Welcome!

The Cairns Institute has just celebrated 29 June 2016 as the very first International Day of the Tropics. Congratulations to everyone involved in the campaign to recognise the importance of the tropics in this way! In the words of JCU Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sandra Harding:

“This is wonderful news. The Tropics is a crucial region and deserves to be recognised with an International Day of its own. The annual celebration will quite rightly focus attention on the sustainable development of the region and the tremendous potential the Tropics holds for the world.”

 Appropriately, the pages of this newsletter are packed with stories about research, meetings, capacity building, film screenings, and more, about and in the tropics. We hope you enjoy them and, as always, look forward to your feedback.

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Hearing of the United Nations’ decision to designate 29 June as International Day of the Tropics was exciting news for James Cook University. The State of the Tropics project could easily have led to little more than a nicely bound report. Instead, it has captured the attention of governments and multilateral agencies. It has focused their attention on the unique challenges facing the tropical world. And it has started conversations about how these challenges can be met.

I’ve spoken to a number of local journalists over the last few days. The question they ask off air is just how international the ‘International Day’ really is? Local journos know JCU talks up its tropical mission and want to know whether our latest press releases are selling them marketing spin or something of real substance.

UN-level interest provides part of the answer to this question. Seventy four countries co-sponsored, with Australia, the resolution to designate a Day of the Tropics. No countries voted against it. There’s no doubt this is something genuinely international and something that addresses genuinely felt needs.

The rest of the answer is provided by our ongoing commitment to identifying, understanding and, where we can, influencing those critical points of social transformation we find in the tropics. In doing this work, we must continue to build meaningful partnerships with the people of northern Australia and our surrounding region. We cannot afford to let concepts like engagement or innovation turn into meaningless buzzwords. Whether we talk about sustainable development, inclusive growth, cultural integrity, closing the gap for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, or any other issue facing the region, tangible progress requires us to look beyond our own institutional interests.

There are many more important, and interesting, things to do than generate marketing spin.
New website

We are very excited to announce the launch of our new website [www.cairnsinstitute.jcu.edu.au](http://www.cairnsinstitute.jcu.edu.au) where you will see a totally new look.

**Design and navigation**
The design and structure of the pages has been changed to be more visually appealing, user friendly, and better reflect our work.

**Events**
The new [Events Calendar](http://www.cairnsinstitute.jcu.edu.au) showcases all our events and is easy to use.

**Subscribe**
You can now easily subscribe to our mailing list to keep up-to-date with our latest news and events.

**Explore**
We encourage you to explore the content and enjoy the amazing [photographs](http://www.cairnsinstitute.jcu.edu.au) that have been contributed by our researchers.

We’d like to thank our graphic designer, Leo Schoepflin for the initial design work, and Michael Smith and his team at Oracle Studio for making it all work for us. We also thank our own talented and adventurous researchers who provided many of the amazing photos you see on the site and allowed us to show them off to the world. Finally we hope you enjoy the photos of our building by photographer, Andrew Rankin, some of which also feature in this newsletter.

Please visit our [new website](http://www.cairnsinstitute.jcu.edu.au). If you have any questions, suggestions, feedback or comments, please email us at [cairnsinstitute@jcu.edu.au](mailto:cairnsinstitute@jcu.edu.au)
State of the tropics infrastructure workshop

A State of the Tropics infrastructure workshop, sponsored by the Australia-ASEAN Council (AAC) was held in Singapore on 28-29 April 2016.

Institute Director, Stewart Lockie, along with Professor of Tropical Regional Development, Allan Dale, attended the workshop held by the State of the Tropics team and JCU Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sandra Harding, in Singapore at the Fullerton Hotel. The purpose of this workshop was to facilitate an increased dialogue with representatives from institutions in ASEAN member nations around the State of the Tropics and enlist expert contributions to the upcoming State of the Tropics report on sustainable infrastructure. The workshop included around 30 delegates from universities, research institutions, government and the private sector from the region including Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and Australia.

His Excellency, Mr Philip Green, Australian High Commissioner to Singapore, delivered the opening keynote speech and noted the importance of connectivity between northern Australia and ASEAN member nations. He also recognised the contribution of the State of the Tropics project has had by drawing the world’s attention to the region which the Australian government has built on by campaigning for an International Day of the Tropics.

The second keynote speaker was Mr Jordan Schwartz, Director of the World Bank’s Infrastructure and Urban Development Hub. Delegates heard about the importance of infrastructure in the tropics for alleviating poverty as long as it is well planned and well financed.

A number of delegates provided short presentations of their work throughout the workshop across topics as diverse as coastal development, infrastructure for health, electricity networks, and developing smart cities. The remainder of the workshop concentrated on identifying key issues for infrastructure development in the tropics and exploring case studies. Several delegates have committed to providing short case studies and other content across various State of the Tropics products.

See stateofthetropics.org/ for details of this project.

“We heard about the importance of infrastructure in the tropics for alleviating poverty as long as it is well planned and well financed”

Mr Jordan Schwartz

World Bank
PhD student profile: Karen Cheer

Karen is a PhD student in her second year of research with the College of Arts, Society and Education. She has a background in information science, education and research administration. Karen’s research interests include socio-cultural understandings of health and wellbeing, with a particular focus on the peoples of the Asia-Pacific region.

Stillbirth is a global phenomenon largely hidden from maternal and child health discourse. Most of the world’s three million stillbirths per year occur in developing countries, such as Papua New Guinea. Karen’s qualitative study explores the social, cultural, spiritual and professional factors that inform the provision of care to women following stillbirth from the perspective of a cohort of midwifery students at Pacific Adventist University (PAU), Port Moresby.

Karen recently returned from fieldwork at PAU, where she conducted focus groups with midwifery students to explore socially shared knowledge and beliefs about pregnancy, birth and stillbirth.

The findings from Karen’s study will contribute to our knowledge on stillbirth experiences in resource limited and complex social and cultural settings. Karen anticipates her research will provide a platform for further evidence to inform resource development in maternal and child health in Papua New Guinea.

While in PNG, Karen took time out to visit the local market, Bomana War Cemetery and Owers’ Corner, the southern gateway to the Kokoda Track. Karen’s fieldwork will continue throughout 2016.

Karen’s supervisors are Professor Komla Tsey, Tropical Leader at The Cairns Institute, Dr David MacLaren and Dr Jenny Kelly (College of Medicine and Dentistry).
Life on the river—A field note from Baimuru Station. Part 2

The sunsets are rather glorious in this part of the world—the afternoons emit a sense of glowing completion at the end of one day, in anticipation of the day to come. Since my last note (April 2016), time has passed sometimes slowly, sometimes quickly. While living day to day in Baimuru over the last 3 months, I have had the distinct pleasure of getting to know people in many different walks of life, where for the most part, life is lived in a very traditional, subsistence existence, with the incursion of modern life bringing both benefit and vice.

My PhD research focuses on the lived experience of gender violence in Papua New Guinea (PNG), particularly in the way in which people witness events of violence within the community of Baimuru. This requires the contextual understanding of the lives and experience of both men and women within this community.

PNG itself is a country diversely rich in culture and tradition, while simultaneously, being concerned with the effect of globalisation. It is evident that the contemporary experience is having greater impact on the traditional lives of people in this community, particularly the perceptions of gender and associated expectations of men and women.

Being a female researcher in this context has had some particular advantages and disadvantages. As an example, being a ‘daughter’* of this local area, I am tied to some of the expectations of women in this community, i.e. deference to men in decision-making; behaving in ways appropriate to the expected roles and functions of women. One particular advantage has been that I am subtly changing the perception that the natural progression of a woman in the community is to be married, and to be a good wife and mother (this has been acknowledged and appreciated by both men and women in the community). Other opportunities exist for PNG (Baimuru) girls and women—particularly, education as a pathway.

The current position is reminiscent of 1950s–60s western society. PNG is yet to experience a ‘wave of feminism’ that would contest the position of women in a way that would enable more gender equality. There are particular social and cultural reasons as to why this is so, however, the importance of understanding the local socio-cultural environment is the first of many steps towards contesting and potentially changing the traditional, cultural position of women, and, in like manner, men. At present, these perceptions continue to reinforce particular gender inequalities. Documenting current gender perceptions can help in the road toward tailoring appropriate responses to gender inequalities that can contribute to gender violence in PNG.

My fieldwork will continue between July and December 2016. This block of fieldwork will allow me to continue to collect the story of people in Baimuru, giving voice to particular thoughts and experiences which will contribute to the national discussion on gender and violence in PNG. This will be the particular focus of my PhD thesis, contributing to our understanding of the lived experience of people, in regard to gender and violence, within a particularly local setting in PNG.

*My paternal heritage is from this area of the Gulf province of PNG.

Nalisa Neuendorf
PhD candidate, Anthropology
College of Arts, Society & Education

A local mother selling some of her garden produce
An innovative approach to homelessness

Homelessness is a complex phenomenon: it is not mere absence of secure housing caused by poor social and emotional outcomes; sometimes homelessness is simply financial inability to travel home.

An increase in the number of Indigenous homeless persons in Cairns, prompted the Queensland Police Service (QPS) to commence a pilot ‘Return to Country’ (R2C) program. QPS assisted 140 individuals who wished to return home but, for multiple reasons, could not afford to. Researchers from Central Queensland University (CQU) and JCU—Irina Kinchin, Susan Jacups, Gary Hunter and Bernadette Rogerson—estimated the program cost at $135,831 or $970 per participant. In comparison, evidence suggested that a homeless person could cost the government an extra $5,270 - $33,508 per person per year as a result of greater utilisation of health and justice services. This relatively simple, minimal cost program aimed at reducing homelessness could potentially save $2,714,460, not to mention psychological wellbeing and social cohesion that benefited participants and their communities.

To find out more about the R2C evaluation visit www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0149718915300331 or email irina.kinchin@jcu.edu.au

Appreciating science fiction

In our April 2016 newsletter we profiled Ben Menadue’s PhD research on how people appreciate science fiction and whether this is related to their appreciation of science fact.

Since then, Ben’s online survey for his project on the relationship between science fiction and culture is now approaching 900 responses, and is yielding some interesting results at the preliminary analysis stage. Perhaps the most significant finding to-date is that the demographic of science fiction readers today appears to be split evenly between male and female respondents, a considerable change since the 1940s when an Astounding Science Fiction poll had less than 1% female respondents and polls in the 1950s to which female responses were less than 10% of the total.

The age range of readers is also more evenly distributed than it has been historically. These suggest that science fiction is now very much a mainstream interest with broad general appeal.

Terry Pratchett is so far the most popular author, with Isaac Asimov and Robert Heinlein trailing close behind. D.H. Lawrence and Margaret Atwood also get a few mentions, which suggests how open the classification of science fiction and fantasy has become with readers happy to include writers who might previously have been considered to fit into a more ‘literary’ category.

More results will be forthcoming in due course. If you would like to help the survey reach the target of 1,000 responses, please go to goo.gl/forms/mVCYXMM9KT

Many thanks to all those who have completed it already—your contributions to the research are very much appreciated.
Daniela Vávrová’s film, ‘Skin has Eyes and Ears’: An Audio-visual Ethnography in a Sepik Society (83 minutes, 2014) won a student film prize at the 13th Göttingen International Ethnographic Film Festival in Germany in May this year. The student film competition is one of the central events of the festival. This year the student prize for a film that is part of a research project was shared between Daniela and German student, Nora Wildenauer. For more details see www.gieff.de

Daniela was also invited to participate in a roundtable at the festival with the theme Researching through the visual. The aims of regular roundtables happening during this biannual festival are exploring methodological as well as epistemological potentials of the film for anthropological research. Professor Andreas Ackermann from the University of Koblenz led the discussion and invited the following participants: Aya Domenig (Zurich, Switzerland) and Michael Westrich (Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany) whose films were screened at the Festival. One of the most prominent ethnographic filmmakers, David MacDougall (ANU, Canberra, Australia), presented Daniela with the prize when the roundtable started as she could not be there in person, but participated via Skype.

Michaela Schaeuble (Bern University, Switzerland) gave a keynote speech at the beginning of the discussion asking if the so-called ‘sensory turn’ means the end of storytelling. She highlighted the uniqueness and expressive strength of a film as a medium through which we share anthropological knowledge. Daniela’s film is a good example of sensory ethnography and strong cinematic style that challenges the classical story telling in the filmmaking and analytical approach in anthropology. The film, as a medium, has its own strength and weaknesses, advantages and limits in comparison to a written text. Ethnographic filmmaking is a particular kind of knowledge practice and mode of inquiry in its own right. Aya Domenig emphasised the engagement of the filmmaker and the audience and Michael Westrich talked about the film as a process, not just a product. The audience
recognised two interesting things: the hunger of the viewers for emotions and the danger of exhaustion when the film becomes too sensory.

Daniela’s film was also used as an example of fieldwork practice at a recent Paris workshop, ‘Fieldwork in Social Sciences: New Tools, Changing Practices and Emerging Boundaries of an Evolving Practice’, which was organised by two PhD candidates: Xavier Houdoy, Université Paris 8 Vincennes - Saint-Denis and Floriane Zaslavsky, The Center for Studies of India and South Asia, The School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences on 30 May 2016. Following the screening, Daniela was able to participate in discussions and a Q&A session via Skype. The main issues tackled at the workshop included new technologies and new tools used when doing research in 2016, the ethics and circulation of the data on the Internet, the new media platforms and their influence of temporality and geography on the fieldwork.

There was an interesting part in the workshop about several elements that remain unchanged when doing research: the experience of otherness, the apprehension of the potential difficulty to access new environments, the relay of field experience and the distancing of problematic discourses along with the representations associated with them.

It is a stimulating debate about the current potentials and challenges of audio-visual research that the social scientists find themselves not only in Germany and France, but also globally.
One topic in Chini which allows for a particularly rich discussion is something referred to in linguistics as realis and irrealis, and this is also the topic of Joseph’s doctoral thesis. In many languages such as those we in Western countries are perhaps more familiar with, events in the world are expressed using different verbal forms according to when the event occurred relative to a particular point in time (‘tense’) and whether it is ongoing or just happened at a particular moment (‘aspect’) (e.g., English: was talking, talked, is talking, will talk, will be talking). But not all languages express events in these terms. In Chini and other languages, people categorise and express events according to realis and irrealis. Events in the world are divided according to a binary opposition, that is, whether they are in the realm of reality (e.g., past events we know to have occurred) or in the realm of the imagination (e.g., future events, negative events, events that occurred in times and places where we did not actually witness them). Understanding how all the intricacies of the system work, how the Chini system relates to similar systems in other languages, how it has developed over time, and what the cultural component is, are just some of the questions that provide fascinating insights into the nature of Chini, of the languages of New Guinea, and of language more generally.

Joseph will be in Cairns until late August 2016, at which point he will return to PNG for fieldwork.

One of the biggest questions linguists have always debated is: how similar to, and also how different from each other, are the languages of the world? Much of linguistics is concerned with this and many different means of getting at the big questions have developed into schools of thought, but the only way to really approach any kind of an answer is to document and describe as many languages as possible. In particular, lesser known languages, often ones with small speaker populations, help us to understand why languages are the way they are, how they develop over time, what the influence of culture and contact with other groups have, among other questions.

Joseph Brooks, a visiting researcher at the Language and Culture Research Centre (LCRC) at James Cook University in Cairns, is engaged in exactly this type of work. He is in Cairns to benefit from and contribute to the linguistic scholarship for which the LCRC, under Distinguished Professor Aiikhenvald and Professor RMW Dixon, is renowned worldwide. Based at the University of California at Santa Barbara as a PhD candidate, Joseph’s research focuses on the language and culture of the Chini people, who live along a stretch of the lower Sogeram river in inland Madang Province, Papua New Guinea (PNG). The greater area of the north coast of New Guinea is the most linguistically diverse place on earth. Chini is no exception; it is a small language of 60 speakers, is spoken in only two villages, and is bordered by two related and four unrelated language groups.

Like many regions in New Guinea, Chini’s more immediate region, known as the Middle Ramu, is a place we know very little about, and virtually nothing is known about most of its languages. For Chini, the only prior work was a wordlist. Now, as the result of seven months of Joseph’s fieldwork, there is a more robust documentation of the language that includes traditional folk tales, recordings of conversations, and other types of texts and cultural activities. This type of documentary research has made it possible for Joseph to analyse and describe the complex structure of the Chini language, and to begin to ask the deeper questions that shed light on language as a uniquely human faculty.
Native title for anthropologists—2016 course

James Cook University (JCU), The Cairns Institute and the Australian Government Attorney-General’s Department again partnered to deliver the Masterclass ‘So you want to work in Native Title?’, an eight day intensive residential Masterclass designed to assist early career Anthropologists gain employment in the field of Native Title.

JCU has run the Masterclass successfully since 2011 and in 2013 was awarded a tender to deliver it for a further three years (2014, 2015 & 2016) under the Attorney-General’s Department ‘Native Title Anthropologist Grants Program’.

The Masterclass provides 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 role of anthropologists in Native Title and the Native Title process. This extended to topics relating to cultural awareness and working with Indigenous knowledge, contemporary kinship and concepts of Aboriginal ‘society’ including defining the Native Title claimant group.

On a practical level, the Masterclass reviewed Native Title determinations, compensation claims and Future Acts plus Indigenous governance. The role of the anthropologist in the post Native Title determination era was also critically discussed.

The course provided targeted skills based training for employment in the Native Title field. We considered ethical issues and the importance of maintaining professionalism, objectivity and integrity in the Native Title environment. The Masterclass included various interactive exercises, fieldtrips and personal engagement with Traditional Owners. There was also discussion on the future directions and opportunities for anthropologists in Native Title and beyond the immediate Native Title context.

Attendees heard from specialists about Connection Reports, engaged in debates about society, and were provided with an overview of services provided by staff from Community and Personal Histories (QLD).

Practical exercises throughout the course provided attendees with skills for eliciting ‘evidence’ and kinship data from native title holders. The course demystified Native Title procedures and highlighted the critical role of anthropologists in the Native Title process.

The 2016 Masterclass ran in Cairns for eight days from 10-17 June. Participants travelled from interstate and intrastate and the course was delivered on campus in The Cairns Institute building that features state-of-the-art presentational facilities with a modern, yet comfortable atmosphere.

The Masterclass engaged world-class presenters, including Native Title holders, who have detailed and first-hand experience of working in the Native Title arena, as well as anthropological academics to ensure participants are provided with a professional and accurate portrayal of the Native Title workplace. We acknowledge the assistance of:

- Professor Rosita Henry - Chair of Anthropology, JCU
- Professor Nicolas Petersen – Director, Centre for Native Title Anthropology, ANU
- Professor David Trigger – University of Queensland
- Dr Julie Finlayson – Research Fellow, Centre for Native Title Anthropology, ANU
- Dr Kevin Mayo – Consultant Anthropologist
- Alice Buhrich - PhD candidate and cultural heritage research specialist
- Dianne O'Rorke - Coordinating Anthropologist - North Queensland Land Council
- Katie O'Rourke - Native Title Lawyer
- Dr David Martin – Senior Consultant Anthropologist

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- Bruce Martin – Member, Prime Minister’s Indigenous Advisory Council
- Dr George Skeene - Indigenous consultant and Yirrigandyi Traditional Owner
- Susan Walsh – National Native Title Tribunal (Cairns)
- Bard Aarberge - Anthropology PhD candidate
- Peter Blackwood – Senior Consultant Anthropologist
- Pam Britt - A/Principal Program Officer, Queensland Community and Personal Histories, Department of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander and Multicultural Affairs
- Rhonda Brim and Rhonda Duffin, Traditional Owners of the Ngoonbi Co-Operative Society Ltd.

The contribution provided by this range of experts enhanced the real-world experience for participants by demonstrating how information provided was relevant and how and why the exercise reflected realistic scenarios.

Participants attended fieldtrips that focused on providing geographic context to the land issue and they experienced a wide range of actual sites of Indigenous Significance under the guidance and supervision of Mr George Skeene, a Traditional Owner who also gave a lecture on Aboriginal camps and reserves in Cairns.

Twenty-three participants enrolled and completed the Masterclass with much enthusiasm and to great success, and this was reflected in their course evaluation forms:

Would you recommend this Masterclass in Native Title to others?

Most definitely. I can’t speak highly enough of the value of this course.

Definitely. All of the staff were incredibly friendly and helpful, and the academics and professionals invited to speak were first class. JCU and The Cairns Institute have wonderful facilities and the location is stunning.

What part of the course did you find most valuable?

I think it was the entire course, the sum of its parts that made it the most valuable. By understanding how the anthropologist’s role fits with the legal frameworks, and the personal experiences shared by Native Title Holders, a more complete picture is manifest. The diversity and quality of the presenters was of an excellent standard! Keep up the good work!

The materials and information presented on post-native title challenges, specifically around achieving sustainable development outcomes post determination. I found them stimulating and relevant to the professional direction I aspire to pursue.

Presenters provided academic viewpoints on a range of topics including tradition, expert witness requirements, kinship, continuity and change. Practical exercises conducted during the course included eliciting genealogical data from a Traditional Owner, as well as a genealogical mapping exercise. Attendees learnt valuable cultural mapping skills using GPS and other equipment in the field.

To complement the course activities, a public presentation was held on the 16 June (6.00-7.30 pm) in The Cairns Institute lecture theatre, with a professional panel compiled of Professor Nicolas Petersen, Bruce Martin, Dr Julie Finlayson, Professor David Trigger and Dr David Martin. The presentation was attended by 70 members of the public in Cairns and broadcast to JCU Townsville, Charles Darwin University and Central Land Council in Alice Springs.
Native Title and developing northern Australia

Where does native title fit in the agenda for developing northern Australia?

The Cairns Institute hosted a public seminar on 16 June 2016 entitled “Development, community development and native title holders.”

The evening featured an expert panel as well as an opportunity for questions and discussion and was video-linked to the Central Land Council in Alice Springs, Charles Darwin University, and JCU Townsville.

Director of The Cairns Institute, Professor Stewart Lockie, said this was the first of a series of forums planned in response to the Commonwealth Government’s 2015 white paper on developing northern Australia.

“The white paper identifies simplification of land tenure as a priority, to support investment and promote economic development on both Indigenous and pastoral land,” Professor Lockie said.

“While there’s no doubt that the complexity of existing tenures can act as a barrier to investment, any reform process must involve widespread community participation.”

The forums aim to build awareness and understanding, encourage dialogue, and share experiences of economic development on Indigenous land under various tenure arrangements.

“We hope to shed light on success stories, as well as highlighting situations where the complexity of land tenure arrangements is stifling Indigenous community economic aspirations, or hindering investment and development,” Professor Lockie said.
A coconut perspective: When one woman’s livelihood is another’s tropical view

In 2013 PhD student, Michelle Dyer, lived for seven months in Vavanga village on Kolombangara Island, in the Western Province of the Solomon Islands. This is her fieldwork story.

Lola, my nearest neighbour, was the same age as me. She had seven children. At the time I lived in the village her oldest child was twenty-one years old and her youngest, one and a half. I was fortunate to have Lola as my neighbour. She was an excellent and patient teacher who responded with grace to my many requests, such as, “Can you please teach me how to husk a coconut?” This is an absolutely essential and utterly commonplace skill in the Solomon Islands and most of the Pacific. She also taught me to make coconut milk. Making coconut milk is an activity that women (and others) do every day, often more than once a day, as it is a common ingredient in local cooking.

I was inordinately proud of myself the first time I made coconut milk. Lola was amazed when I told her that where I lived we usually got coconut milk in a tin, often from Thailand. She asked me if we didn’t have coconuts. I live in North Queensland, Australia, so I said yes, we have coconuts, but the city council removes all the coconuts when they are green and takes them to the rubbish tip. She found this hard to believe and asked me why they would do such a thing. I felt foolish explaining that it is to prevent anyone being injured by falling coconuts.

There are coconut trees in every inhabited area of the Solomon Islands. Many coconut plantations are part of colonial legacy, either planted as money earning ventures to make the Solomon Islands protectorate self-sufficient, or planted by local people to prove habitation, claim ownership and prevent alienation of land. People use every part of the coconut tree in the village. They drink the green coconuts, they milk the ripe coconuts, they eat the inside of the growing coconuts (which is kind of like coconut flavoured Styrofoam), they make baskets, mats and brooms from the leaves, the husks and shells are used as fuel, mulch and gardening, and they use the wood of the trunk if they cut one down. They also make copra when they need some money—copra is what coconut oil is made from and it is in many products (things like soap, shampoo, food products and cosmetics). Lola asked me what our coconut trees are for where I live in Australia. I told her they are to look at so as to invoke a “tropical” feel. She laughed, in disbelief.

In the above story, perspective is the difference between what seems commonplace, what seems extraordinary and what is given value. It is also a commentary on global inequality and concepts of development. There are many scholars who have, and continue, to challenge the premises on which designations, proscriptions and interventions in the name of development are built. The point of difference in my thesis is that I seek to ask them from the perspective of Solomon Islands village women. My particular focus is on village women as over 85% of Solomon Islanders live in villages. Villages are also the place at which material contests over natural resource extraction take place and at which most development interventions are supposedly directed, whether funds make it out of the national capital, Honiara, or not.

The sense of proportion offered by such a perspective shifts the parameters of discussions about development, and the gender of development in particular. There are many assumptions built into the concept of “development” that reflect the knowledge base from which the idea of development springs and not the reality or perspectives of the people who are supposed to need it. Mukhopadhyay (2014) asserts, “...knowledge generation and production... are themselves projects of power” (p. 365). I set out in my thesis on a project of power; an assertion of the right of village women to be involved in knowledge generation and production about themselves, their lives and their aspirations.

Between 2011 and 2015 I spent approximately twelve months in villages in the Solomon Islands during nine

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A coconut perspective cont. (Continued from page 14)

separate trips, with seven months continuous residence in Vavanga village. During the nine trips I made to the Solomon Islands I spent time in villages along the length of the south west coast of Choiseul Island, on the northern tip of Malaita Island, on artificial islands in the Langa Langa lagoon area of Malaita, and on islands in Marovo and Roviana lagoon, as well as villages around Kolombangara Island. For three months in 2013 my two daughters, aged four and seven years old at the time, and my partner (their father), joined me in Vavanga village. Aside from my status as a rich white foreigner (‘the wealthy and powerful visitor’ (Foale, 2013, p. 21) this established my social position—as a mother and a wife. These are seen as the natural roles for women across Melanesia and determined my peer group in the village. A core of about twenty five middle aged women, who were the most regular participants in community work and church activities became my regular companions and informants. I accompanied women on their daily rounds of work, to the garden, the river, to market and to church.

I introduced myself in Vavanga village as a student of anthropology. I explained the basic methodology of an anthropologist is to use themselves, their actual physical body, as a research tool by living and working within the society and culture that they are researching; something akin to the idea of walking a mile in someone else’s shoes to understand what it feels like to be in that person’s life. This is an interesting metaphor in village Solomon Islands as many people don’t wear shoes at all. How does one walk a mile in someone else’s shoes when they go barefoot? If you go barefoot yourself then surely you are walking a mile on your own feet?

Such philosophical questions foreground my personal presence throughout the thesis as part of a feminist methodology that shows where one’s observations and conclusions come from; to leave the roots on, as it were, and make clear where one is positioned, so as to constantly question the underlying premises and paradigms from which conclusions and observations spring.

My aim in the thesis is to foreground the experience and perspectives of women in contests over natural resource extraction and issues of “development” in the Solomon Islands. I engage in thick ethnography of what village women are actually doing and how they are positioned in matters of development and natural resource management. In this way I hope to contribute to making ideological space for new concepts emerging from an understanding of what empowers and enables women to challenge underlying inequitable gender norms. Attention to Solomon Islands rural women’s perspectives and the ways in which they exercise agency provide one way to rethink what is “valuable” to human existence outside the dictates of global corporate capitalism and one-sided narratives of development.

Michelle Dyer
PhD student

As a Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Endeavour Fellowship, Dr Anne Stephens has been living in New York City since March this year.

Anne, who is a Post Doctoral Senior Researcher with The Cairns Institute has been developing The Gender, Ecology, Marginalization and Systemic Evaluation (GEMSE) Framework for Evaluation Practice, with United Nations (UN) Women as a Visiting Columbia University Scholar. The draft guide has been peer reviewed and is now being revised.

With funding from both UN Women and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade through the Endeavour Fellowship Post-Doctoral Research awards scheme, Anne teamed up with Ellen Lewis (PhD Candidate, University of Hull), Shravanti Reddy (UN Women Independent Evaluation Office) and intern assistant, Isabel Polon (Columbia University).

“This project has given me an extraordinary view of the global development field. Working with UN Women has shown us not only how project evaluation is orchestrated in a system like the UN, but, the range and depth of issues that come across their desks”, said Anne.

“We put out calls for Expressions of Interest to pilot this guidance. The call was answered by other UN agencies. We were delighted because people can see the application of GEMSE in ways we had not. It has relevance to the UN and partnering agencies beyond UN Women in the global North and South.”

The GEMSE guidance is responsive to gender, marginalisation and sustainable development. It uses systems thinking to guide an evaluation of social interventions or programs that need to show why and how changes occurred. It is being developed at the commencement of the introduction of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which actually build into them a responsibility to monitor and evaluate programmes. What this creates is an increased demand to build capacity of member states to effectively use monitoring and evaluation processes as learning opportunities.

“The Guide is in two sections. The first is theoretical information for people using systems thinking, perhaps for the first time. It describes the GEMSE framework and why looking at gender, marginalisation and ecological landscapes matters.

“The second part is the practitioners’ guide. This takes you through the steps to do an evaluation from planning to disseminating the report using a GEMSE responsive approach. It applies the theory from the first section with lots of tools to support decision making within teams of co-evaluators, participants and stakeholders.

“This has been a career highlight I will never forget. Living in New York I have met fascinating people from the UN and NGOs. As a Visiting Scholar at Columbia’s School of International and Public Affairs I learnt a great deal about US politics and international relations in regions we, in Australia, have much less to do with.”

Seminars about the Guidance are being planned in late June 2016 in New York at the Australian Permanent Mission to the UN and UN Women, in London, and at the University of Hull, Centre for Systems Studies in the UK. Anne will come back to Australia in mid-July but is already making plans to return to New York with Ellen Lewis for the October launch. Anne and Ellen will also be doing a series of presentations at evaluation conferences in Europe, Australia and the United States.
Into the Amazon

In November 2015 PhD scholar, Kasia Wojtylak, and recent graduate of JCU’s Bachelor of Creative Industries, Kristian Lupinski, ventured into the Amazon rainforest of Colombia, each for their own reasons. Kasia documents the language of the Murui and is in the process of completing a detailed grammar for her PhD thesis. Kristian is a filmmaker and went with the intention of filming a documentary on the Murui’s way of life. In addition to making a documentary, Kasia and Kristian, with the help of funds from the Firebird Foundation for Anthropological Research, brought cameras and laptops for the Murui people in order to assist them to continue the documentation after the couple left the Amazon.

Upon arriving in Puerto Leguízamo, Kasia and Kristian were met by a Murui family from the village. The village, Tercera India, is where the language of the Murui is widely spoken. It is located about 12 hours by a speed boat down river from Puerto Leguízamo. Kasia and Kristian felt it was safer to travel with the Murui family as this area can be dangerous for foreigners.

A 12 hour boat ride turned into a 5 day canoe cruise, accompanied by the Murui couple, their two toddlers and a newborn baby. Altogether, seven people on a canoe that was no bigger than a ute. Needless to say, everybody became quite close. On the way they also picked up two chickens and a large turtle.

Arriving in Tercera India, Kasia and Kristian began working together with the Murui. The main purpose was the documentation of the Murui language and culture that are slowly being lost to the western way of life. The Tercera India village consists of two extended families with about 50 inhabitants. Murui elders not only wanted to make a documentary, but were also eager to learn how to use the equipment that was brought for them to continue their own documentation.

During the 6 months Kasia spent among the Murui, she collected many Murui traditional stories, narratives, personal accounts and daily dialogues. She was also able to revise her grammar description, which will be completed in the first half of 2017.

(Continued on page 18)
Upon returning to Australia in April 2016, Kristian edited a short featurette to be entered into various film festivals. Murui Filmmakers is an 8 minute short film featuring Lucio ‘Choma’ Agga Botyay, one of the Murui filmmakers, where he discusses the importance of documentation of his people’s disappearing traditions, language and way of life. The response to the film has been extremely positive and it was selected by the Understory Film Festival for screening on 18 June 2016 at the Tanks Art Centre in Cairns. This short film has also been entered to three other film festivals, including the Margaret Mead Film Festival, and is pending acceptance.

Currently, Kristian and Kasia are working on the feature documentary film Kafí Murui Uai - Our Murui Words which they hope to release in January 2017. They plan to submit it to film festivals around the world and send any profit the film generates back to the community of Tercera India in Colombia.

For more information see www.kristianlupinski.com
International and national luminaries in the field of early childhood development, health and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander engagement will gather at the Pullman Cairns International in August for the 2016 Early Years Conference.

This is the second year of the conference and it is an event that attracts a unique field of presenters from government, non-government, education organisations and service providers. Their role is to review the latest research, present contemporary strategies and promote the wellbeing of children and families by advancing collaboration and evidence based practice. This year offers a multi-disciplinary set of themes including early intervention, health, education and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander engagement.

This year’s event boasts an impressive assembly of international and national keynote speakers including Lane Strathern, Tom Calma, Penny Dakin, Bev Flückiger and Frank Oberklaid. Dr Strathern is a development paediatrician and a neuroscientist from the University of Iowa, his research focuses on the neurobiology of mother-infant attachment and neurodevelopmental disorders such as autism. The Brisbane born physician is currently a tenured Professor at the University of Iowa and Division Director for Developmental and Behavioral Paediatrics.

Leading keynote speaker, Tom Calma, is the Chancellor of the University of Canberra and an Aboriginal elder of the Kungarakan tribal group and member of the Iwaidja tribal group in the Northern Territory. He was awarded the Order of Australia for his distinguished service to the Indigenous community, health, social justice, and equality issues, and his work in 2005 laid the foundation for the Close the Gap Campaign. In addition to the Close the Gap for Indigenous Health Equality Campaign, Calma has been instrumental in the establishment of the National Congress of Australia’s First Peoples. He is currently Co-chair of the Commonwealth Government’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Advisory Group and an Ambassador with Suicide Prevention Australia.

Other speakers include Penny Dakin who is the National Program Director of ARACY, who are also welcomed this year as an organisation partner of the Early Years Conference. Penny has played a significant role in the design and development of population health and prevention policy, with a particular focus on the social determinants of health. Bev Flückiger is an Associate Professor in the School of Education and Professional Studies at Griffith University whose research focuses on school leadership and early childhood education. Frank Oberklaid is the Foundation Director of the Centre for Community Child Health at The Royal Children’s Hospital. Professor Oberklaid is an internationally recognised researcher, author, lecturer and consultant, and has written two books and over 200 scientific publications on various aspects of paediatrics.

The conference will be held from the 4 – 5 August 2016 and will include a buffet dinner with a performance by much loved actor and children’s entertainer, Jay Laga’aia. A gifted musician, Jay has written and recorded four children’s albums with ABC for Kids and toured his live show throughout Australia.

This year’s conference is a collaboration between Mission Australia, The Benevolent Society, Queensland Department of Education and Training – Early Childhood Education and Care, the Department of Communities Child Safety, Queensland Health and The Cairns Institute, and new partner Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) and will be held at the Pullman Cairns International, Cairns Queensland.
Emerging designers panel

Industry leaders and thinkers are hard to come by, but it is probably even harder to find the two qualities in one person, let alone getting a group of these people in one room.

The Emerging Designers Panel held on the 26 May 2016 was part of the monthly seminar series called ‘Designed In Cairns’ hosted at The Cairns Institute in partnership with the Australian Institute of Architects FNQ Region. In particular, this seminar was unique in that it hosted the emerging leaders and thinkers in those respective fields. The panellists consisted of Matthew Tickner (Civil Designer) and Hansley Gumbaketi (Urban and Regional Planner) from Cardno Ltd, Samuel Batt (Sales and Marketing/Property Investor) from Skills360, Grace Lambeth (Public Art Policy Researcher) from James Cook University and Stefanie Field (Architect) from Total Project Group. Though relatively new to their fields, these participants represented a sample of emerging professionals who were now being initiated into the industry under a context quite devolved from that which their mentors may have gone through. Specifically, technology and transportation have almost neutralised the balanced of power between metropolitan cities and regional cities to a point where it is almost irrelevant where you chose to lay your head and apply your trade. It was quite fitting then that the forum questioned the relevance of regionalism in a globalised world.

Reflecting on the future of the design industry in this context, each panellist’s perspective shared a common thread of hope in an industry that is changing and re-discovering itself. Globalisation was undoubtedly having an effect on the aesthetic of regional communities and cities but whether that meant economically smaller lot sizes, environmentally sensitive housing, or public art receptive to a political, cultural, social or environmental history was still debatable. This sensitivity informs the basis for our identity but the challenge becomes twofold when contrasted against how effective regions are at externalising an identity and then, more importantly to our professions, remaining regionally and globally competitive—how easily we as professionals can assimilate and adapt to working remotely on foreign projects.

Particularly to the latter point, as young professionals in a regional design industry, it is not enough to say I am based in Cairns and therefore I can only work on Cairns projects. The forum identified the importance of being knowledgeable about different contexts and environments so that we as regional based designers could work on projects in Brisbane and Sydney whilst collaborating on projects in Philippines, Papua New Guinea and Singapore.

Hansley Gumbaketi
Recent JCU Urban and Regional Planning Degree graduate
In June 2016 the Designed in Cairns Seminar series was fortunate to have a VIP guest in 97 year old Henry Tranter, a surviving Rat of Tobruk. Henry was there to listen to local architect, Michael Martino, recount the story of the Tobruk Memorial Pool and its recent redevelopment.

“All good buildings have a story to tell, and Tobruk Memorial Pool’s story takes us back from the present day to 1941.”

Michael from MMP Architects shared with the large audience the design process that required investigating and understanding the long and deep history embedded in the original building and its association with the heroes of Tobruk.

Henry was not the only VIP in their 90s in the audience with a second WWII Bomber Command veteran also in attendance.

The next seminars are still in the planning stages and discussions are currently being held with regional Mayors around a forum that will bring the Mayors together to discuss the Council’s commitment to design, architecture and landscape planning in Tropical North Queensland, and how it will improve the economy of our region for the future.

For further updates please follow the series on Facebook www.facebook.com/designincairns

Family wellbeing: From Cairns to Shenyang, China

Visiting scholar from 2015 – 2016, Li Yan and her daughter are now back in Shenyang, China, and although they are missing Cairns, they are also happy to be back home with family and friends.

One of the programs Li Yan learnt from Professor Komla Tsey whilst she was in Cairns was the family wellbeing leadership training. With help from Komla and Mary Whiteside, she has piloted it with 29 students from her university, Shenyang University of Chemical Technology, in Shenyang, Liaoning Province, China.

Feedback from students has been positive, that she will analyse the results of the pre/post evaluation later in year.
Indigenous leadership in research

It is widely acknowledged that leadership from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is critical to achieving sustainable research outcomes for Indigenous communities. However, less attention has been paid to exploring the scope and diversity of Indigenous leadership in research; and identifying ways to strengthen Indigenous leadership capacity for the benefit of Indigenous communities. The ARC funded project, 'Measuring Indigenous Research Benefit' is seeking to address this gap through a series of leadership development workshops involving a cohort of JCU Indigenous doctoral and masters candidates. The cohort represents a diverse range of disciplines including health, environmental science, economics, social sciences and creative arts. The aims of the workshops include strengthening leadership capacity; exploring ways in which Indigenous leadership can maximise research benefit for Indigenous communities; and identifying strategies to support emerging Indigenous leaders in research.

The first two workshops were held in April and May 2016 at The Cairns Institute. The research team were fortunate to draw on the knowledge and expertise of Mr Eddie Watkin, (co-principal of LeadershipFIT), as well as research team member, Ms Lynda Ah Mat (recent graduate Cert IV in Indigenous Leadership) for the workshops. The students and research team also enjoyed a visit from Professor Martin Nakata (Pro Vice Chancellor Indigenous Education and Strategy), Dr Vicky Nakata and Professor Komla Tsey on the final day. The workshops received very positive feedback from the participants, and the information generated from the leadership activities will directly contribute to the overall project for 'Measuring Indigenous Research Benefit'. A second cohort will be invited to participate in further workshops planned for the end of the year.

For further information please contact Dr Felecia Watkin Lui via felecia.watkin@jcu.edu.au

The research team: Dr Felecia Watkin Lui; Associate Professor Roxanne Bainbridge; Professor Yvonne Cadet-James; Professor Komla Tsey; Associate Professor Janya McCalman; Ms Lynda Ah Mat; and Ms Marion Heyeres.
AMAZONICAS VI on the Amazon River

James Cook University was well represented at the recent AMAZONICAS VI conference on indigenous Amazonian languages, held on the banks of the Amazon River itself in Leticia (Colombia) and Tabatinga (Brazil), 24–29 May 2016. Three members of the Language and Culture Research Centre (LCRC) in The Cairns Institute gave presentations: Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Dr Simon Overall, PhD student, Kasia Wojtylak, and visiting PhD student, Martin Kohlberger. Martin and Simon also convened a session on “Historical phonology and sound change in Amazonian languages” (see the conference website).

The conference was hosted jointly by the National University of Colombia in Leticia and the University of the State of Amazonas in Tabatinga. The two cities are located on the Amazon river and form a single urban area at the point where Colombia, Brazil and Peru come together. Leticia is the capital of Colombia’s department of Amazonas and it has about 46,000 inhabitants; and Tabatinga is a municipality of Brazil’s state of Amazonas and has about 60,000 inhabitants. Both cities are located five minutes by water taxi from the island of Santa Rosa, in Peru’s Loreto region. In this triple border area it is possible to travel between the three countries without any passport control formalities.

The AMAZONICAS conference series has the theme “The structure of Amazonian languages,” and has been held biannually since 2007, always in an Amazonian country (Brazil, Colombia and Peru so far—the 2018 conference will be held in Ecuador). Its mission is to promote and strengthen exchange and cooperation among researchers engaged in the study of indigenous languages spoken in the Amazon region, and it is the only conference series dedicated to these languages, which are well known amongst linguists for the challenges they present to established linguistic theory.

Although researchers in this field are relatively few, they are based in institutions all over the world, and this is an important opportunity to bring them together in a week of intense academic activity, as well as an enjoyable social side.

Each AMAZONICAS has two main symposiums, dedicated to themes in phonology and syntax, and a third one focuses on studies of a specific linguistic family. The 2016 themes were “Negation in Amazonian languages”, “Historical phonology and sound change in Amazonian languages” and the Tukano and Makú (Nadahup/Kakua-Nukak/Puinave) language families.

Simon Overall presented on negation in Kandozi-Chapra, an isolate language spoken in north Peru, and Kasia Wojtylak focused on negation mechanisms in Murui (Witotoan), a Colombian indigenous language she has been studying since 2010 and is currently writing her PhD dissertation on. Martin Kohlberger presented on “The development of ‘vowel harmony’ in Shiwiar (Chicham, Ecuador)”.

More than 100 people from all over the world attended the conference, and the talks were given in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

Kasia Wojtylak and Simon Overall
Language & Culture Research Centre

(L-R) Prof Andrew Wedel, keynote speaker for the Phonology session, Simon Overall, Martin Kohlberger.
Sugar tax supported

On 30 May 2016 twenty-two representatives from the Cairns and region health sector attended a Royal Society of Queensland workshop on the broad theme of Community Health—the evidence base for investment.

The workshop was kindly sponsored by the Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine (AITHM) with the support of The Cairns Institute.

The Royal Society of Queensland is the oldest scientific institution in Queensland with its interest in community health dating back to its foundation in 1859. The scope of the Society’s activities is “science and the application of science,” fields of knowledge that are central to the challenges facing community health. The second president, Joseph Bancroft, from 1884–1897 was a surgeon with an interest in environmental health, disease transmission by parasites and plant ecology.

The workshop started with a Welcome to Country by Bernie Singleton, a Traditional Owner on his father’s side, speaking for Yirriganydji [Salt Water Djabugay] in the Kuranda and Cairns localities, followed by an introduction by Geoff Edwards, Royal Society President.

The keynote presentation by Professor Robyn McDermott, Senior Clinical Research Fellow and Director for the Centre for Chronic Disease Prevention at James Cook University (JCU), focused on “Where are we spending money on health vs Where SHOULD we be spending.” Robyn’s presentation examined the growing cost of obesity and diabetes care and the rising cost of health care generally including the publicly subsidised drug bill.

A case regarding the cost effectiveness of primary prevention activities including taxation of unhealthy foods was also presented.

Recent research by University of Queensland School of Public Health researcher, Dr Lennert Veerman1, suggests there would be up to 800 fewer new Type 2 diabetes cases each year if a 20% tax was introduced, and after 25 years, there would be 4,400 fewer people with heart disease and 1,100 fewer people living with the consequences of stroke.

1 journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0151460
TEDxJCUCairns 2016 student team

This year’s TEDxJCUCairns will be assisted by six 3rd year Creative Media undergraduate students. The team are doing this for their subject “Collaborative Development” and they will be assisting the organisers in the pre-production, production and post production stages of the TEDx event. They will be mentored and guided by the academic staff of the College of Arts, Society and Education, Creative Media Unit. Their skills will be utilised by assisting in:

Pre-production: Photography for stock images for social media; website development; visual identity; T-shirt design; and event booklet design and layout.

Production: photography; conference hosting; filming and audio on the day; and updating social media pages.

Post Production: editing – one video for each speaker; uploading videos to YouTube; and website updates.

It is extremely beneficial that the entire student team were involved with the TEDx in 2015 either through organisation assistance or by being part of the audience. This is enabling the team to know what areas need to be improved for this year’s event. The students will be focusing more on the website and social media to make it more interesting and fun in order to attract a bigger audience.

Team members and their roles:

**Elizabeth Wolley**
Team Leader
1. Conference hosting
2. Camera/video/audio
3. Multi-page layout & design

**Kimberley Basso**
Assistant Team Leader
1. Website development & social media
2. Visual identity
3. Multi-page layout & design

**Brandon Pineda**
1. Camera/video/audio
2. Conference hosting
3. Website development & social media

**Jessica Stang**
1. Multi-page layout & design
2. Visual identity
3. Camera/video/audio

**Lyca Chan**
1. Visual identity
2. Multi-page layout & design
3. Conference hosting

**Louise Laporte**
1. Camera/video/audio
2. Website development & social media
3. Visual identity
TEDxJCUCairns speakers

TEDxJCUCairns will return for the third time in 2016 on 30 September with the theme RESILIENCE.

We again have 15 speakers who have begun preparing for their talks, and four speaker profiles are listed below.

More speakers will be announced soon but please check out the website tedxjcucairns.com/ for updates and follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/tedxjcucairns

Judith Herrmann is a PhD student at The Cairns Institute, JCU, assessing transitional justice processes from a gender perspective. Her research focuses on the experiences of female survivors of sexual violence in armed conflict with justice processes dealing with the crimes committed against them.

Iain Gordon is Deputy Vice Chancellor – Tropical Environments and Societies at James Cook University.

Gerry Turpin is the only formally trained Indigenous ethnobotanist in Australia and the winner of the 2013 Deadly award for Science. Gerry manages the Australian Tropical Herbarium at JCU’s Tropical Indigenous Ethnobotany Centre.

Terri Janke is the Solicitor Director of Terri Janke and Company, a commercial law firm. Terri was born in Cairns and has family connections to the Torres Strait Islands (Meriam) and Cape York (Wuthathi). She was awarded NAIDOC Person of the Year 2011, the Attorney General’s Indigenous Lawyer of the Year 2012, and was a finalist in the 2015 NSW Telstra Business Women’s Awards.

As part of JCU Cairns Open Day Sunday 7 August 2016, TEDxJCUCairns will hold an information stall. We will also have three presenters show their talks and the audience will have a chance to meet and ask the presenters questions.

1. 15 years in a refugee camp. How did I learn? Presented by final year JCU nursing student Tulsa Gautam. When: 12pm
2. Turtles on track. Presented by JCU Post Graduate and Cairns Turtle Rehabilitation Centre Jennie Gilbert. When: 1pm
3. Turning toxins into tonics. Presented by JCU researcher Dr David Wilson. When: 2pm

All presentations will be held in A3.2 Lecture Theatre, Cairns Campus, James Cook University, Smithfield, QLD.
Ecofeminism, Educators and Climate Change (EFECC) symposium

The Ecofeminism, Educators and Climate Change (EFECC) symposium will be held at The Cairns Institute on 21 July 2016 from 8:30 am.

This free one day event is exploring ideas and ways that researchers and educators, both inside and outside the university, are communicating and educating about climate change.

Educators and researchers working on climate change from a range of collectives, organisations and institutions will come together to share ideas and ways of communicating and developing their research.

Speakers include, notable ecofeminist theorists, Emeritus Professor Annette Gough (RMIT), Secretary to the national body of the Australian Association of Environmental Education and science educator, Associate Professor Hilary Whitehouse (JCU); MD Reef Rainforest Research Centre, Sheriden Morris; Professor Bob Stevenson (JCU); Knitting Nanna climate activists and the Climate Angels.

The event is free, but please register for catering purposes at alumni.jcu.edu.au/EFCC2016

Follow us on Facebook at and Twitter @EFCC2016. Hashtags on the day will be #EFCC2016 & #educatingonclimatechangeefecc2016.

With thanks to our funders for their generous support:
Advance Queensland Women’s Fund; JCU TropEco, Australian Association of Environmental Educators FNQ; and James Cook University Research and Innovation Services.

See draft program at www.cairnsinstitute.jcu.edu.au/efecc2016/

Contact information
Convener: Dr Maxine Newlands, College of Arts, Society & Education, James Cook University, Queensland, Australia.
T +61 7 4781 5006 (INT’L)
E: Maxine.newlands@jcu.edu.au
@efecc2016 or @Dr_MaxNewlands
28th Annual Conference of the Chinese Economics Society Australia

The Chinese Economics Society Australia (CESA) in conjunction with JCU’s College of Business Law and Governance, and The Cairns Institute are hosting the CESA’s 28th Annual Conference in Cairns, Australia, on 17 -19 July 2016. Registration is open now.

Keynote speakers include:

Wing Thye Woo | Professor of Economics, University of California Davis, Editor -in-Chief of Asian Economic Papers

Hanming Fang | Class of 1965, Professor of Economics, University of Pennsylvania, Acting Director, National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)

Luigi Pistaferri | Professor of Economics, Stanford University, Co-Editor, American Economic Review

In the past three decades, remarkable achievements have been made in China’s development, with economic growth averaged at 9% per annum. Rapid economic growth benefits ordinary Chinese, as can be observed that more and more Chinese travel overseas, for sight-seeing, shopping and even hunting for real estate assets. Coupled with these remarkable achievements are a number of challenges that are exerting an increasingly significant constraint on China’s road ahead, such as environmental pollutions, income inequality, and regional disparities. For example, the widely spread smog in China’s major cities is likely to affect people’s health in a negative way. The recent policy shocks, namely the “Olympic Blue” and “APEC Blue”, appear to suggest a cost of 50% economic activities to immediately address this issue.

Faced with such increasingly binding constraints, Chinese economy appears to settle in a lower growth trajectory, a status of so-called “new normal” (新常态). In response, policy makers are searching for new sources of growth, internally through institutional reforms such as the experimentation of free trade zones and externally through a number of initiatives such as the One Belt and One Road initiative and the establishment of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. Nevertheless, it is not clear how effective these measures will be and to what extent the constraints will affect Chinese economy. Hence, it is very opportune and most appropriate to hold an international conference to review, evaluate and outlook China’s economy into future. Accordingly the conference carries with the title: “In Search of New Sources of Growth: What China Should Do Next?”

As part of this conference there are two seminars:

19 July 2016, 1:00—3:00 pm
Attracting More Chinese Tourists to Australia and the Cairns Region: What Do We Need to Do?

The Forum will consist of two parts: (1) ideas from the analysts; and (2) discussion of those ideas by local interests and stakeholders. There will be ample opportunities to interact among the participants.

Inquiries: zhangyue.zhou@jcu.edu.au
Registration: alumni.jcu.edu.au/28CESA

19 July 2016, 3:30—5:30 pm
In Search of New Sources of Growth: What China Should Do Next?

A panel of distinguished speakers will share their wisdom about what China should and may do to search for new sources for its sustained economic growth and how China’s policy choices may impact on its own economy and the economies elsewhere.

Inquiries: zhangyue.zhou@jcu.edu.au
Registration: alumni.jcu.edu.au/28CESA
Details for these events can be found at: [www.cairnsinstitute.jcu.edu.au/upcoming-events/](http://www.cairnsinstitute.jcu.edu.au/upcoming-events/)

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<td>12 July 2016 The Cairns Institute</td>
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<td><strong>Verbal number in Chini</strong> LCRC seminar by Joseph Brooks</td>
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<td><strong>Early Years Conference 2016</strong> Today’s Children—Tomorrow’s Future</td>
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<td><strong>Creativity in language: Secret codes and special styles</strong> LCRC special workshop by Anne Storch</td>
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<td><strong>Possessive constructions and nominalization in Kove</strong> LCRC seminar by Hiroko Data</td>
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