

2019

PEOPLE.POLICY.PLACE





NT DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY AND FINANCE DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH GRANT 2019-2024

The NT Department of Treasury and Finance provides long-term foundational support for independent demographic research conducted by the Demography and Growth Planning Research team at Northern Institute. This maintains a core of demographic and population expertise in the Territory that can be applied to analysis, representation and capacity building concerning Territory population issues.

During the second year (of the five-year) grant, notable achievements included:

- Participation of two national population advisory groups to represent Territory population issues to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and the national Centre for Population;
- Participation on a national Ministerial Committee for international migration;
- Publication of relevant articles in higher ranking international demographic journals;
- Participation in a range of working groups, forums and workshops to enhance the success of the 2021 Census in the Territory;
- Delivering introductory graduate training on relevant demographic issues to NTG graduate officers.

The Demography and Growth Planning Research team also support the Northern Territory Government's population projections and targeted research projects for a better understanding of trends in population growth and migration, including the correlates of population retention and attraction and the Northern Territory's contemporary First Nations demography.

RESEARCHERS Andrew Taylor | Demography and Growth Planning Research Team

PROJECT FUNDING \$1,800,000

2019



CSIRO-CDU COLLABORATION ON RESPONSIBLE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (R-AI) AND INNOVATION

AI-driven technologies and digital platforms are increasingly being promoted for use by Indigenous and rural communities in Australia to solve complex environmental management problems, care for animal species and habitats, and coordinate disaster response and recovery requests. Drawing on R-AI action-based projects in Kakadu and bushfire-affected areas, this project will examine issues around cross-cultural data management, governance, sharing and use; and local community assessments of the benefits, risks, and uncertainties associated with digital innovation and AI applications to consider mechanisms through which remote and regional people trust and use AI and digital platforms. Insights will be used to inform the development of a CSIRO (Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation) & CDU micro-credential R-AI courses. This research ensures that remote and regional people, including First Nations people, benefit from digital technologies and platforms, and their knowledge practices are enabled through the co-design, co-application, and co-evaluation of these technologies.

This project will include activities to engage CSIRO-CDU post-doctoral fellow, Dr Jennifer Macdonald:

- Interviewing Indigenous elders involved in this project about end-user design and development of AI-driven technologies for managing biocultural landscapes;
- Observing & interviewing members of the CSIRO-JCU-CDU-Microsoft-Traditional Owner ‘Connect to Care for Country’ team;
- Interviewing members of targeted disaster-affected communities and corporate investors offering recovery aid to investigate trust and motivational issues with AI platform engagement and use for disaster recovery;
- Co-developing a CSIRO-CDU micro-credential course.

RESEARCHERS Ruth Wallace | Justine Lacey | Jennifer Macdonald

PROJECT FUNDING \$398,000



CDU-AIMS SOCIAL SCIENCE POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

A CDU-Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS) Post-Doctoral Fellow/Researcher, Dr Rachel Groom, is responsible for a critical component of social science research associated with the aspirations of Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory for their sea country and participation in marine science partnerships with AIMS. Working with CDU, AIMS and Aboriginal communities to negotiate a project to explore the following principles relating to marine estate research, monitoring and management:

- Acknowledging social, cultural, economic and environmental values underpinning participation in the Northern Territory's marine research and marine estate management;
- Engaging First Nations marine estate owners, scientists and government agencies in co-designed planning, identification of resources, development of capacity and realizing benefits;
- Involving Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples' knowledge and interests in all stages of marine research and estate management and decision making;
- Creating processes to undertake participatory and communication strategies that support continuity of commitment, trust-building, innovation and the optimal management of resources.

Project activities and outputs will include Indigenous-driven sea country research, planning and management processes, and inform practice development in partner agencies such as AIMS. Through this work, the researcher will support Indigenous rangers and Traditional Owners and research agencies such as AIMS to articulate, strategically plan, and undertake best practice co-designed research and management of sea country through culturally and scientifically robust research methodologies and management.

RESEARCHERS Ruth Wallace | Rachel Groom

PROJECT FUNDING \$226,275

2019



LOCAL DECISION MAKING MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

This project aims to develop an adaptive Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for assessing and iteratively improving community and service delivery outcomes from Local Decision Making (LDM) agreements and community plans.

The monitoring aspect of the project concerns the development of ongoing processes for reviewing standard elements of LDM operation, both within government and within communities, this includes developing techniques for iterative assessment and review of:

- Processes for achieving LDM agreements and community plans
- Assessments of community readiness and designations along the community control scale
- Transitions to new arrangements for service delivery and management
- Practices of engagement and community uptake, and understanding of LDM processes

The evaluation element of the project concerns the development of processes for regular review of LDM activities concerning identified priority outcomes and includes methods for identifying and reviewing:

- Networks of involved (and bystander) groups and organisations
- Locally identified indicators of community control and community development outcomes
- Interfaces of traditional governance practices and service delivery areas
- Barriers to achieving agreed priorities and practices

A Ground-Up approach will be mobilised to develop a framework template that will be enacted and tested in 1-2 communities and may be negotiated and adapted for use in other communities involved in LDM work across the Northern Territory.

RESEARCHERS Michaela Spencer | Ruth Wallace

PROJECT FUNDING \$200,000



GROWING AN ABORIGINAL WORKFORCE FOR THE CREATIVE INDUSTRIES IN CENTRAL AUSTRALIA

This project aims to grow the Aboriginal workforce in Central Australia by developing creative industries career pathways and creative skill sets training, which may be transferable to other sectors, locations, or industries.

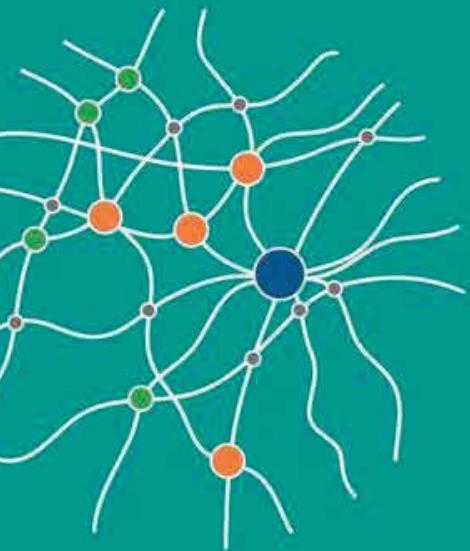
Objectives:

- Five new and five existing Aboriginal employees will be given training complementary to their employment in Alice Springs and Yulara/Mutitjulu that will reflect employer and employee requirements and objectives of the business.
- Document pathways for creative industries in Central Australia.
- Two case studies will be developed focussing on the implementation of creative skill set training for Aboriginal employees. One case study will look at a creative industry businesses-type scenario, and the other will look at a scene where the primary business is not a creative industry type but in which the skills of creatives are essential.
- A third case study will focus on networking with creative activities in Alice Springs. This study will seek to promote a better understanding of the transferable nature of creative industry skills among remote, mobile and agile Aboriginal workforces, and provide evidence that will assist in understanding how and in what ways industries can utilise creatives to develop business; and how creative industry skills can be transferred across sectors.

RESEARCHERS Judith Lovell | Shelley Worthington

PROJECT FUNDING \$176,000

2019



NIRAKN

National Indigenous Research And Knowledges Network

ARC SPECIAL RESEARCH INITIATIVES - NATIONAL INDIGENOUS RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGES NETWORK (NIRAKN)

The National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network (NIRAKN) was established in 2012 under the Special Research Initiative (SRI) for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researchers' Network (ATSIRN). Northern Institute researcher, Professor Linda Payi Ford, is the designated NIRAKN State Hub leader for South Australia and Northern Territory (2019-2022).

The principal aim of NIRAKN State Hubs is to harness the power of diverse Indigenous Knowledges to build a strong, sustainable cohort of linked qualified Indigenous researchers across disciplines and fields into the fabric of Australian Research. This is achieved through the following goals:

- Delivering a quality program of capacity building initiatives to support aspiring, post-graduate, and early to mid-career Indigenous researchers to form a skilled qualified research community.
- Facilitating a regenerative undergraduate to postgraduate pipeline of new researchers, across institutions, the nation, and fields of critical research importance.
- Connecting Indigenous researchers across disciplines, nationally and internationally to develop a culturally supportive, inclusive research environment which enables the cross fertilisation of ideas and a platform for new Indigenous multi-disciplinary research.
- Developing an on-going integrated research program
- Achieving national and international recognition as a leading network of Australian Indigenous research expertise, knowledge and innovation.
- Initiating the Indigenous research agenda by applying Indigenous knowledges and expertise to multi-disciplinary collaborative projects of pressing research need to inform community and government policy and program delivery
- Administration of the State Hub and the State based activities including entering into collaborative research agreements with other State universities for the delivery of the State Hub research project and the capacity building [program].

RESEARCHERS Linda Ford | Barry Judd | Tracy Woodroffe | Gotha (Kathy) Guthadjaka AM

PROJECT FUNDING \$110,000



FEMALE PARTICIPATION IN STEM (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATHEMATICS)

To strengthen the focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) in Northern Territory's children and youth, Charles Darwin University (CDU) will provide a program of STEM activities specifically aimed at female youths (25 years and under).

To provide current and future female CDU students with:

- Experience and participation in tailored, appropriate, practical STEM activities to inspire interest in STEM and
- Pathways for females to study STEM at CDU.

The project identified several projects/ activities that would benefit from this incentive's support. Funding will also be used to promote CDU's STEM activities to target groups via social media and workshops or community engagement events hosted by CDU:

- Women in Science – A Dual Academy Project
- Engineering Education and Professional Learning and Teaching Pathways for Indigenous Women
- Kakadu Plum Project
- Joint STEM activity with Inspiring Australia
- Joint STEM activities with Children's University

RESEARCHERS Ruth Wallace | Pawinee Yuhun

PROJECT FUNDING \$80,000

2019



WAYS FORWARD TO A ZERO WASTE BUILDING

This project aims to design and construct a zero-waste building as a demonstration model with industry partners and document how waste reduction strategies have been considered at each stage.

Construction waste currently generates over 30% of the total waste going to landfills (Department of Energy and Environment, 2018). Generation of waste starts with decisions made at the initial stage of a building design and continues through to the construction phase. As a construction project involves several stakeholders during its life, the process of decision-making and connecting this to waste generation at each stage needs to be documented. It also needs to be supported with information regarding avoiding waste generation.

As waste reduction is considered the best option in the hierarchy of waste management, this project aims to achieve zero waste through a demonstration project. This will be realized by a team (architect, builder, a researcher & a Master of Research student) working together on one building that the builder and architect have been contracted to design and build.

- To design and construct a zero-waste demonstration building.
- Document how waste reduction considerations have been considered at each stage.
- Demonstrate how much waste can be saved through this process.

RESEARCHERS Deepika Mathur | Mark Fudge

PROJECT FUNDING \$49,329

WHO WE WORKED WITH

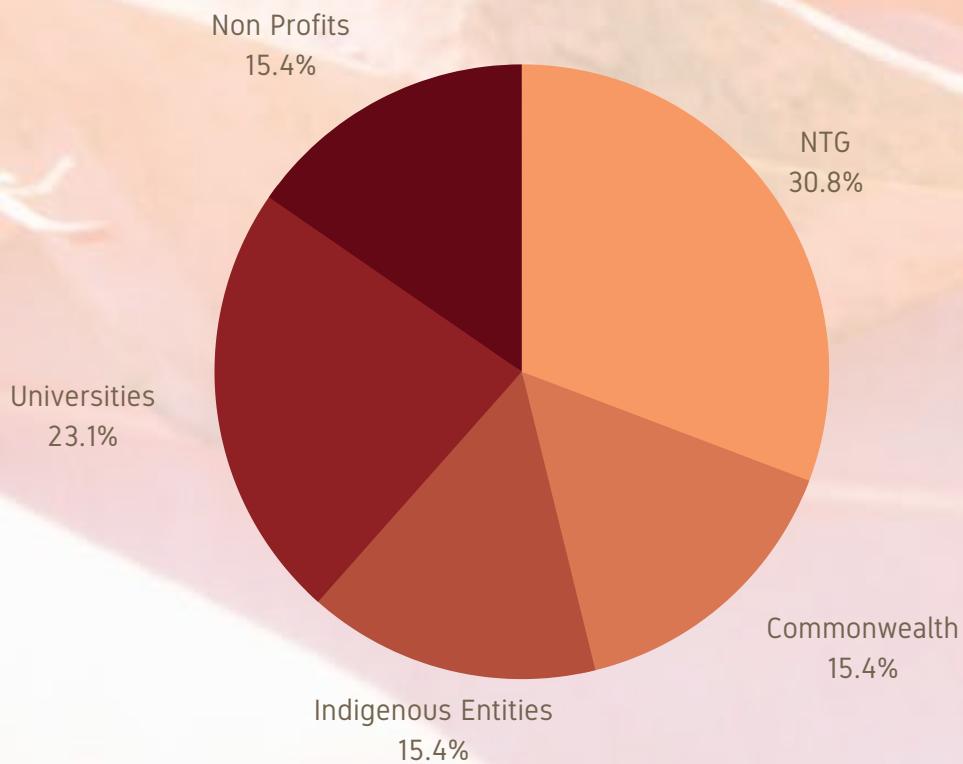
PROJECT COLLABORATORS 2019

- Bush Heritage Australia
- Charles Darwin University
- Taipei Medical University
- Regional Development Australia NT
- Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization
- Sue Dugdale and Associates
- Intyalheme Center For Future Energy
- Arafura Swamp Ranger Aboriginal Corporation
- MPH Projects
- Olkola Aboriginal Corporation

PROJECT FUNDERS 2019

- Arafura Swamp Rangers Aboriginal Corporation (ASRAC)
- Australian Centre for Sustainable Development Research & Innovation (ACSDRI)
- Australian Institute of Marine Science
- Australian National University
- Bush Heritage Australia
- Charles Darwin University
- Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
- NT Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- NT Department of the Chief Minister
- NT Department of Trade, Business and Innovation
- NT Department of Treasury and Finance
- Olkola Aboriginal Corporation
- Queensland University of Technology

FUNDING SOURCE 2019



HIGHLIGHTS 2019



INVEST IN ME, INVEST IN MY SCIENCE

An Invest in me, Invest in my Science - Pitch & Strategy Workshop facilitated by Northern Institute and led by Dr Cathy Robinson (NI/CSIRO) was held in April.

The workshop brought together 14 of the smartest Northern Australian women scientists to develop investment strategies and opportunities and to further explore the value of their research. The Invest in Me, Invest in My Science program was co-designed and developed with diversity as a foremost consideration, with the specific aim of fostering inclusive innovation, entrepreneurship and collaboration among women scientists in Northern Australia.

This evidence-based entrepreneurship program enables women scientists to develop their research profiles and communicate their innovative research programs with real-world impact.

The workshop was funded by the Australian Government Department of Industry, Innovation and Science through the Women in STEM and Entrepreneurship program.

Picture: Invest in my Science - Pitch & Strategy Workshop participants with Workshop Facilitator Dr Cathy Robinson (front and centre).



'GROWING UP YOLNU' WEBSITE LAUNCH

A new website, "Nuthanmaram djamarrikuliny' märrma'kurr romgurr: Growing up children in two worlds", which shares Yolnu cultural strengths and priorities in early childhood with the world, was launched at Northern Institute in June.

Professor Ruth Wallace opened the event by announcing that the project team had won a The Lowitja Institute' Tarrn Doon Nonin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research Ethics Project Award'.

Over 50 guests were treated to a presentation by Helen Nyomba (Backbone Project), Dr Lawurra Maypilama AM & Associate Professor Anne Lowell (NI), who shared highlights of their project with video's from the website www.growingupyolngu.com.au.

Project team: Anne Lowell, Lawurra Maypilama, Lyn Fasoli, Rosemary Gundjarranbuy, Jenine Godwin-Thompson, Emily Armstrong, Yaljarra Guyula, Megan Yunupirju, Abbey Guyula, Dwayne Gurruwiwi, Rose McEldowney, Jane Garrutju.

Picture: Dr Lawurra Maypilama AM & Associate Professor Anne Lowell (NI) presenting at the website launch



ELECTORAL RESEARCH REGULATION NETWORK (NT) OPENING EVENT

This event marked the opening of the NT chapter of the Electoral Research Regulation Network. Around 30 people attended the symposium at NT Parliament House, to focus on Indigenous Electoral Inclusion.

An opening presentation was given by researchers Ian and Mercy Gumbula and other members of their research team from Gumbula Consultancies. Their presentations set the scene for the event and directed the discussion to questions of 'purpose' and 'relevance' for Indigenous people voting in remote communities, as well as the importance of partnerships between local people and electoral commissions.

The event was convened by: Jonathan Louth (University of SA), Lisa Hill (University of Adelaide) and Dr Michaela Spencer (Northern Institute, CDU).

Picture: (L-R) Dr Michaela Spencer, Ian Mongunu Gumbula & Mercy Gumbula present at the symposium.

INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE & RESEARCH FORUM

NI celebrated NAIDOC 2019 Week by highlighting our significant First Nations 1qa' research. As a social and policy research institute, NI has been working closely with Indigenous knowledge and governance authorities from Northern Australian communities for over 30 years.

Our decades of research in partnership with Aboriginal organisations has developed a deep understanding of Indigenous leadership and governance, business and education, and the use of technology, in addition to workforce development and analysis.

This forum showcased our significant First Nations research with presentations including NT Mak Mak Marranunggu language program, Aboriginal Cosmology: What this means for women and gender public policy, Nuthanmaram djamarrikuliny' märrma'kurr romgurr: Growing up children in two worlds, How to be polite in Kakadu and West Arnhem: a crash course for newcomers and a Yolŋu Panel Session (pictured) with researchers sharing their unique stories.

Picture: (L to R) Emily Ford, Linda Payi Ford, Brenda Muthamuluwyu & Läwurrpa Maypilama



FIRST NATIONS SYMPOSIUM WITH INDIGENOUS AMERICAN GUESTS

In September, NI was fortunate enough to host an international delegation of esteemed academics and activists to present a 'First Nations Symposium: Community Revitalization & Native Self-Actualization' Symposia.

Our First Nations guests & speakers included:

- Dr Sidney Stone Brown, Psychologist/Director of Northern Navajo Behavioral Health
- Dr Joseph B. Stone (left), Clinical Psychologist, Indigenous Development Specialists
- Dr Amber R. Logan (right), Clinical Psychologist Indigenous Development Specialists
- Larae Ellenwood, Nez Percé, Blackfeet, and Seneca Student and First Nations youth activist

Indigenous Academic & Archaeologist Dr Kellie Pollard, facilitated the symposia in a 'Yarning Circle' style.

Picture: Dr Joseph B. Stone (centre) and Dr Amber R. Logan (far right)



HOMELANDS AND THEIR FUTURE: A PERSPECTIVE FROM BÄNIYALA

In this NI hosted event, Djambawa Marawili AM, Madarrpa Clan leader from Bäniyala Homeland in Blue Mud Bay, East Arnhem Land invited the public to a fresh conversation about homelands, their importance for traditional First Nations people and for Australia as a whole; and about what is needed for their future.

Presenters included:

Professor Michael Christie (NI)
Associate Professor Linda Payi Ford (NI)

Keynote by Djambawa Marawili AM
plus

James Holman, Business Manager, Baniyala Garrangali Aboriginal Corporation

Dr Marcus Barber, Senior Research Scientist with CSIRO
Christina Davidson, CEO ANKA

This event was held in partnership with the Arnhem Northern and Kimberley Artists Aboriginal Corporation (ANKA).

Picture: Djambawa Marawili AM presents his keynote





GRADUATES

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Rens Gertjan van Der Vegt

Alison Kay Reedy

Ana Vuin

Jacquelyn Escarcha

Gavin John Morris

GRADUATE DIPLOMA OF PUBLIC POLICY

Renee Maree Long

Vale Anna Dhanna Ocampo

IN 2019 WE WELCOMED

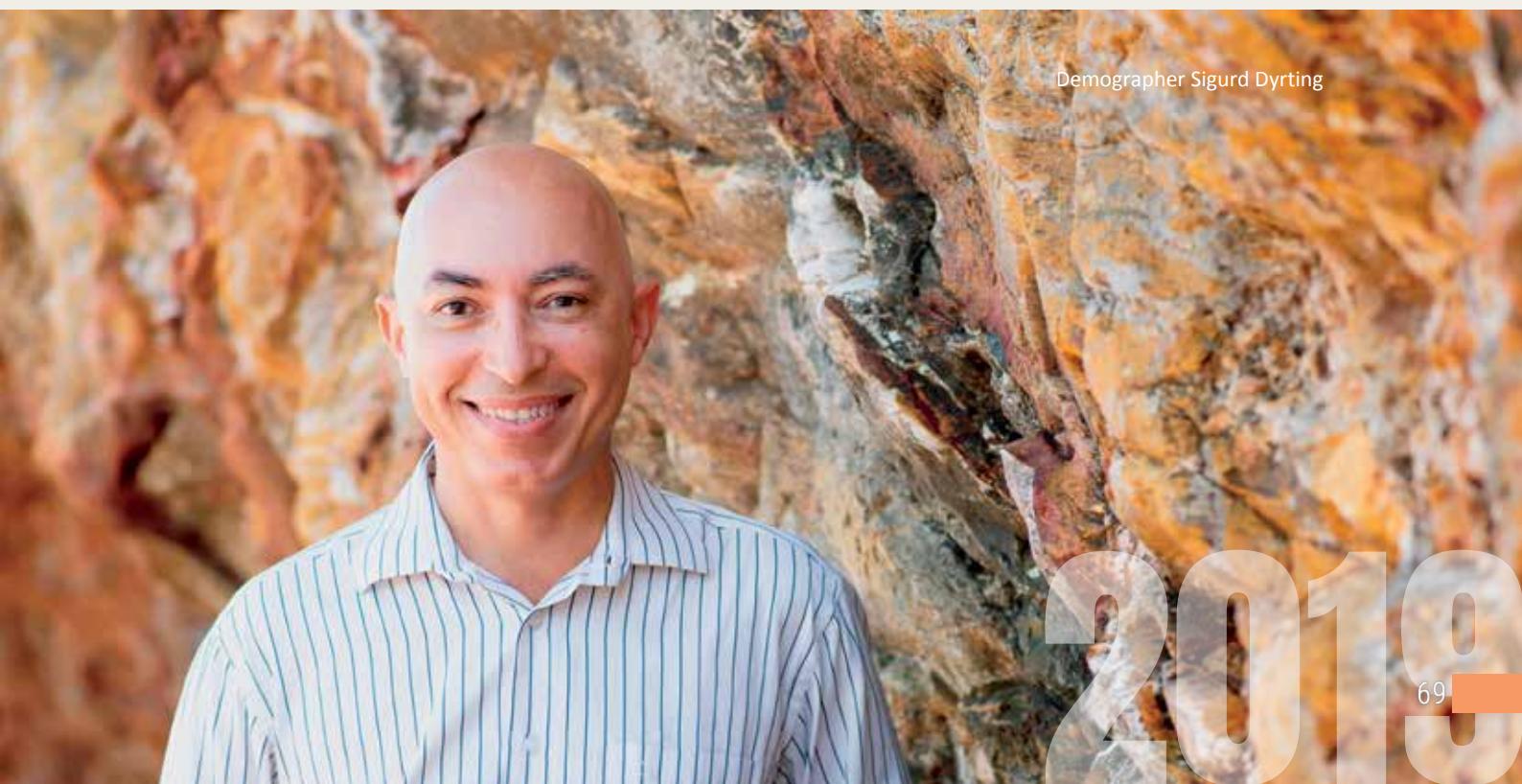
RESEARCH STAFF

Colin Baker
Aimee Diola
Sigurd Dyrting (pictured)
Emily Ford
Rebecca Hardwick
Chris Hallinan
Damien Hill
Sarah Ireland
Mohammed Islam
William Lane
Zania Liddle
Jennifer Macdonald
Beth Marsden
Jeanette Millier
Salome Moes
David Murtagh
Jennifer Pinkerton
Nicola St John
Adriana Ticoalu
Erin Westerhuis

HONORARY APPOINTMENTS

Daile Lynne Rung
Henry Smith

Demographer Sigurd Dyrting



2019

2018

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PROVISION OF FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION LEGAL SERVICES (FVPLS) EVALUATION

This project was the first impact evaluation of Family Violence Prevention Legal Services (FVPLS), funded by the Commonwealth Government of Australia through the Safety and Wellbeing Program of the Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS), Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. There are 14 FVPLS providers across Australia in all States and Territories except Tasmania and the ACT.

FVPLSs are funded to provide culturally safe legal assistance and support, including casework, counselling and court support. FVPLSs also offer referrals, community legal education and early intervention and prevention services. The program aims to improve safety for victims/survivors of family violence, provide them with better access to justice, and change attitudes and behaviours concerning family violence. Some provide services through multiple sites. Individual sites tailor their programs to the needs of the communities they serve.

This evaluation required an examination of the impact of the Family Violence Prevention Legal Services (FVPLS) program against its objectives. The objective of the evaluation is to help build the evidence base around effective interventions to support victims of family violence and reduce family violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The final evaluation report will provide recommendations to be addressed by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) as the funding Department for the program, FVPLSs themselves, and the national FVPLS Forum.

RESEARCHERS

Gill Westhorp | Emma Williams | Ruth Wallace | Judith Lovell | Shelley Worthington

PROJECT FUNDING \$841,186

2018



LEARNING ENGLISH AND ABORIGINAL LANGUAGES FOR WORK

This project aims to leverage mobile technologies to expand and enrich the communication between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians working together on Aboriginal-owned or controlled country. The project expects to generate new knowledge in the areas of oral language learning and on-country technology design, through extensive collaboration with Indigenous participants in Arnhem Land. Expected project outcomes include mobile technologies that support learning of spoken English and Aboriginal languages and new ways for Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians to come together to design digital technologies and to learn each other's languages.

In remote communities across Australia, Indigenous and non-Indigenous people come together to work at the intersection of Western and Aboriginal knowledge systems. This work is called 'Caring for Country' and includes managing the land and conserving cultural resources. In places where the ancestral language is still spoken, work is often conducted in a simplified form of English with Aboriginal language words thrown in. Misunderstanding is rife.

The aim of this project is to leverage mobile technologies to open new communication channels between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians working together on country. This project involves technology design for spoken language and takes place on country in Arnhem Land.

Objectives

- Technology for Learning Spoken English and Aboriginal Languages
- Two-Way Construction of Oral Language Learning Materials
- Design and Evaluation in Kakadu and West Arnhem

RESEARCHERS Steven Bird

PROJECT FUNDING \$322,500



NORTHERN TERRITORY POPULATION STRATEGY DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH GRANT

The aim of this grant is to examine thoroughly the demographic and other relevant characteristics of selected priority population cohorts. The findings are expected to guide the Northern Territory Government's future population initiatives. This research will focus on identifying the perceptions, expectations, experiences, attitudes and other identifiable drivers that influence the selected population groups when they make decisions to move to or move away from the Territory, and/or chose to remain as long-term Territorians.

Projects within the grant will involve research activities capable of providing robust data, information and knowledge capable of being applied by the NT Government in the development of targeted population initiatives. Research activities are expected to include population surveys and focus group discussions with agreed segments of the population, structured in a way to provide applied and policy-relevant insights.

The research will target the aspirations and attitudes of defined segments of the existing and former residents of the Northern Territory, through:

- Surveys and focus group discussions with key population segments (identified above);
- Identification of the drivers of population change in the capital city, major towns and regions of the Northern Territory;
- Cross-regional analysis and comparison of results between Darwin, major regional towns and regions within the NT;
- Cross-jurisdictional analysis and comparison of research results;
- Analysis and comparison of results for the identified population segments above;
- Identification of the key characteristics of population segments that tend to stay for the long term and key reasons; and
- Coherent conclusions of research results.

RESEARCHERS Andrew Taylor

PROJECT FUNDING \$318,181

2018



CARING FOR MUM ON COUNTRY

Using a strengths-based approach the 'Caring for Mum on Country' project will deliver a scoping study and pilot an educational initiative to increase the capacity of First Nations women in community settings to provide care for women during pregnancy, labour and postpartum; and increase community reproductive health literacy. The project aims to build the capacity of remote Aboriginal communities to effectively partner with health services in the design of community-based maternity care.

Objectives

- Developing a community-based cohort of skilled pregnancy and childbirth companions who can provide sociocultural and emotional support to Indigenous women and their families. This will include the identification and delivery of suitable accredited and non-accredited training for this cohort. This objective includes strengthening community support systems and reinvigorating sociocultural care practices that promote the reproductive health rights of Aboriginal women. It will explore the integration of Aboriginal, medical, and midwifery reproductive knowledges and birthing practices.
- Increasing individual and population reproductive health literacy. Working in collaboration with the participants and community, the 'Caring for Mum on Country' project will identify community gaps in knowledge and access to reproductive health information. Using the results from this process, a range of community initiatives will be implemented to increase population reproductive health literacy.
- Empowering Aboriginal communities to participate and negotiate the shaping of reproductive health care that is healthy and culturally appropriate. This includes documenting local changes in childbirth care models and discussing the community's current aspirations for the redesign of maternity care. It will build the capacity of Aboriginal communities to participate in local decision making around reproductive health care.

RESEARCHERS Ruth Wallace | Sarah Ireland

PROJECT FUNDING \$250,000

WOMEN IN STEM - CATALYSING WOMEN'S SCIENCE COLLABORATION PROGRAM

This project will develop and launch a Catalysing women's science collaboration program in Northern Australia that adapts the Lean LaunchPad business development process to enable competitive women scientists in Northern Australia to find, engage and develop new teams with other institutions, test the business case for the collaborative team's research, with a particular focus on real-world applications. This process will inform the development of a business prospectus at this end of this project to establish a catalysing women's science collaboration program to attract university, CSIRO and business sector buy-in across Australia.

Objectives

- Increase awareness and participation of girls and women in STEM and entrepreneurship education and careers, including in schools through to university and to the research sector.
- Increase participation of girls and women in other parts of the innovation ecosystem including innovative businesses, start-ups and entrepreneurial activities and careers.
- Stimulate an increase in the number of women in senior leadership and decision-making positions in government, research organisations, industry and businesses.

RESEARCHERS Cathy Robinson | Isabelle Skinner | Ruth Wallace

PROJECT FUNDING \$155,000



ENHANCING ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURAL COMPETENCE TO SUPPORT EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN ABORIGINAL PEOPLE AND HEALTH STAFF IN THE CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN HEALTH SERVICE

Effective health communication is fundamental to ensuring quality health care. However, communication is challenging when staff and patients do not share the same language and/or cultural background. This research aims to identify and embed organisational mechanisms and support needed to facilitate sustained improvements in communication between health staff and First Nations patients and their families. This has the potential to improve the experience of health care for Aboriginal people, reduce the consequences of ineffective communication, such as discharge against medical advice, and subsequently improve health outcomes.

Objectives:

- Develop appropriate organisational and patient experience assessment tools focusing on intercultural communication, drawing on existing indicators and measures of cultural competence/cultural security.
- Use these tools, supplemented by empirical qualitative data, to identify strengths and gaps at organizational, system and individual levels from the perspectives of both staff and patients.
- Trial and evaluate targeted interventions focused on enhancing intercultural communication (including evaluation of existing strategies).
- Use this evidence to promote organisational cultural competence, integrating mechanisms and support required for sustained improvement in intercultural communication into policy and practice.

RESEARCHERS Anne Lowell | Robyn Aitken | Anna Ralph | Kerry A. Taylor | Alan Cass | Judith Lovell

PROJECT FUNDING \$148,219



REMOTE ENGAGEMENT COORDINATION INDIGENOUS EVALUATION RESEARCH (REC-IER) PROJECT - PHASE 2

This project will be developed through research in three First Nations community locations including Galiwin'ku, Ngukurr and Ntaria (Northern Territory).

Objectives:

- Design engagement and coordination plans for specific activities in the Project Locations;
- Review the implementation of these engagement plans and make recommendations to improve engagement performance;
- Develop the use of video and other digital technologies for reviewing engagement practices and events;
- Develop localised research and evaluation capacity in the Project Locations;
- Map out alternative approaches to engagement evaluation that can be used in communities where there is limited local research/ evaluation capacity; and
- Make visible these research and service delivery processes through a website

This round of work will draw on the previous REC-I ER project (Phase 1). Under a structured plan and collaborative and iterative process, the work will focus on:

- how government staff and people in community can work together well;
- how engagement and coordination can be continuously improved; and
- how the identification of good local engagement practices may be further developed.

RESEARCHERS Michaela Spencer | Michael Christie

PROJECT FUNDING \$110,000

2018



MOBILE SOFTWARE FOR ORAL LANGUAGE LEARNING IN ARNHEM LAND

This project will design and develop innovative mobile technologies to enable more effective collaboration between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians working together on country. Digital technologies will assist two-way language learning, initially for the endangered Kundedjnjenghmi language of West Arnhem, and ultimately for any Australian Aboriginal language.

In remote communities across Australia, Indigenous and non-Indigenous people come together to work at the intersection of Western and Aboriginal knowledge systems. This work is called 'Caring for Country' and includes managing the land and conserving cultural resources. In places where the ancestral language is still spoken, work is often conducted in a simplified form of English with Aboriginal language words thrown in. Misunderstanding is rife.

The aim of this project is to develop new mobile technologies to dramatically increase the interactional competence of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians working together on country.

This project will take place on country in the Aboriginal communities of Kabulwarnamyo and Manmoyi, where the endangered Kundedjnjenghmi language (a dialect of Bininj Kunwok) is still spoken. However, the work will be applicable in any Aboriginal community where speakers of Aboriginal languages work with speakers of English to carry out tasks that depend on effective face-to-face interaction.

The project will be delivered as a series of one-week workshops, interspersed with technical development activities.

RESEARCHERS Steven Bird

PROJECT FUNDING \$87,186

WHO WE WORKED WITH

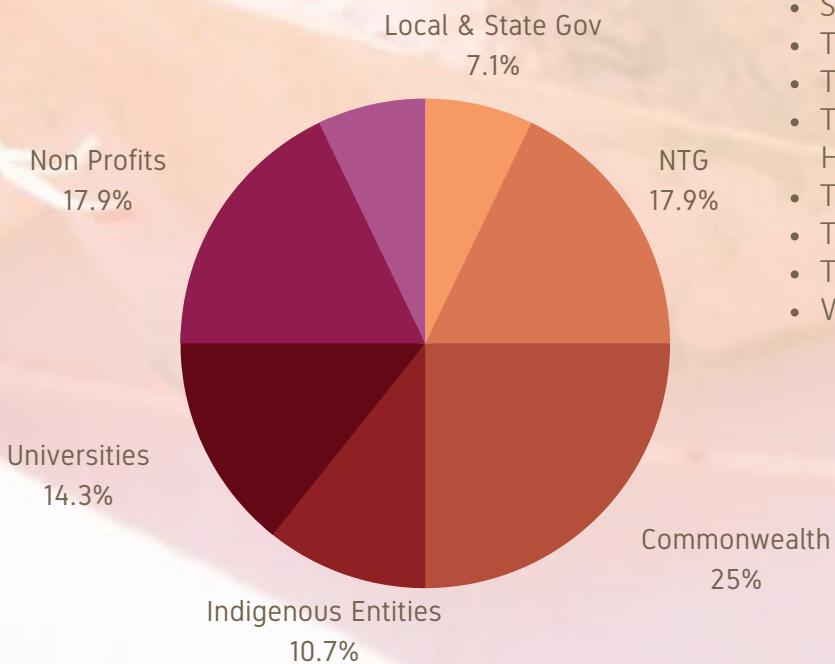
PROJECT COLLABORATORS 2018

- Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)
- Flinders University
- Gumbula Consultancy
- Macquarie University
- The University of Melbourne
- University of British Columbia

PROJECT FUNDERS 2018

- ARTD Consultants
- Australian Research Council (ARC)
- Barkly Regional Council
- BBA Limited
- Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Aboriginal Corporation
- Charles Darwin University
- Department of Communications and the Arts
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
- Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Laynhapuy Homelands Association Inc
- Musica Viva Australia
- NT Department of Education
- NT Department of Housing and Community Development
- NT Department of the Chief Minister
- NT Department of Trade, Business and Innovation
- Regional Australia Institute
- Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University
- Secretariat for the Pacific Community
- Shepherdson College
- Speech Pathology Australia
- Tasmanian Treasury
- The Aesop Foundation
- The Lowitja Institute (CRC for Aboriginal Health)
- The University of British Columbia
- The University of Sydney
- Tourism Central Australia
- Warddeken Land Management Limited

FUNDING SOURCE 2018



HIGHLIGHTS 2018



HOSTING THE SWEDISH AMBASSADOR

The Ambassador of Sweden H.E. Par Ahlberger & Mrs Helene Ahlberger visited in February, escorted on the CDU campus by Professor Lawrence Cram, CDU Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Research Training and Professor Ruth Wallace.

At NI Senior Researchers presented a snapshot of their work:

- Dr Linda Ford - Biosecurity research & working with Indigenous communities
- Dr Tom Wilson - NT Indigenous populations
- Professor Steven Bird - Indigenous language maintenance and revitalization
- Professor Pascal Tremblay - Challenges of living & working remotely in the Northern Territory

After the presentations, the Ambassador enjoyed morning tea with staff, met with Early Career Researchers and discussed collaboration opportunities between Charles Darwin University and Sweden in the areas of research and study.

Picture: (L-R) Prof Cram, Prof Ruth Wallace & H.E. Par Ahlberger



NATIONAL SCIENCE EXCHANGE PROGRAM : COLLABORATION AWARD 2018

NI researchers Dr Linda Ford and Professor Ruth Wallace with Alby Marsh from Plant and Food Research (NZ) won the Plant Biosecurity Cooperative Research Centre (PBCRC) 2018 Collaboration Award for demonstrating exemplary collaboration skills, bringing together different disciplines and organisations in novel ways for better plant biosecurity outcomes in June.

Linda (centre) and Alby (right) accepted the award for their research project 'Building Resilience in Indigenous Communities through Engagement: A Focus on Biosecurity Threats'. The project continues to operate from 2012-18.

The International research team continues to focus on developing and implementing scientific knowledge, tools, resources and capacity to safeguard Australia, New Zealand and Indonesia's plant industries and regional communities from plant pests and diseases' economic, environmental and social consequences.

Picture: (L-R) Martin Barlass Chair, PBCRC with Linda Payi Ford & Alby March



ABORIGINAL TOURISM WORKSHOP

In April, NI hosted a day-long workshop that saw an amazing group of Aboriginal tourism small business operators come together to talk about 'Developing product innovation platforms for Indigenous/Aboriginal Tourism SMEs: Supporting Aboriginal economic participation through coordinated product diversification'. On the agenda was a combination of discussions about product development and innovation platforms, keynote speakers, an investigation of potential grants to support new ideas and feedback from some invited Northern Territory Government representatives.

A focus of the workshop was food and bushfood-based hospitality products which is relevant to support the development directions of many businesses and fits recent efforts by destinations Darwin and Kakadu to create a food-based footprint with its local community and some holiday markets. A number of product development options with the potential to contribute to the Top End's tourism competitive advantage were identified.

Picture: Aboriginal Tourism Workshop participants

MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS VISIT

The Hon Julie Bishop, Minister for Foreign Affairs, led a delegation of ambassadors and high commissioners from 70 countries on a tour of CDU's Casuarina campus in July.

Minister Bishop was on the CDU Casuarina campus to announce almost \$200,000 in funding to enable undergraduate students to study in Timor-Leste, Taiwan, the Philippines, Indonesia, India, Malaysia, Cambodia and the People's Republic of China, through the New Colombo Plan (NCP) Mobility Program.

As part of the tour, Northern Institute (NI) set up a display room focusing on our Northern Australian research plus Indigenous research & language projects. Senior researcher Kathy (Gotha) Guthadjaka had an opportunity to talk to the minister about her Gawa Seasonal Poster. Minister Bishop and the delegates also met with NI researchers Dr Tom Wilson, Cathy Bow & Emily Ford during the visit.

Picture: (L-R) Dr Kathy (Gotha) Guthadjaka (sitting), Emily Ford talking with Minister Bishop and Professor Ruth Wallace



PROFESSOR RUTH WALLACE DELIVERS CDU'S 2018 PROFESSORIAL LECTURE

The 2018 CDU Professorial Lecture was delivered to a full house at the CDU Theatre, Casuarina campus, on 11 July.

The night was hosted by CDU Provost and Vice President, Professor Sue Carthew, and the lecture was introduced by Associate Professor Wendy Ludwig, Director of Operations with CDU's Office of the Pro Vice Chancellor-Indigenous Leadership

Entitled 'Indigenous Advantage: can northern Australia lead through innovation' Professor Ruth Wallace's lecture discussed the future of northern Australia as a leader in understanding, as well as partnered approaches to economic prosperity, culturally engaged leadership and social engagement. Relaying that the people of northern Australia have the opportunity to be leaders in innovation and change management. And it's time to ask what is possible and how will we be a part of the future.

Following the lecture, guests enjoyed networking with drinks and finger food in the foyer of the CDU Theatre.

Picture: Professor Ruth Wallace Professorial Lecture



LEARNING COMMUNITIES JOURNAL NO. 23 LAUNCHED IN ALICE SPRINGS

The latest edition of the Learning Communities Journal (LCJ): International Journal of Learning in Social Contexts was launched at CDU Alice Springs and hosted by the CDU Library team on 12 November.

NI Director, Professor Ruth Wallace formally launched the journal with over 20 people attending. Number 23 of the LCJ is a Special Issue titled: Ethical relationships, ethical research in Aboriginal contexts: Perspectives from central Australia.

In this special issue, researchers share the experiences, challenges, positions and reflections of researchers from diverse backgrounds who are working in a range of discipline areas in central Australian Aboriginal research contexts. What emerges from these different perspectives is a map of the ethical terrain across which researchers and research participants traverse, and which will inform both the academy and those embarking or engaged on journeys across this terrain.

Picture: (L-R) Professor Ruth Wallace with Joel Liddle Perurral and Kathleen Kamarre Wallace who were two of the 23rd LCJ authors.



INVESTITURE ON COUNTRY

Northern Institute's Dr Gotha (Kathy) Guthadjaka made the Queen's Birthday Honours List in 2018 and in October was officially appointed a Member of the Order of Australia by Her Honour the Honourable Vicki O'Halloran AM, Administrator of the Northern Territory. For the first time, the Investiture ceremony was held on Gawa, Elcho Island which is Gotha's traditional country.

A small delegation of Gotha's colleagues including Northern Institute Director, Professor Ruth Wallace, travelled to Gawa to help commemorate the occasion. The event was preceded by senior Warramirri clan Elder Daymanu (James) Bukulatjpi.

The entire community and school gathered to celebrate with prayers from Allan Maratja and speeches delivered by family including Clive Munyarryun and Mawuyul Yanthalawuy AM, who received her Order of Australia in 1991 for service to education and to Aboriginal culture.

Dances were performed by Gawa and Galiwin'ku Youth and a banner dance by David Stanfield. The ceremony also included a Citizenship Ceremony for Gawa Christian School Principal Rachel Herweynen. A highlight of the program was a performance by the Elcho Island Junior Choir, who originally formed as primary-age children in the early 1960s. The choir sang a hymn in their local language, Gupapuyngu.

Government dignitaries in attendance included Senator Malarndirri McCarthy and Independent member for Nhulunbuy, Mr Yingiya Guyula MLA.

After the formalities, the whole community joined together for an afternoon tea and to sing happy birthday to Gotha whom only days before celebrated her 70th birthday.

Pictures

Below: Dr Gotha (Kathy) Guthadjaka with Senior Elders

Right: The Administrator of the Northern Territory appoints Gotha as a Member of the Order of Australia







Dr Gotha (Kathy) Guthadjaka AM receiving her doctorate from CDU Chancellor Neil Balnaves AO with Professor Ruth Wallace

GRADUATES

HONORARY DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Gotha (Kathy) Guthadjaka AM (pictured)

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Vale Noel Finch

MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY

Katrina Jade Shoobridge

Yue Zhang

WE WELCOMED

RESEARCH STAFF

Emily Armstrong
Delyna Baxter
Steven Bird
Therese Carr
Daile Fuller
Rhonda Hagan
Lee Harrop
Robert Jackson
Anne Lowell
Anita Maertens
Benjamin McMaster
David Murtagh
Charlotte Pitts
Kellie Pollard
David Pollock
Erin Westerhuis
Benxiang Zeng

HONORARY APPOINTMENTS

Kate Andrews
John Bryant
Kim Johnston
Joel Liddle
Supriya Mathew
Elspeth Oppermann
Kathleen Wallace



2017

PEOPLE.POLICY.PLACE





KNOWLEDGE NETWORK ON MINING ENCOUNTERS AND INDIGENOUS SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS: CROSS PERSPECTIVES OF THE CIRCUMPOLAR NORTH AND MELANESIA/AUSTRALIA (MINERAL)

In the sparsely populated northern areas of Australia, Sweden, and Canada, the physical distance between Indigenous communities, governments and companies make it challenging to adapt mining project agreements as the characteristics and interests of each actor change over time. This project will look at the experiences of a variety of northern communities who have been involved in the full life cycle of mining projects.

Researchers are interested in how relationships between actors change as projects proceed, and what mechanisms are available to communities to ensure that their needs and interests continue to be taken into account. There is a particular focus on communities that have experienced the end of a mining project, or who have been subject to the coming and going of projects over time.

The project design reflects the diversity of 'Indigenous communities' and of mining projects, involving large and small communities, relatively homogenous and quite diverse communities, and large and small mining projects. The role of the provincial government in negotiating is of particular concern because they have dual interests of economic development and community advocacy, and are usually physically distant from the community, the mining company, the national government, and other stakeholders. Australia, Sweden and Canada have different forms of provincial government and different organisations and structures for Indigenous communities. The project aim is to find out whether there are 'key lessons' in how to manage relationships over the mining life cycle that can be shared despite these differences.

RESEARCHERS

Andrew Taylor | Dean Carson | Ruth Wallace | Doris Carson | Sharon Harwood | Lea Jean Govan

PROJECT FUNDING \$143,035



EVALUATION: OUR LAND OUR JOBS PROGRAM

The Indigenous Land Council (ILC) runs, through its subsidiary organisations, a variety of training programs that are designed to provide different opportunities to people at various stages of career development. These include foundational programs to prepare people for the workforce, early-career employment opportunities that have a training component and may consist of qualifications, career development programs for those employed in subsidiary organisations, and advanced leadership training to assist people in transitioning into senior leadership positions. Previous evaluations of these training programs have focused on outputs or very short-term outcomes.

This evaluation framework will be designed to enable a consistent approach to the evaluation of ILC's vocational training programs. It will provide a framework for comprehensive evaluation of the value of different programs for different people as well as information to improve the programs to ensure the supports provided can be tailored or modified to meet the needs of different people.

Methods used to develop the framework:

- A one-day workshop with representatives from the ILC, Australian Indigenous Agribusiness (AIA), Voyages and the National Centre for Indigenous Excellence (NCIE)
- A brief literature review to identify indicators and instruments appropriate for use in the evaluation of training programs;
- A set of interviews with key informants in AIA and Voyages;
- Development of a draft program theory diagram and draft Context-Mechanism-Outcome statements to underpin the evaluation design;
- Provision of a progress report to ILC staff incorporating the draft program theory tools to obtain feedback on those materials;
- Drafting of the evaluation framework itself;
- A second one-day workshop to validate the materials arising from the project.

RESEARCHERS Gill Westhorp | Shelley Worthington

PROJECT FUNDING \$107,070



REALIST EVALUATION: ABORIGINAL FAMILIES AS FIRST EDUCATORS

Aboriginal Families as First Educators (AFaFE) program is run by Catholic Education Western Australia (CEWA). Aboriginal playgroups, located within selected schools and complemented by a home visiting component, support parents/carers of children aged 0-4 to act as their children's 'first educators' and therefore improve their school readiness as well as parental/carer engagement in their learning. The program uses techniques that focus on language priority, learning games, conversational reading, and enriched caregiving. Relationships between schools and local Aboriginal families and communities were to be strengthened through the initiative. Increased Aboriginal student enrolment, attendance and achievement in CEWA schools were the desired outcomes.

The project aim is to provide a realist evaluation of the AFaFE program focusing on the key evaluation questions:

- What are the early outcomes from the program for schools, service providers and families?
- How, why, and in what respects do those outcomes vary across sites and population groups? This included whom AFaFE is not working for, in which contexts, and why.
- In what ways, how and by whom has the program been adapted, with what impacts on program implementation and short-term outcomes?
- What steps could be taken to improve AFaFE?

In accordance with the Australian Government's Indigenous Advancement Strategy Evaluation Framework (2018), the evaluation team's objective is to produce a 'relevant, robust, appropriate and credible' product (Commonwealth 2018: 3), working closely with stakeholders, valuing Aboriginal knowledge, and including a number of participatory and capacity-building elements for participants.

RESEARCHERS Emma Williams | Gill Westhorp | Judith Lovell | Shelley Worthington

PROJECT FUNDING \$100,000

2017



EVALUATION: INTEGRATED SUPPORT PROGRAM (ISP) FOR TANGENTYERE COUNCIL

Researchers from the Northern Institute were engaged by Tangentyere Council to undertake an evaluation of their Individual Support Program (ISP). The ISP focuses on case support for people referred to the program with alcohol-related problems, and an integrated approach to harm minimisation within Alice Springs and nearby communities. The evaluation involved collaborative work with ISP program staff, and Indigenous researchers from the Tangentyere research hub, and aimed to develop appropriate forms of evidence-based evaluative practise to support the ongoing improvement and reporting of the program.

Project Method

- The evaluation was planned and structured as a collaborative and iterative process. It focuses on continuous improvement in both practice and outcomes from the ISP, and the processes for monitoring and evaluating Tangentyere programs.
- The focus on continuous improvement formed the basis of articulating a Tangentyere approach to Evidence Based Policy and Practice (EBPP).
- The evaluation focused on both the effectiveness of the program itself as well as its processes.
- The collaborative evaluation process focused on meetings with program stakeholders, and program participants, both individually and as a whole group.
- Data and reports from each meeting were provided to all participants and encouraged feedback and input from participants about the process, and ideas for how the program could be improved.

RESEARCHERS Michaela Spencer | Matthew Campbell | Michael Christie | Helen Verran

PROJECT FUNDING \$84,000



KATHERINE YOUTH JUSTICE REINVESTMENT PROJECT

The Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment Group (KYJRG) was established in 2016. It aimed to progress a community vision to transform youth justice services and systems in Katherine to focus on prevention and early intervention with the intent of reducing incarceration.

This research project is intended to provide preliminary information to invest in a more comprehensive four-stage youth JR process in Katherine. More specifically, to provide baseline information to assist with stages 1 and 2 of the JR process, including:

- Collection and analysis of multiple local quantitative and qualitative data sources (including publicly available data and de-identified administrative data held by relevant government agencies);
- Adoption of a collaborative community development approach, in partnership with local partners and stakeholders, to develop a business development strategy (including identification of funding sources and support with funding applications) aimed at sustaining the youth JR approach over subsequent years.

The project final report will include five compendium reports relating to:

- Social media depictions of youth in Katherine
- Social issues data, relating to general demographic information, early childhood, family life, housing, income and employment, education, health, and other data;
- Police data (not for public release)
- Corrections data (not for public release)
- Child protection data (not for public release)

RESEARCHERS Ruth Wallace | James Smith | Kellie Pollard | Sarah Ireland

PROJECT FUNDING \$63,636

2017



POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHIC DATA SERVICES

Secure Analytics for Population Health Research and Intelligence (SAPHaRI) maintains up-to-date health, demographic population and geographic database as part of the Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence (CEE) in the NSW Ministry of Health. It provides population health data for epidemiological analysis and surveillance. A vital part of the SAPHaRI suite is population data. It provides the denominator value for many health indicators and measures, such as those provided on the HealthStats NSW website www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au. SAPHaRI population data is a mix of historic estimates and projections between 1972 and 2036.

In this project, Demography researchers were required to update the SAPHaRI population data.

Objectives

- Update the existing SAPHaRI population data based on the release of Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census 2016 population estimate data supplied by the Ministry of Health
- Provide an overall data structure for general use and management of the data, including versioning
- Publish a methodology to enable scrutiny - 'SAPHaRI Population Data Asset: Data and Methods Protocol.'

RESEARCHERS Tom Wilson

PROJECT FUNDING \$60,000



MODELLING FUTURE SOLAR ENERGY PRODUCTION FROM HOUSEHOLDS AND BUSINESSES IN THE GREATER DARWIN AREA

Although the uptake of rooftop solar panels on residential and commercial dwellings is rising in the Greater Darwin Area, the uptake is still amongst the lowest in Australia. This is despite highly favourable conditions both in terms of the daily sun hours and generous financial incentives such as the 1:1 Feed In tariff (FIT). This project explored the barriers to adopting Photovoltaic (PV) in residential and commercial dwellings and policies that can increase the adoption.

The project had three overarching aims:

Aim 1 (Year 1): Reviewing and assessing existing policies for residential solar energy production

Aim 2 (Year 2): Assessing barriers to and motivations for the uptake of residential rooftop solar panels

Aim 3 (Year 3): Modelling the uptake of residential rooftop solar panels through an agent-based model

Objectives

- Review of existing policies in other Australian states and worldwide on supporting PV uptake
- Policy analysis of most cost-effective policies
- A summary of scenarios and potential policies needed for stage 2
- Data collected (households and businesses), cleaned and analysed
- Assessment of most important behaviour changes influencing PV uptake
- Assessment of policies (from phase 1) on their effectiveness in achieving an increase in solar PV uptake
- A dynamic model which can predict PV uptake under different scenarios
- Prediction of solar power production until 2030 and beyond
- A summary and final report of future PV uptake under the most realistic scenarios

RESEARCHERS Kerstin Zander

PROJECT FUNDING \$46,263

2017



INTERNET AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN AUSTRALIA - AN EVIDENCE BASED APPROACH

This project analyses the data obtained through the B4BA (Broadband for the Bush Alliance) national survey (focusing on regional, rural and remote), investigating the availability, quality, reliability and affordability experiences by our network of member organisations and associated networks. The survey also examines how consumers use their telecommunications services. In-depth case studies with volunteer consumers will provide a much richer data set of consumers' stories in the use of telecommunications services. The results will provide B4BA, Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN), Regional, Rural and Remote Communications Coalition (RRRCC), Indigenous Remote Communications Association (IRCA) and other interested parties with rigorously analysed data sets that can inform policy and strategy. This research addresses specific research needs identified by B4BA's Strategic Business Plan and Forum VI.

Project Deliverables

- Summary report of Survey Data
- Analysis report of Survey Data
- Case Study Portfolio
- A full report of Analysis and Recommendations
- Academic Paper

RESEARCHERS Marianne St Clair

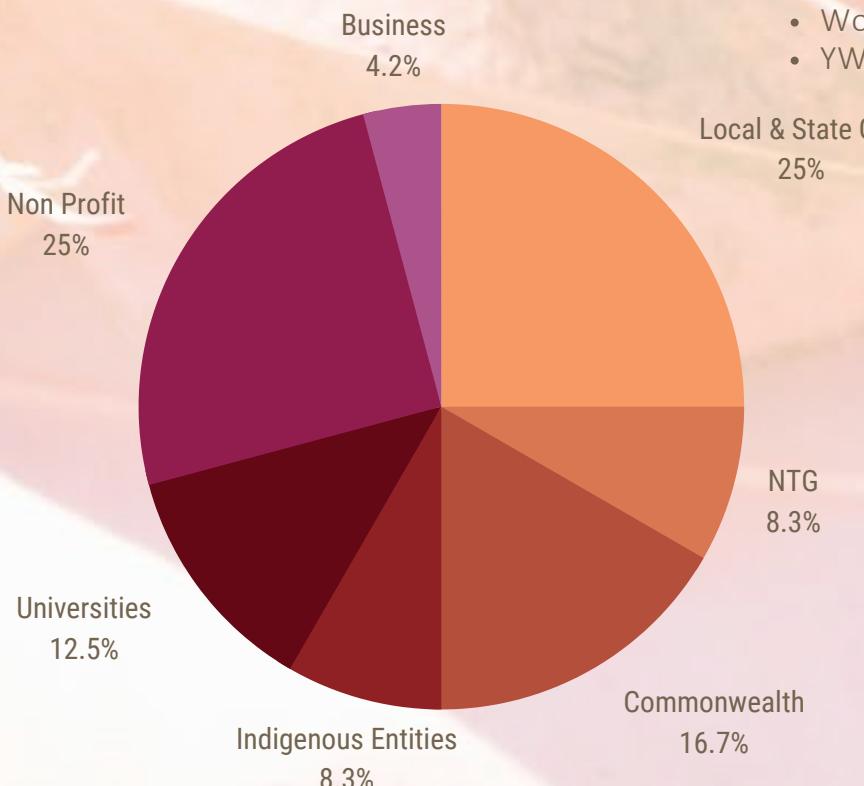
PROJECT FUNDING \$45,005

WHO WE WORKED WITH

PROJECT COLLABORATORS 2021

- ARTD Consultants
- Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance NT (AMSANT)
- Arctic Centre at Umeå University (ARCUM)
- Broadband for the Bush Alliance (B4BA) Limited
- Carleton University
- Centre for Rural Medicine (GMC)
- Geografia Pty Ltd
- Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation
- Regional Development Australia (Queensland)
- Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University

FUNDING SOURCE 2021



PROJECT FUNDERS 2021

- Arnhem Northern Kimberley Artists Aboriginal Corporation
- Australian Red Cross Society
- Broadband for the Bush Alliance (B4BA) Limited
- Catholic Education Western Australia
- Charles Darwin University
- Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
- Department of Defence
- Department of Education and Training
- Department of Social Services
- Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation
- Indigenous Land Corporation
- Ipsos Australia
- NSW Department of Education
- NSW Health
- NT Department of the Chief Minister
- Regional Australia Institute
- SA Dept of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure
- Tangentyere Council
- TasTAFE
- Territory Families
- The University of Melbourne
- Universite Laval
- World Vision UK
- YWCA of Darwin Inc

2017

HIGHLIGHTS 2017



GOVERNOR GENERAL COSGROVE & LADY COSGROVE VISIT NI

The Governor-General of Australia His Excellency, General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (retired) visited the Casuarina campus to meet students and staff in January 2018. Welcomed by Vice-Chancellor Professor Simon Maddocks they toured the Yellow precinct of CDU Casuarina campus including the Northern Institute.

This visit provided a unique opportunity for researchers to showcase NI's Northern research capability in particular our work with Indigenous Communities and Plant Biosecurity as well as our Heat Stress Research. The Governor General was particularly interested in the Heat Stress research as he has a long military history of working in tropical climates.

During his visit, His Excellency said that it had been a pleasure to return to the university where he had been awarded an Honorary Doctorate in 2001.

Picture: The Governor General chats to NI Deputy Director, Professor Lisa McManus and researcher, Dr Elspeth Opperman.



NATIONAL SCIENCE EXCHANGE PROGRAM : COLLABORATION AWARD 2018

Senior Indigenous researchers and junior mentorees came to the Northern Institute for a Ground Up Indigenous Evaluators Workshop in April 2017.

Several generations of researchers worked together to design mentoring and evaluation services products. NI researchers Professor Helen Verran, Jennifer MacDonald, Dr Kellie Pollard and Dr Michaela Spencer were also involved in the program.

Picture: Workshop group picture. Participants included researchers from Gumbula Consultancies (Ngukurr and Darwin), Yalu' Marngithinyaraw (Galiwin'ku), Tangentyere Research Hub (Alice Springs) and the Northern Institute (CDU).



CONNECTING WOMEN SCIENTISTS WITH BUSINESS TO GROW NT DEVELOPMENT

Darwin women with an interest in building prosperity in the Territory came together (18 May) to brainstorm ideas for growing their businesses. They worked on discovering new opportunities to serve their communities with the not-for-profit and community sectors and finding new ways to work together on innovation with the University sector.

The Glasshouse Workshop allowed women entrepreneurs, scientists and engineers to test and build the business case for their ideas, products and services and research to create value for the marketplace and science.

This first NT Glasshouse workshop was supported by the NI and NT Department of Trade, Business and Innovation and was held at the CDU Waterfront Campus. The network started with 24 members with strong interest from Territorian women with the second workshop held in Alice Springs in June.

Picture: Aboriginal Tourism Workshop Darwin participants

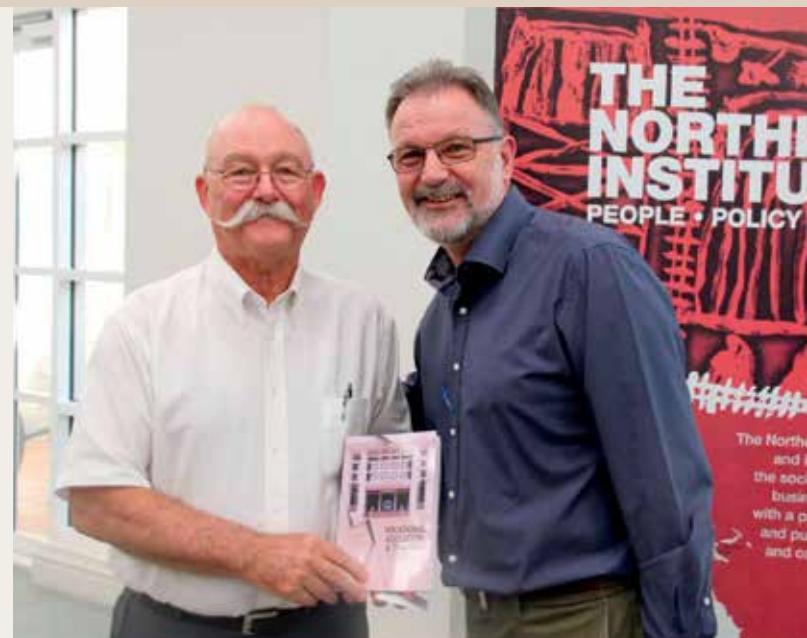
NT VET HISTORY BOOK LAUNCHED

A book by VET expert and researcher Dr Don Zoellner 'Vocational Education and Training: The Northern Territory's history of public philanthropy' was launched by CDU Pro Vice Chancellor of Law, Education, Business and the Arts, Professor Peter Kell, on June 7 in the lovely surrounds of the Northern Territory Library at NT Parliament House (Darwin).

Dr Zoellner's book represents the first consolidated history of vocational education and training in the Northern Territory. The story presents as a chronological account of events, people and institutions, plus offers an explanation of how the system actually works and has applications well beyond the Territory. The mix of historical accounting and operational analysis comes from a unique perspective.

An Honorary of NI, Dr Zoellner addressed over 35 people attending the event whose vocations spanned from education to industry, local and NT government and the private sector. The launch was followed by an informative Q&A session with the author.

Picture: (L-R) Don Zoellner being congratulated by Professor Peter Kell



KARRABING SHORT FILM SCREENING

On 10 November, Northern Institute hosted a special screening by the Karrabing Film Collective (KFC) of their independently produced short films *The Jealous One* (2017) and *Night Time Go* (2017). KFC had just returned from touring their films at the Tate Modern (London, England) and Centre Pompidou (Paris, France). Nearly 70 people gathered in the Savanna Room to enjoy the screening with popcorn and a soft drink.

KFC is a grassroots Indigenous-based media group from Belyuen Community, 140kms east of Darwin (NT), that use filmmaking to interrogate the conditions of inequality for Aboriginal people.

NI has a connection to KFC through our long-time Honorary Adjunct, Professor Beth Povinelli, a researcher, critical theorist, and filmmaker with the Department of Anthropology at Columbia University (New York, USA).

Picture: excerpt from "The Jealous One"



TERRITORY POPULATION ROADSHOW

In November & December, our population experts toured the Northern Territory to update communities on what the future may hold based on the Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016 Census data.

Led by Senior demographer Dr Andrew Taylor and demographic researchers from the Northern Institute, with members of the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the team travelled to Darwin, Alice Springs and Katherine to deliver region-specific seminars as part of their Territory Population Roadshow.

At the workshops, each individual location was given an update on trends and implications for their region and beyond. The seminars also gave insight into each region's population futures based on similar places and in light of global trends.

Picture: Darwin Population Seminar (L-R) Master of Public Policy student Anita Maertens & Andrew Taylor



MAKARRATA AT GARMA FESTIVAL

Northern Institute were part of a CDU delegation, headed by Vice Chancellor Professor Simon Maddocks, who attended Garma 2017 on Arnhem Land August 4-7. The newly appointed Pro Vice-Chancellor of Indigenous Leadership, Adrian Miller, two new Northern Institute academics Professor Barry Judd and Professor Steven Bird and our Director Professor Ruth Wallace were part of the delegation at the festival.

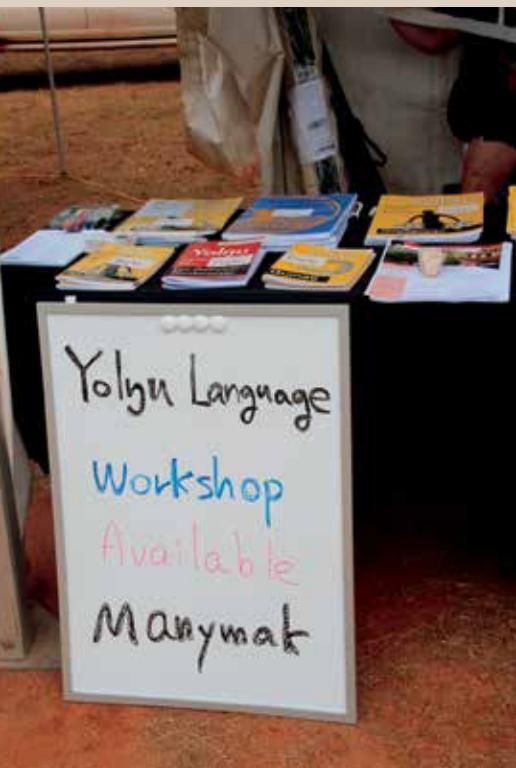
The theme for Garma 2017 was 'Makarrata – a coming together, or healing'. And the aim of the event was reconciliation, education and understanding through sharing of culture and traditional practice; promoting and highlighting Yolŋu culture, and creating economic opportunities beneficial to Northeast Arnhem Land. CDU had a double marquee on site and featured a mobile teaching unit camper trailer set up by VET Lecturer/Workplace Assessor in Tourism & Guiding, Chris Hogarth. Chris also ran a swag rolling competition which was very popular amongst the kids – the prize being a swag. The CDU stall was always busy with Nori (Yasunori) Hayashi & Brenda Muthamuluwuy from the School of Indigenous Knowledges and Public Policy presenting daily Yolŋu language classes for beginners.

Northern Institute promoted their research with Indigenous communities and sold Gäwa Seasonal and GÄWA Flowers & Fruits posters created by Senior Indigenous Researcher, Gotha (Kathy) Guthadjaka.

Throughout the long, hot, dusty days our very talented CDU Indigenous student ambassador Mark Munnich and Indigenous Student Services officer Jessica Procak plus Melissa Royle from the Office of Indigenous Leadership provided lots of advice to prospective students. It was a privilege for Northern Institute to help represent CDU at Garma and always an amazing opportunity to be on such magical country. Garma is a unique annual event hosted, coordinated and programmed in entirety by the Yothu Yindi Foundation (YYF), a not-for-profit Aboriginal corporation.

Picture: Yolŋu dancers perform bunggul (ceremonial dance) at GARMA 2017 opening ceremony





FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED TO DIRECTOR

Northern Institute Director Professor Ruth Wallace was the first woman to be awarded the Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Agriculture and Life Sciences Scholarship. Professor Wallace travelled to the United States and completed a six-month residency (January – July 2017) at Kansas State University, who sponsor the prestigious scholarship.

Professor Wallace's research focuses on marginalised learners' identities and the intersections with educational systems in regional and remote areas of Northern Australia and is predominantly undertaken with First Nations people. This research provided the basis for her Fulbright work in the US where she contributed to the "Biosecurity Policy at the Margins Project".

"A real highlight for me was visiting some First Nations communities to talk about how they are working within their communities and learning more about Indigenous engagement from their perspective," she said.

Professor Wallace said community involvement and partnerships were key to the future and that her fellowship had provided an opportunity for shared cross-learning in areas of community engagement where the local universities were central to future growth. On her return to CDU, Professor Wallace presented a seminar at Northern Institute about her Fulbright research experience as well as living and working on Kansas State University campus, Manhattan, Kansas.

Pictures:

1. Hamilton County Extension Office, Syracuse. 2. Ruth at the Fulbright award presentation. 3. Fulbright Enrichment Seminar in Minneapolis. 4. Executive Program for Social Entrepreneurship at Stanford Graduate School of Business. 5. Visiting First Nations reservations involved in water management projects. 6. Workshop participants attending the Plant Biosecurity Theory and Practice workshop at Kansas State University



WE WELCOMED

RESEARCH STAFF

Dean Dempsey
Linh Cuong
Cris Hallinan
Rayleen Hinchcliffe
Kuntal Goswami
Gotha (Kathy) Guthadjaka
Barry Judd
Jeanette Millier
Fiona Shalley
Christie Sims
Christine Smith
Isabelle Skinner
Heidi Thompson
James Thurmer

HONORARY APPOINTMENTS

Michael Cawton
Samantha Disbray



Honorary Samantha Disbray

REMEMBERING

Northern Institute (NI) would like to acknowledge the loss of some of our most valued friends, colleagues and mentors over the period 2017 - 2021.

MIKE HARRISON (2017)

Mike Harrison was a much loved NI researcher whose commitment to the Territory shone through his life's work. Mike made a huge impact on NI, as well as the Northern Territory. He was always a support for early career researchers and experienced managers as they negotiated the challenges of working in the NT. He brought his vast experience in Aboriginal governance and business to NI's research community. He will be remembered for his work supporting Aboriginal people to organise and grow their businesses on country and his contribution to the VET sector where his initiatives helped grow generations of Territorians working across the country. Mike made a difference to so many lives in Darwin, across the NT and beyond. Mike was a wonderful and generous man who is remembered with much love and many smiles.

DR NOEL FINCH (2018)

NI PhD student and friend of Northern Institute passed away in 2018. Noel had an extensive background and experience teaching and mentoring First Nations people throughout his life from being a primary teacher on Thursday Island to Principal of Aboriginal Community College (Adelaide), he was also Head of School of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies (Kangaroo Point College of TAFE) and Associate Director with Batchelor College.

Noel was young at heart and drawing on his deep experience in Indigenous education when he joined NI to accomplish his life-long dream to complete his PhD. Supervised by NI Director, Professor Ruth Wallace, he achieved this in December 2017. Sadly, he passed before graduation day. Barry Finch, Noel's brother, flew from Queensland to accept his Doctor of Philosophy at the CDU Graduation Ceremony in Darwin, May 2018.

DR MARTHEN LUTHER NDOEN (2019)

Northern Institute Honorary Researcher, Dr Marthen Luther Ndoen, of Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana (UKSW Indonesia) passed away in 2019. Marthen was born in Rote island in East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia. He finished his undergraduate in economics from Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana. He then went to Cornell University in USA to earn his Masters in Southeast Asian studies, and completed his PhD in Regional Economics from Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam. He served as Director of Development Graduate Studies at Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana and was also a research fellow at the Center for Institutional Studies and research fellow at the Center for Sustainable Development, Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana.

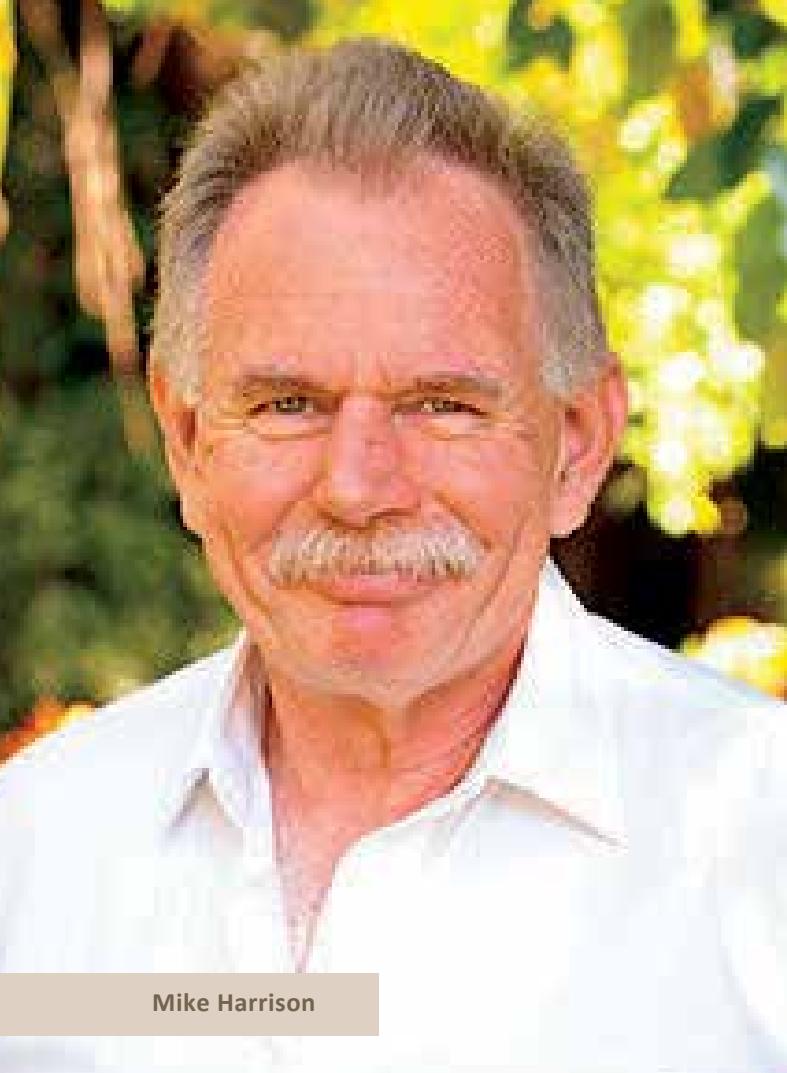
Marthen is remembered as an amazing person who contributed selflessly to his students education and performed research that assisted communities make decisions about their future. He is greatly missed.

DR CATHY BOW (2021)

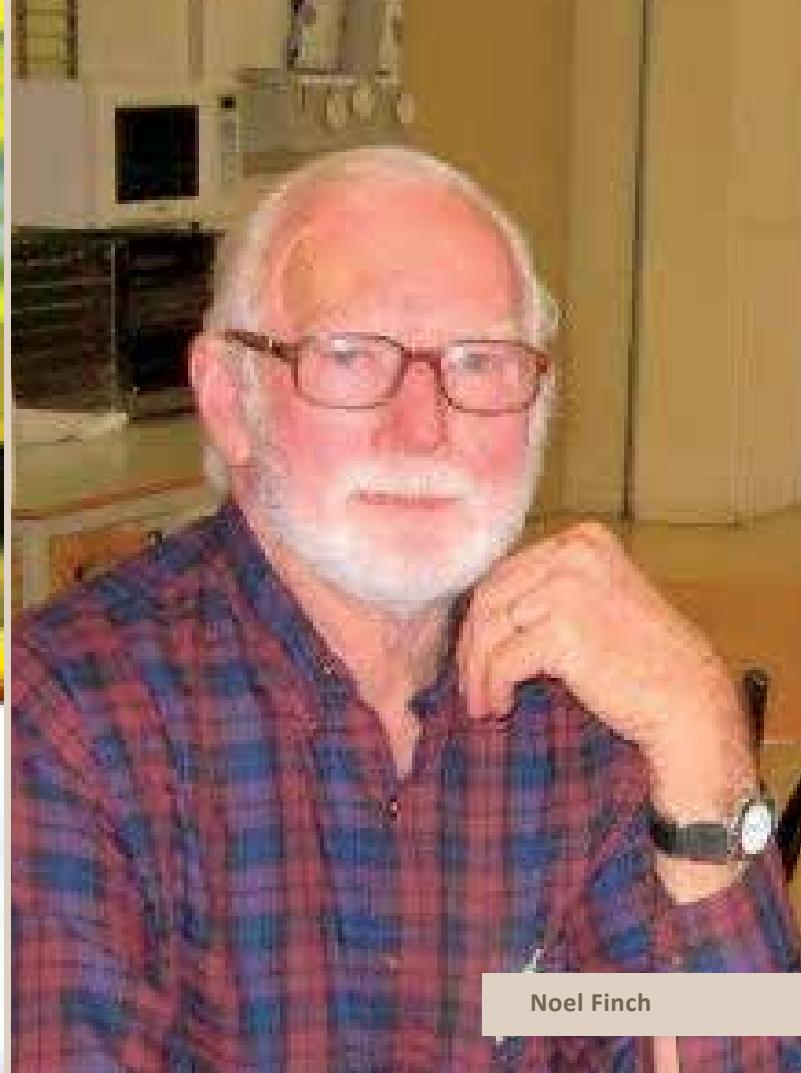
Our dear friend and colleague, Dr Cathy Bow, passed away suddenly October 2021. Cathy had been an integral part of the Northern Institute family since 2012. All Cathy's work was undertaken with the utmost care and respect. In working on the Living Archive of Aboriginal Languages, she had close relationships with many Aboriginal Language Speakers across the NT. She worked to find, collate, digitise and keep safe many records of language and language learning resources, drawing them into one place and making them available under the authority of Elder leadership for the benefit of future generations.

Cathy's passion for this work followed through into her PhD studies, which were so important to her. She worked carefully finding and creating ways to work with Aboriginal languages in ways which maintained their integrity as the places and identities of language speakers whilst also opening language learning to non-Indigenous speakers and young people. It was with great pride that she received her doctorate in May 2021 , becoming Doctor Cathy Bow, a title recognised as very well deserved by all her peers.

Dr Cathy Bow's legacy as a linguist spans over 20 years during which time she bonded people and worlds together with her kindness, passion and enthusiasm. She is deeply missed by so many communities across the Territory, Australia and overseas.



Mike Harrison



Noel Finch



Marthen Luther Ndoen



Cathy Bow 103

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

COPY & DESIGN Katrina Britnell and NI Researchers

EDITOR Lani Buxton Shepherd

PHOTOGRAPHY

Highlights NI Research Support Service, CDU Media Photographers
page 97 | Karrabing Film Collective film excerpt of "The Jealous One"

CDU Media Photographers pages | 4 (Ruth Wallace headshot), 10, 28, 50, 57, 63, 64, 69

Staff Images

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Ruth Wallace | page 100

Project Images

pages 29 & 41 | source: www.growingupyolngu.com.au

page 30 | source: Academic Review of Waste Management Strategies report

page 40 | source: Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (www.aciar.gov.au/project/cse-2017-015)

page 62 | source: National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network (NIRAKN)

page 74 | source: Sarah Ireland (www.birthingoncountry.com)

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