Alexandra Aikhenvald	
<i>Studies in Language</i>	John Benjamins	Consulting Editor	Alexandra Aikhenvald	1
<i>The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology</i>	Routledge	Advisory Board	Ton Otto	1
<i>Tourism Economics</i>	IP Publishing Ltd	Editorial Board	Natalie Stoeckl	
<i>Youth Justice: An International Journal</i>	Sage	Editorial Board	Chris Cunneen	

<sup>1</sup>Journal citation reports (JCR) via ISI Web of Knowledge journal ranking

## Participation on Professional and Review Committees

Committee/Publication	Role	Member
Academia Sinica, Institute of Linguistics	Review committee	Alexandra Aikhenvald
<i>Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics</i>	Reviewer	Natalie Stoeckl
<i>Ecological Economics</i>	Reviewer	Natalie Stoeckl
<i>Biodiversity and Conservation</i>	Reviewer	Natalie Stoeckl
<i>Fisheries Research</i>	Reviewer	Natalie Stoeckl
<i>International Regional Science Review</i>	Reviewer	Natalie Stoeckl
<i>Journal of Environmental Management</i>	Reviewer	Natalie Stoeckl
<i>PLOS ONE</i>	Reviewer	Natalie Stoeckl
Pro-Amazonia (International educational association, Brazil)	International Consultant	Alexandra Aikhenvald
Summer Institute of Linguistics	International Consultant	Alexandra Aikhenvald
<i>Tourism Management</i>	Reviewer	Natalie Stoeckl

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- Brain Injury Australia (BIA) Incorporated
- Burdekin Dry Tropics NRM
- Cape York Peninsula NRM
- Cassowary Coast Regional Council
- Catholic Education Office
- Centacare
- Charles Darwin University
- Charles Sturt University
- Cogstate Pty Ltd
- Condamine Alliance
- CRC for Aboriginal Health
- CSIRO
- Deakin University
- Department of Communities
- Department of Education & Early Childhood Development
- Dusseldorp Skills Forum
- Echo Adventure and Cultural Camp
- Edmund Rice Education Australia Youth +
- Eidos
- Fitzroy Basin Association Inc
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
- Griffith University
- Hunter Medical Research Institute
- Inspiring Australia
- La Trobe University
- Lakehead University, Canada
- Lowitja Institute
- Menzies School of Health Research
- Moesgård Museum
- National Centre for Drug and Alcohol Research
- Northern Gulf NRM
- Northern Territory Department of Health and Community Services
- NQ Dry Tropics
- Northern Territory Education Department
- Queensland Centre for Social Science Innovation.
- Queensland Murray-Darling Committee Inc
- Queensland Regional Natural Resource Management Groups Collective
- Queensland University of Technology
- Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples' Alliance
- RDA FNQ&TS
- Reef and Rainforest Research Centre
- Southern Cross University
- Sustainable Earth Solutions Inc
- Synapse
- Telethon Institute for Child Health Research
- Terrain Natural Resource Management
- The University of Western Australia
- Townsville and North West RDA
- TSRA Land and Sea Unit
- University at Buffalo, USA
- University of Aarhus, Denmark
- University of Cologne, Germany
- University of Leiden, The Netherlands
- University of Liverpool, UK
- University of Melbourne
- University of New South Wales
- University of Newcastle
- University of Queensland
- University of Regina, Canada
- University of Western Sydney
- York University, Canada



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