

 **INDIGENOUS
FUTURES CENTRE**
ANNUAL REPORT 2024

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The ARC Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures acknowledges and honours the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our Centre operates. We acknowledge Elders past and present, and recognise this was always a place of learning, teaching, and research, and that Sovereignty was never ceded.

The ARC Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures acknowledges the support of the Australian Research Council.



Australian Government
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The ARC Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures acknowledges the financial and in-kind support provided by our collaborating organisations and community partners.



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Message from the Elder in Residence

Gregory 'Uncle Cheg' Egert
Centre Elder in Residence

As we finish the first year of operations at our Centre, I think it's a good time to reflect on the progress we've made and the exciting work ahead.

This year has been one of growth, collaboration, and laying the foundations for long-lasting impact - and ensuring we are thinking and planning many generations into the future.

I'm proud of our achievements this year, but equally important is the culture we are building around Indigenous values at the Centre. We know that this is a journey that will take time, but I am already seeing the groundworks of this vision taking shape and have been inspired to watch our staff, researchers, and community partners come together to nurture this process.

Throughout this year, we have worked with our community, especially our community partners, in the journey of better defining and understanding community-centred research. Making sure they are involved each step of the way and engaging with the people of this land is one of the most rewarding aspects of my role.

“I look forward to continuing to build and strengthen these relationships as we move forward, together, creating a Centre of Excellence that achieves academically, as well as both cultural and spiritual.”

The coming years will be full of exciting developments, as we continue this journey together.

Director's Message

Professor Brendan Hokowhitu

Centre Director

Tēnā koutou katoa,

It is with immense pride and responsibility that I present the ARC Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures' inaugural Annual Report because it represents our first year of achievements. The Centre is the first of its kind globally and is setting a precedent in Indigenous-led research. Our first year marked a significant step forward in our collective journey toward justice and equity for First Nations Peoples, with the Centre's focus on addressing the social inequalities that affect Indigenous communities both here in Australia and around the world.

“The establishment of this Centre represents the culmination of decades of hard work by Indigenous activists, scholars, and leaders who have fought relentlessly for recognition and justice.”

Our foundation was laid by visionary leaders like Distinguished Emeritus Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson, whose work through the National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network (NIRAKN) provided the foregrounding for this Centre. Alongside her, Professor Bronwyn Fredricks, and others worked tirelessly to secure the funding and bring this ambitious vision to life. At the heart of our mission is a commitment to collaborating with Indigenous communities, ensuring that our research is grounded in their needs, wisdom and aspirations.

The ARC Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures is not just an academic institution—it is a space for empowerment, innovation and transformative change. By placing Indigenous voices and leadership at the heart of our work, we are cultivating the next generation of Indigenous researchers who will lead the charge toward self-determining futures for Indigenous peoples. Our goal is clear: to ensure that our research makes a tangible difference in the lives of Indigenous peoples by addressing real-world issues that matter most to them. As we reflect on the year's achievements, it reminds of what is possible when Indigenous communities lead the way in shaping our own futures.



“Our Centre will create an enduring legacy of Indigenous-led knowledge development and innovation in social research to shape policy, programs, institutions, and our own communities, aligned with the intent of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap 2020, which states, “that when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have a genuine say in the design and delivery of services that affect them, better life outcomes are achieved. It recognises that structural change in the way Governments work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is needed to close the gap.”

Indigenous Futures Centre Overview

The ARC Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures is the first entirely Indigenous led Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence.

Our Mission as Indigenous scholars is to transform the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Indigenous peoples through an innovative community-led, transdisciplinary research program that collaborates across sectors to produce self-determined, evidence-based and impactful outcomes that fundamentally change the development and implementation of Indigenous policies and programs. Our Vision is for an equitable Australia for Indigenous peoples by 2050.

The Centre's researchers are global leaders in Indigenous-led innovative, collaborative, transdisciplinary research, who have come together with the common goal of addressing long-standing social inequalities that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities face.

An equitable Australia by 2050 requires that our work encompasses a transdisciplinary approach, blending the key themes of Health & Wellbeing, Law & Justice and Education & Economies, and that we create sustainable change by elevating Indigenous voices and leadership. Critical to the Centre's legacy is building the next generation of Indigenous researchers. The Centre provides an opportunity to utilize the skills and experience of its current Indigenous thought leaders to foster survivance skills and research capacity in the next generation of Indigenous scholars through training, mentoring and career opportunities. The prospect of the next generation of the most promising Indigenous researchers is exciting, however, to reach their potential they require survivance skills through a distinct mentoring and capacity building program that the Centre's comprehensive Indigenous leadership can provide.



Image: (L-R) Dale Ruska (MMEIC), Distinguished Emeritus Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson with Gregory (Uncle Cheg) Egert



Image: (L-R) Dr Janine Gertz and Professor Tom Calma AO with launch attendees

The Centre provides an opportunity for early career Indigenous academic leaders to form a strong cohort who can support each other to build the survivance skills required to be successful and Indigenous in the academy. As a collective of early career Indigenous academic leaders empowered to be sovereign within the academy, they will draw on their knowledge systems to think expansively beyond Western disciplinary boundaries and generate complex Indigenous solutions that transform the lives of their people.

Fundamental to the Centre's success is building infrastructure that promotes consistent linkages between our partner organisations, who are experienced on-the-ground sector leaders, community-based researchers and university-based experts. Our research approaches follow the process of co-design, co-development and co-implementation with the community and for the community. The Centre's research program advocates for the policy and practice reform required to transform Indigenous peoples' lives.

Our Centre will create an enduring legacy of Indigenous-led knowledge development and innovation in social research to shape policy, programs, institutions, and our communities, aligned with the intent of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap 2020 (NA-CTG-2020), which states, "that when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have a genuine say in the design and delivery of services that affect them, better life outcomes are achieved. It recognises that structural change in the way Governments work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is needed to close the gap".



Image: (L-R) Nick Devereaux (AHRC), Commissioner Katie Kiss (AHRC), Professor Tom Calma AO, Dyonne Anderson (Stronger Smarter), Professor James Ward

Strategic Objectives

- 1 Design and deliver an exceptional and internationally renowned program of Indigenous relational transdisciplinary research to reveal the complex mechanisms, processes, and conditions that perpetuate Indigenous intergenerational inequity.
- 2 Work collaboratively with community organisations, government, relevant industry stakeholders, community end-users and researchers in other sectors to deliver ground-breaking cross-sectoral policy reform and models of best-practice directly related to the four Priority Reform areas of NA-CTG-2020.
- 3 Provide unprecedented relational transdisciplinary cross-sectoral research focusing on the interconnections between legal, education and health contexts and build new networks with relevant international research programs.
- 4 Establish a national (and international) Indigenous Knowledge Infrastructure (NIKI) for Indigenous futures, including cross-sectoral measures, models, data systems and adaptive structures.
- 5 Support Indigenous researchers at all career stages by providing training, mentoring and career opportunities.
- 6 Foster the future generation of the most promising Indigenous Australian researchers trained through the Centre's comprehensive Indigenous leadership, mentoring and capacity building program.

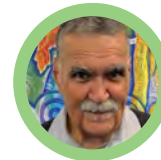
Our Members

Elders



Distinguished Emeritus Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson - Elder Scholar - University of Queensland

Distinguished Emeritus Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson is a Goenpul woman of the Quandamooka people (Moreton Bay). She is Australia's first Indigenous Distinguished Professor and is Emeritus Professor at the University of Queensland. She was formerly the Director of the Australian Research Council's National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network (NIRAKN).



Gregory Egert (Uncle Cheg) - Centre Elder in Residence - University of Queensland

Known in the community as Uncle Cheg, Mr Gregory Egert is the Centre's Elder-in-Residence, whose role guides the IFC's Research Committee, Community and Partner Advisory board as Chair, and the crucial space of community engagement. Uncle Cheg is from Yugara, Gorenpul and Kabi Kabi country and has extensive experience in Queensland education and strong ties with many First Nations community organisations.

Chief Investigators



Professor Brendan Hokowhitu - Centre Director - The University of Queensland

Professor Brendan Hokowhitu is recognised globally as a leading scholar in critical Indigenous studies, creating the sub-disciplines of Indigenous masculinities, Indigenous sociology of sport, and Indigenous critical physical education. He leads collaboratively with community, community partners and national and international researchers, working towards the Centre's vision of an equitable Australia for Indigenous peoples by 2050.



Professor Roxanne Bainbridge - Centre Deputy Director - The University of Queensland

Professor Roxanne Bainbridge is a Gunggari/Kunja woman from South-Western Queensland. She previously worked as a researcher across leading Universities in Australia and internationally. With a background in anthropology, Roxanne focusses her interests on medical anthropology as a culturally constructive critique of the biomedical sciences and policy-makers that provides new understandings of human health, wellness and illness for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



Professor Bronwyn Fredericks - Education and Economies Theme Lead - The University of Queensland

Professor Bronwyn Fredericks is an Indigenous woman from South-East Queensland with over 30 years of experience working in and with the tertiary sector, State and Federal Governments, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-based organisations. She is a Professor and The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement) at The University of Queensland and maintains an active research program.



Professor James Ward - Health and Wellbeing Theme Lead - The University of Queensland

Professor James Ward is a Pitjantjatjara and Nukunu man, an infectious diseases epidemiologist and a national leader in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research, with over 25 years of experience in Aboriginal public health policy and research. He is also the Director of the UQ Poche Centre for Indigenous Health and leads research aimed at impacting health and wellbeing outcomes for First Nations peoples.



Associate Professor Crystal McKinnon - Law and Justice Theme Lead - University Of Melbourne

Dr Crystal McKinnon is a Yamatji woman and an academic, researcher and community organiser. She is a Vice Chancellor's Indigenous Research Fellow in the Social and Global Studies Centre at RMIT University and is a Visiting Fellow at the Indigenous Law and Justice Hub at the Melbourne Law School. She has extensive experience working in both the Aboriginal community organisation and the community legal centre sectors. Her research work looks at Indigenous sovereignty, law and justice matters, and Indigenous social movements, resistance and protest.



Professor Pat Dudgeon WA/NT Node Lead - University of Western Australia

Professor Pat Dudgeon is from the Bardi people in Western Australia. She is a psychologist and professor at the Poche Centre for Aboriginal Health and the School of Indigenous Studies at the University of Western Australia. Her area of research includes Indigenous social and emotional wellbeing and suicide prevention. She is also the Director of the Centre of Best Practice in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention and lead Chief Investigator of a national research project, Transforming Indigenous Mental Health and Wellbeing.

Chief Investigators



Associate Professor Paul Gray - NSW/ACT Node Lead - University of Technology Sydney

Dr Paul Gray is a Wiradjuri man from NSW and leads the Indigenous child protection hub at the University of Technology Sydney Jumbunna Institute of Indigenous Education and Research. He works closely with First Nations communities and organisations to critically examine and reimagine the contemporary child protection systems and practice. Since 2007, Paul has worked in a range of roles focused on the safety and wellbeing of Aboriginal children and young people, including as a psychologist, and in policy and project roles with the NSW Department of Communities and Justice, and in strategy at AbSec (NSW Child, Family and Community Peak Aboriginal Corporation).



Distinguished Professor Larissa Behrendt - University of Technology Sydney

Distinguished Professor Larissa Behrendt AO is a Eulayai/Gamillaroi woman and Laureate Fellow at the Jumbunna Institute of Indigenous Education and Research at the University of Technology, Sydney. She is a graduate of the UNSW Law School and has a Masters and SJD from Harvard Law School. She has published numerous textbooks on Indigenous legal issues. Larissa won the 2002 David Uniapon Award and a 2005 Commonwealth Writer's Prize for her novel Home. Her second novel, Legacy, won a Victorian Premiers Literary Award. Her most recent novel, After Story (2021, UQP) won the 2022 Voss Literary Prize. Larissa is also an award-winning filmmaker, a Trustee of the Australian Museum, Chair of the Australia Council's First Nations Arts and Culture Strategy Panel, a Director of Sydney Dance Company, Chair of the Community Spirit Foundation. She was awarded an Order of Australia for her work in Indigenous education, the law and the arts and received the Human Rights Medal 2021 from the Australian Human Rights Commission. She is the host of Speaking Out on ABC Radio.



Professor Tracey Bunda - The University of Queensland

Professor Tracey Bunda is a Ngugi/Wakka Wakka woman and grew up on the lands of the Jagera/Jugera/Yuggerapul peoples and is a Professor of Indigenous Education at the University of Queensland. During the course of her extensive three-decade academic career, she has held senior Indigenous leadership roles in each of the universities in which she worked. Professor Bunda's research interests are informed by critical theoretical approaches for understanding how race and power ideologically manifest in white institutions; storying as methodology and the agentic role of Aboriginal women in Aboriginal community uplift. She is the current Chair of the Board of the Hymba Yumba Independent School, Springfield.



Professor Sandra Eades - University of Melbourne

Professor Sandra Eades is a Noongar woman from Mount Barker, WA. She completed her medical degree in 1990 and after working as a GP, started her career in health research at the Telethon Kids Institute. In 2003 she became Australia's first Aboriginal medical doctor to be awarded a PhD. Professor Eades was named NSW Woman of the Year 2006 in recognition of her research contributions to Aboriginal communities and has received a 'Deadly Award' for Outstanding Achievement in Health. As well as Associate Dean (Indigenous), she is a Professor at the Centre for Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health.



Dr Yvette Roe - Charles Darwin University

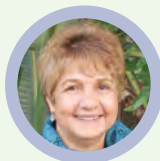
Co-Director of the Molly Wardaguga Research Centre, Yvette Roe is a proud Njikena Jawwuru woman from the West Kimberley region, Western Australia, with more than 25 years' experience working in Indigenous health. Yvette has diverse interests across a number of disciplines such as public health, sociology, and realist evaluation.



Associate Professor Amanda Porter - University of Melbourne

I am a Koori academic of Aboriginal (Walbunjan Yuin) and settler (Scottish, Greek) descent. I am an Associate Professor of Criminal Law and Criminology in the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Melbourne. My teaching and research interests include racial discrimination and police accountability law.

Chief Investigators continued



Professor Gail Garvey - The University of Queensland

Professor Gail Garvey is a Kamilaroi woman and Professor of Indigenous Health Research in The University of Queensland's Faculty of Medicine. With a career spanning three decades of highly valued research collaborations, Gail currently leads the First Nations Cancer & Wellbeing Research program where she works to understand the psychosocial aspects of cancer care for First Nations Australians and measure the dimensions of wellbeing important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



Professor Asmi Wood - Australian National University

Asmi Wood teaches at the ANU College of Law and is a Professor at the ANU Law School. He is a Barrister and Solicitor. His areas of research and teaching interest include legal ethics, constitutional law, humanitarian law, International law and the treatment of Indigenous peoples within legal frameworks other than their own normative systems.



Professor Maria Raciti- University of Sunshine Coast

Professor Maria Raciti (Kalkadoon-Thaniquith/Bwngcolman) is a social marketer who uses marketing tools and techniques to bring about social justice and behaviour change. Professor Raciti is co-director of the UniSC Indigenous and Transcultural Research Centre.



Ms Susan Beetson - The University of Queensland

Susan Beetson is a Ngemba Computer Science practitioner, researcher, and educator, who grew up in the very remote Aboriginal communities of Brewarrina and Gongolgon. Susan has 30 years' experience in corporate computer science and information technology design, development, and management. In addition, Susan has ten years as a higher ed educator in Information Systems and Interactive Technologies in computer science and human-centred computing, and also Aboriginal value systems and Knowledges. Susan has won a highly competitive Science & Technology Australia's #SuperstarsOfStem program and is also a guest Academic Editor for Information Systems Journal and Journal of Australian Indigenous Issues.



Associate Professor Marnee Shay - University of Queensland

Associate Professor Marnee Shay is a Principal Research Fellow and Deputy Head of School in the School of Education at the University of Queensland. She is an Aboriginal woman whose maternal family is from the Ngen'giwumirri language group (Daly River, Northern Territory), born in Brisbane, with strong connections to Indigenous communities in Southeast Queensland. Dr Shay is an experienced and qualified secondary teacher.

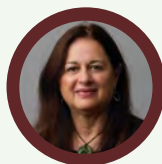
A/Prof Shay has an extensive externally funded research program that spans the fields of Indigenous education, policy studies, flexi schooling, and youth studies. She has published in many journals, books and scholarly media outlets. A/Prof Shay advocates for strengths approaches in Indigenous education and Indigenous-based evidence to inform policy futures. She is the lead editor of a critical text in the field of Indigenous education, "Indigenous education in Australia Learning and Teaching for Deadly Futures", published by Routledge in 2021 (with Prof Oliver). The book won a national award for 'The Tertiary/VET Teaching and Learning Resource (wholly Australian) category at the Education Publishing Awards Australia.

Partner Investigators



Professor Chris Anderson - University of Alberta

Dr. Chris Andersen is a Professor and the Dean of the Faculty of Native Studies at the University of Alberta. He is the author of two books including, one of which won the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association's Best Subsequent Book Award. He was a founding member of the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Executive Council, is a member of Statistics Canada's Advisory Committee on Social Conditions and is editor of the journal aboriginal policy studies. He was recently named to the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists.



Professor Tracey McIntosh - University of Auckland

Tracey McIntosh, MNZM, is Ngāi Tūhoe and is Professor of Indigenous Studies in Te Wānanga o Waipapa (School of Māori Studies and Pacific Studies) at the University of Auckland. She is a Commissioner of Te Kāhui Tātari Ture: Criminal Cases Review Commission and has just completed her appointment as the Chief Science Advisor for the Ministry of Social Development. She was the former Co-Director of Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga New Zealand's Māori Centre of Research Excellence. She previously taught in the sociology and criminology programme at the University of Auckland. She has chaired numerous high profile organisations, committees and advisory groups, including as a Strategic Advisor to the Royal Commission Inquiry on Abuse in Care 2023-2024.



Professor Jarrod Haar - Massey University

Dr Jarrod Haar is Dean's Chair and Professor of Management and Māori Business at Massey University (New Zealand). He has Māori tribal affiliations of Ngāti Maniapoto and Ngāti Mahuta. He researches employees and organisations (especially Māori) including the role of technology. He has won industry and best-paper awards and won multiple research grants (\$6.7m individually) plus is a named researcher on a \$105m National Science Challenge.



Distinguished Professor Linda Tuhiwai Smith - Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi

Distinguished Professor Linda Tuhiwai Smith is one of the most influential and internationally recognised Māori scholars and researchers of the 21st Century. Her book "Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples" has been translated into five languages (Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, Italian, and Bhasa Indonesian). She has written numerous books, articles, lectures, and research which are cited by academics worldwide, and is one of the most renowned indigenous thinkers of our time. In the 1970's, Professor Smith was a founding member of Ngā Tamatoa which opposed racial discrimination and Treaty of Waitangi breaches that led to the implementation of transformational Māori educational interventions such as Te Kohanga Reo, Kura Kaupapa Māori, Whare Kura and Whare Wānanga in Aotearoa. She has held many significant roles and positions in organisations and was the first Māori woman to become a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand, was awarded the Prime Minister's Lifetime Achievement Award, and is a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to Māori and education.

Associate Investigators



Professor Kathleen Clapham - University of Wollongong

Professor Clapham is a senior Aboriginal researcher and anthropologist (BA (Hons and PhD) with extensive health and social research experience. Within the broad area of Indigenous health Kathleen's research focuses on health equity; safety, health and wellbeing of children and young people; community based interventions; social and cultural determinants of health; and health services improvements.



Dr Marlene Longbottom - James Cook University

Dr. Marlene Longbottom is a Yuin woman from the Roseby Park mission (Jerrinja) located on the South Coast of NSW. She serves as an Associate Professor at the Indigenous Education & Research Centre at James Cook University. With nearly 30 years of experience, Marlene has worked across New South Wales, the Torres Strait, and Far North Queensland in both human services and academia. Dr. Longbottom's research spans over 15 years, during which she has collaboratively developed and executed community-based research and evaluation projects that are driven by the needs and priorities of Indigenous communities.



Dr Ren Perkins - Griffith University

Dr Ren Perkins is a Quandamooka man with connections to the Wakka Wakka Nation. He has recently had his PhD conferred from the University of Queensland. His research topic was Learning from the lived experiences of Indigenous teachers who have remained in the profession. Ren has worked in Indigenous education for over twenty years. His research interests include Indigenous education, Indigenous teachers, Indigenist research standpoint and the sociology of education.



Dr Amy Thomson - University of Southern Queensland

Dr Amy Thomson is a Mandandanji woman and Doctorate of Philosophy student enrolled in the School of Education at the University of Queensland. Amy works as a Senior Research assistant and previously worked as secondary English and Music teacher. Amy was Chief Investigator in the Australian Government's Diversity in STEM review: "Big mob STEM it up!" project and is an Associate Investigator in UQ's ARC Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures. Amy's PhD research is about how the principles of self-determination and co-design can influence the way English educators embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and perspectives in urban private schools.



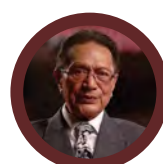
Dr Antoinette Cole - The University of Queensland

Dr Antoinette Cole is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the School of Education at the University of Queensland. She has maternal bloodlines to the Torres Strait with connections to Boigu Island and Erub (Darnley Island). Antoinette's research area is in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education, and school leadership. Her research explores the role of culturally responsive pedagogical practices in school leadership. Prior to undertaking her research, Antoinette has over 25 years in the field of education in various leadership positions.



Professor Rangi Matamua - Massey University

Professor Rangi Matamua (Tūhoe) is Professor of Mātauranga Māori at Massey University and a pioneering Māori scholar who has revolutionised understandings of Māori astronomy, and in particular Matariki. His research has been ground-breaking in terms of its contribution to mātauranga Māori; he has enlightened both national and international populations on the mātauranga of astronomy. Professor Mātāmua is internationally known and respected for his accomplishments as a pioneering innovator and leader across both Mātauranga Māori and multiple interfaces with the Sciences. He is perhaps most widely known for his contribution to advancing public knowledge and awareness of Matariki.



Professor Sir William Te Rangiu (Pou) Temara - Waikato University

Professor Sir William Te Rangiu (Pou) Temara is a cultural authority on whaikōrero, whakapapa, and karakia, a Māori academic, a professor of te reo Māori me ōna tikanga at Waikato University. Sir William Te Rangiu "Pou" Temara accepted his knighthood despite challenging the monarchy system throughout his career. Raised by his grandparents in a Tūhoe environment where te reo o Tūhoe was his first language, Temara went on to become a recognised authority in the Māori language, customs, practices and Māori performing arts. He is the chair of Te Hui Ahurei, a legacy of whanaungatanga his father and his generation can be proud of.



Professor Hemi Whaanga - Massey University

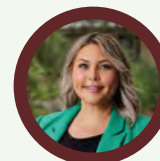
Dr Whaanga (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Mamoe, Waitaha) is a linguist who has more than 20 years' experience as a Māori educator focused on linguistics, te reo Māori, mātauranga Māori, Māori astronomy, ICT and ethics. He has a particular interest in multi-method techniques, methodologies and processes that analyse, develop and protect our mātauranga and reo in a range of linguistic, cultural and digital contexts.

Associate Investigators continued



Professor Andrew Jolivet - UC Santa Barbara

Dr. Andrew Jolivet is Professor of Sociology and American Indian and Indigenous Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara where he is working with the American Indian and Indigenous Studies Collective to develop the first Department of American Indian and Indigenous Studies at UC Santa Barbara. Dr. Jolivet is former Professor and Department Chair of Ethnic Studies as well as the inaugural founding Director of Native American and Indigenous Studies (NAIS) at the University of California, San Diego where he worked from 2019-2024 with Affiliations in Black Diaspora and African American Studies, Critical Gender Studies, Global Health, and Latin American Studies.



Dr Julie Ballangary - Griffith University

Dr Julie Ballangary is a Gumbaynggirr/Dunghutti woman from northern New South Wales. As a Lecturer in Political Science and Indigenous Politics at Griffith University, Julie leads critical work in truth-telling, relational approaches, and decolonising education. Her research focuses on First Nations rights, recognition and justice; reconciliation; Women Peace and Security(WPS); First Nations and Feminist foreign policy; and the integration of Indigenous ways of working can strengthen practice and leadership.



Associate Professor Garrick Cooper - University of Canterbury

I am interested in practices of 'decoloniality' in Aotearoa. This includes understanding the ways in which coloniality reproduces and sustains itself and maintains the interests of dominant groups in society and how we might subvert those processes. To this end, one part of my research project includes using Maori epistemologies (and the philosophical insights that we can draw from these) to critique dominant narratives about Maori (and perhaps "others") and create new pathways forward that transcend the binaries of Europeans and natives, Maori and Pakeha, the oppressor and the oppressed.

Postdoctoral Research Fellows



Dr Holly Charles - University of Melbourne

Dr Holly Charles is a Yorta Yorta and Gunai woman and formerly worked as a lawyer in Commonwealth agencies, and has experience across government, community advocacy and education sectors. Holly's doctoral research critically examined the racial logics underpinning the colonial legal system through the example of the unsuccessful Yorta Yorta native title case. Her research interests include race and the law, justice beyond colonial systems, and the role of First Nations laws and knowledges in asserting sovereignty and shaping self-determined futures.



Dr Chontel Gibson - University of Western Australia

Dr Chontel Gibson is a Gamilaraay yinaar (woman) with family and cultural connections in far northwest NSW, and is an occupational therapist with over 20 years of experience working as a clinician, manager and researcher. Her research interest centre on community-based approaches that promote flourishing in later life, where she is a recognised leader in her field, collaborating with fellow Indigenous occupational therapy scholars to embed Indigenous knowledge in everyday practices.



Dr Natalie Ironfield - University of Melbourne

Dr Natalie Ironfield (she/her) is Dharug person with family connections to the Buruburongal and Warmuli Clans. Natalie is currently living on Wurundjeri Country and is a Research Fellow in the Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures at the University of Melbourne. Natalie's doctoral research examined the ways in which universities function as ongoing sites of racial colonial violence, with a particular focus on the discipline of criminology. Natalie's research interests include the limitations and consequences of liberal reformism for Indigenous people, non-carceral community-led responses to harm and violence, and the role of community-led political education in shaping just futures on Aboriginal Land.



Dr Daeul Jeong - University of Sunshine Coast

Dr Daeul Yeung is originally from South Korea and has worked in the curriculum development industry there. She is also a former NGO member who worked with Indigenous peoples in Laos and Ecuador. Her research interest includes education for Indigenous peoples, Indigenous economic success, cultural diversity, education policy, and global frameworks (e.g. the Sustainable Development Goals).



Dr Daniel McKinnon - The University of Queensland

Dr Daniel Kiwa McKinnon (Ngāti Rangitihi; Puketapu) is a recent PhD graduate of the University of Queensland with a background in secondary education as an English, Film and Humanities teacher. He was born and raised up and down the East Coast of Australia and has worked for over ten years in the Queensland public education system. His research interests include Indigenous educational sovereignty and postcolonial sociologies of schooling and education. With a particular focus on the advent of charter schooling, his PhD explored qualitative research methodologies to develop a more complex and nuanced picture of politics and education in Aotearoa, New Zealand.



Dr Irene Semos - The University of Queensland

Dr Irene Semos is a Manus and Bougainville woman from Papua New Guinea. She has more than 15 years' experience in public health research, teaching and learning in Papua New Guinea. Irene's PhD examined ways of indigenising the health workers' curriculum that trains Papua New Guinean health workers. She used the Melanesian methodology of Pasin as storytelling to inform curriculum and practice. Irene is interested in Indigenous methodologies, knowledge transfer and translation in the health and wellbeing for First Nations and Pasifika people.

Research Fellows



Dr Janine Gertz - The University of Queensland

Dr Janine Gertz is a Gugu Badhun citizen and her research interests centre on the political representation and self-government strategies of Indigenous Nations and is grounded in her community development work with the Gugu Badhun Aboriginal Nation. She was recently announced the winner of the prestigious 2023 Stanner Award – AIATSIS’ biennial prize for the best academic writing by an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander author. Her winning entry was for her PhD thesis ‘Gugu Badhun Sovereignty, Self-Determination and Nationhood.’



Dr Krystal Lockwood- The University of Queensland

Dr Krystal Lockwood is a Gumbayngirr and Dunghutti woman, and Research Fellow in the Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures at The University of Queensland. Krystal is an applied justice researcher with experience in using co-design, realist, and Indigenous methodologies. Broadly, she has focused her work on addressing the impact of the carceral system on Indigenous peoples and communities, and is particularly interested in supporting Indigenous knowledges, perspectives, and programs of justice. Krystal’s research has focused on influencing evidence-informed practice, with projects in sentencing, Indigenous initiatives in the justice sector, and reintegration programs.



Dr Shea Spierings - The University of Queensland

Dr Shea Spierings is a Gaangalu man from Central Queensland and Indigenous Research Fellow currently investigating cultural governance, Indigenous incarceration, and Indigenous masculinities. Shea’s previous research has involved health messaging in Indigenous communities, health systems, health governance, and Aboriginal men’s health. His research utilises Indigenous and mainstream conceptual and methodological tools.



Associate Professor Hinekura Smith - The University of Queensland

Associate Professor Hinekura Smith is a Māori woman, teacher, weaver and Kaupapa Māori researcher who descends from the Te Rarawa and Ngā Puhi people of Aotearoa (New Zealand). With 27 years’ experience as a Māori educator, she began her career as a Māori language teacher, before moving into tertiary education, lecturing, teacher education, research and academic leadership. Hinekura’s research interests weave together growing Indigenous research, decolonizing education, Indigenous arts-based methodologies and Māori and Indigenous doctoral supervision and support.

Principal Research Fellow

Research Assistants



Kiri Olsen - Law & Justice Theme - University of Technology Sydney

Kiri Olsen is a Wilman and Ballardong Noongar woman from southwestern Australia. She is a dedicated Research Assistant who plays a crucial role in supporting research initiatives and contributing to the success of projects as part of the Indigenous Futures Centre and the UTS Jumbunna Child Protection Hub. She is a registered social worker with a passion for advocacy, the promotion of social justice and the protection of human rights for all peoples, especially First Nations.



Michelle Ah Matt - Law & Justice Research Assistant & NSW/ACT Node Administrator - University of Technology Sydney

Michelle Ah Matt is a proud Ngalakan (Roper River, NT) and Badu and Kubin Islander woman. She was born, raised and works on Kurna Yarta (Adelaide). Michelle possesses extensive experience working in the education sector, specifically within Indigenous education and Public Health and is eager to leverage these skills to the Node Administrator/ Research Assistant position within the Law and Justice theme.

Professional Staff



Shane Boseley - Chief Operating Officer - The University of Queensland

Shane is a Gonnai man of the Mongta and Thorpe Families, a descendant of apical ancestors Charles Gluingkong and Kitty Rivers and Dan Bungyl Tambo and Kitty Wangung and of the Brabralung and Krauatungalung clans of the Gunaikurnai nation. Shane was born on Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Country and has called Turrbal/Yuggera Country his 2nd home for most of his life. He has extensive experience across Corporate, Not for Profit and Tertiary sectors, as well as over a decade of experience providing leadership within first class, fast paced corporate environments.



Cheryl Stephenson - Business Manager - The University of Queensland

Cheryl Stephenson is a Wiradyuri woman and is the Business Manager for the Indigenous Futures Centre. Cheryl is an experienced research management professional with a diverse background in research, finance and project management across the non-profit and private sector. Cheryl has a Bachelor of Business and a Graduate Certificate in Wiradyuri Language, Culture and Heritage and has a passion for supporting researchers to achieve meaningful change.



Casey Fung - Senior Coordinator Marketing & Communications - The University of Queensland

Casey is a communications and media professional with broad experience in the industry, including at ARC Centres, universities and government. He previously worked as a broadcast journalist and currently still works as a freelance writer and photographer. He is also completing a PhD at The University of Queensland. Casey grew up on Bundjalung Country (Mullumbimby) and has been lucky to travel across dozens of different Nations right across Australia.



Arielle Henaway - Coordinator, Engagement & Marketing - University of Queensland

Arielle is a proud Juru & South Sea Islander woman with fraternal ties to Ayr in North Queensland. She was raised on Mamu land. Arielle has worked in the Sustainable Engineering, Education and Community sectors in administrative, and operational roles. Arielle has spent six years in community organisations and has previously acted as youth mentor. She is currently appointed as a First Nations Governance Group Member with the Foundation of Young Australians (FYA).

Professional Staff continued



Reema Naresh - Coordinator Engagement & Events - The University of Queensland

Reema is a proud Fiji Indian woman. Born on the Island of Viti Levu, she has lived and worked in Fiji, New Zealand, the United States of America, and Australia. Her journey reflects a commitment to community development and engagement in multicultural communities, fueled by a passion for positive transformation, individual and community empowerment. Reema is an engagement specialist with extensive experience working with multicultural communities. She has over 20 years of experience working in the NGO and health sector. She brings extensive experience in consumer partnerships and community engagement in health and research. Her expertise includes community engagement, stakeholder relationship management, project coordination, events management, and public speaking.



Tess Smurthwaite - VIC Node Administrator - University of Melbourne

Tess Smurthwaite is a Research Development Officer in the University of Melbourne's Faculty of Arts and for the Initiative for Peacebuilding. Tess has qualifications in art history and arts and cultural management, and has previously worked for Melbourne University Publishing, the Mietta Song Competition and the Abbotsford Convent Foundation. She was Fiction Editor and Deputy Editor of Australian literary journal Meanjin from 2016-2024. Tess has edited several Australian novels and short story collections in a freelance capacity and has worked as a tutor for students of publishing and editing.



Amanda Price - Research Project Manager - University of Technology Sydney

Amanda has worked in the tertiary education sector for over three decades holding a diverse range of positions. She joined the team at Jumbunna Research in 2019 as a research project manager in the Indigenous Nation Building and Governance hub, with her role diversified to include project managing large ARC grants within Jumbunna Research which includes the Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures.



Teresa Ratana - Administration Officer - University of Western Australia

Teresa has worked in the tertiary education sector for years, most recently working with The University of Western Australia as an Administration Officer. Teresa has been supporting the WA / NT Indigenous Futures Centre node as an interim Node Administrator.



Stephanie Ganeson - Senior Administration Officer & QLD Node Administrator - University of Queensland

Stephanie is the Queensland Node Administrator based at UQ and provides administrative and operational support for all Queensland based investigators and their research groups. She has worked in educational institutions in a few countries and enjoys reading and travelling.

Our Partners



The Institute for Urban Indigenous Health (IUIH) is a regional not-for-profit Community Controlled Health Service (CCHS) that leads the planning, development and delivery of health and family wellbeing services and employment pathways to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population of South East Queensland.



The Stronger Smarter Institute works with educators from across the country as 'partners in change' to enact the Stronger Smarter Approach in their schools. We have seen strong regional learning communities grow as schools work together to drive high expectations, build authentic relationships with , and local communities, and establish quality environments for learning.



AIME (Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience) is a not-for-profit organisation founded in 2005 that connects university student mentors with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students. Its mission is to close the educational gap by empowering Indigenous youth to complete high school and pursue further education or employment at the same rate as their non-Indigenous peers.



Cape York Institute for Policy & Leadership (CYIPL) is Australia's leading Indigenous think tank. Since its establishment in 2004, we have worked with our communities to develop out-of-the-box reforms that build people's capability so they can choose a life they have reason to value.



The Dhadjowa Foundation is a national grassroots organisation that's been established to provide strategic, coordinated and culturally appropriate support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families whose loved ones have died in custody. We are a not-for-profit organisation that's independent from all government funding and rely solely on donations, fundraising and philanthropy.



We are a national peak body Aboriginal community-controlled organisation that works to improve outcomes and opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and strengthen the capacities of families across Australia.



Lowitja Institute is Australia's only national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled health research institute. The organisation is named in honour of its namesake and co-patron, the late Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue AC CBE DSG.



The Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service Co-operative Limited (VALS) was established as a community controlled Co-operative Society in 1973. We provide referrals, advice/information, duty work or case work assistance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the State of Victoria. Our solicitors specialise in one of three areas of law: Criminal Law, Family Law and Civil Law.



The Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) has been fighting for justice and equity for more than 50 years. We are Australia's first free community legal service. We were born out of a protest movement on the streets of Redfern, Gadigal and Eora land.



The Department of Health and Aged Care develop and deliver policies and programs and advise the Australian Government on health, aged care and sport. We work with a wide range of stakeholders to ensure better health for all Australians.



The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) is an independent statutory Australian Government agency with more than 30 years of experience working with health and welfare data.



The National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) works in genuine partnership to enable the self-determination and aspirations of First Nations communities. We lead and influence change across government to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have a say in the decisions that affect them.



We protect and promote human rights in Australia and internationally. The Australian Human Rights Commission is an independent statutory organisation, established by an act of Federal Parliament.



The University of Alberta in Edmonton is one of the top teaching and research universities in Canada, with an international reputation for excellence across the humanities, sciences, creative arts, business, engineering and health sciences.



With campuses in Auckland, Palmerston North (Manawatū), and Wellington, it's the second-largest university in the country, serving nearly 30,000 students. Massey is also recognized for its strong emphasis on research and its pioneering work in online and borderless education.



Founded in 1883, Auckland is the country's largest university with over 40,000 students, nearly 10,000 of whom graduate annually. The University of Auckland is a public research university based in Auckland, New Zealand.



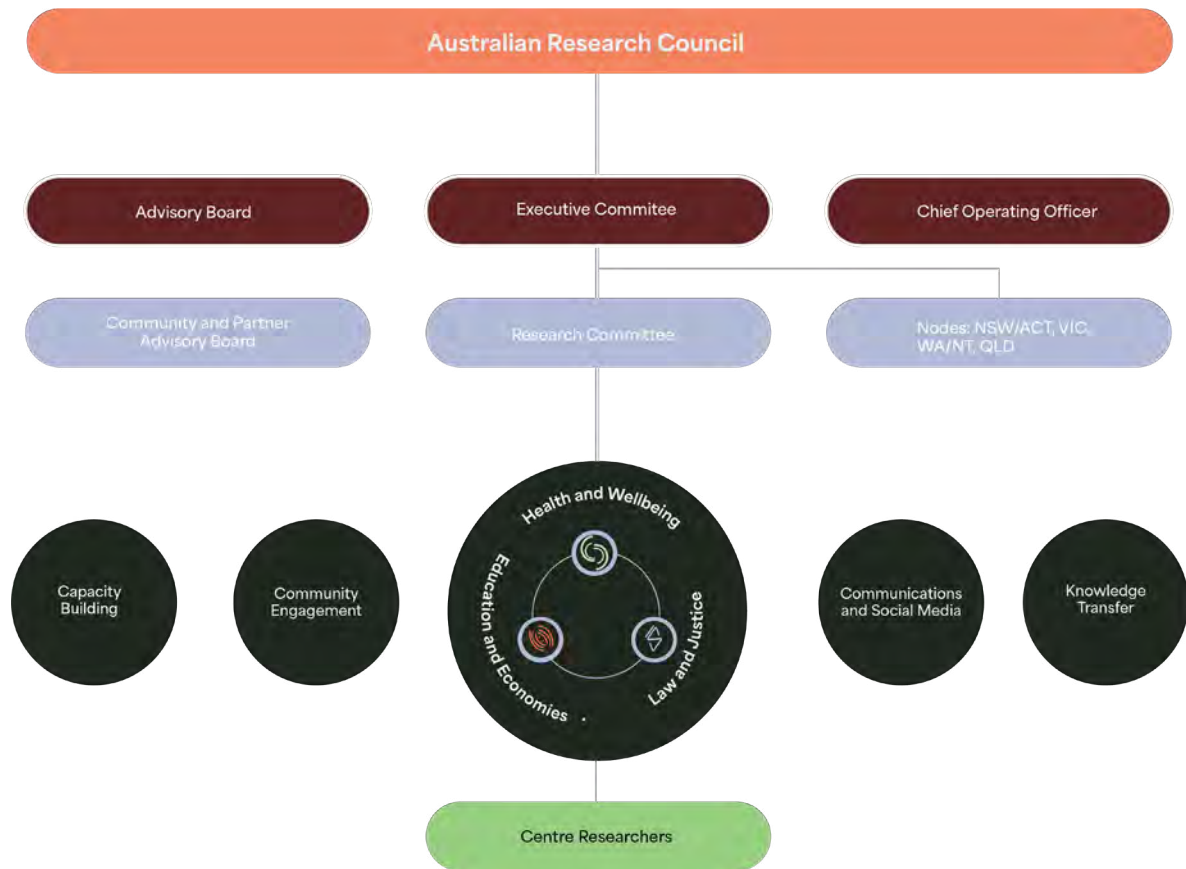
Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangī is a wānanga (Indigenous tertiary education provider) based in Whakatāne, New Zealand, established in 1991 by Ngāti Awa. Today it also has a campus in both Tāmaki Makaurau (Auckland) and Whangārei.

Centre Governance

The governance of the Centre reflects our commitment to Indigenous leadership and decision-making.

Relationality in practice and the Indigenous Futures Centre's two core principles of responsibility and self-determination are evident in many Indigenous communities, organisations, and academic units and are integral to the governance and leadership structure of the Centre (figure 4), which is designed to facilitate the research, research training and mentoring and other research related activities. It is simple, flexible, relational, and responsive to ongoing evaluation and incorporation of new ideas as well as providing an appropriate combination of strategic planning and day-to-day management to ensure maximum impact across the Centre's activities.

Governance and Structure



Community & Partner Advisory Board

NA-CTG-2020 reaffirms, “the belief that when Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have a genuine say in the design and delivery of services that affect them, better life outcomes are achieved. It recognises that structural change in the way Governments work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is needed to close the gap”. The Community & Partner Advisory Board is a vital to the Centre’s core functions. It is chaired by the Elder-in-Residence and composed of representatives from Indigenous communities, Partner organisations, and Centre researchers. The Board provides strategic advice to the Research and Executive Committees about their community-led, co-designed research projects and helps foster cross-sector collaboration. These groups also actively promote the Centre’s work, advocates on its behalf and ensures alignment with community and partner priorities.

“Lowitja Institute is extremely proud to be a partner organisation in the ARC Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures, which will play a vital role in supporting community-based research by and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The Centre’s focus on delivering outcomes related to themes of education and economy, health and wellbeing, and law and justice, closely aligns with the goals and work of our Institute. Lowitja Institute looks forward to collaborating closely with the Centre as we collectively seek to address the four Priority Reforms outlined in the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.”

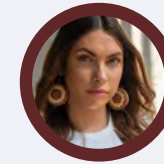
- Lowitja Chief Executive Officer, Paul Stewart.



Gregory ‘Uncle Cheg’ Egert
- Elder in Residence (Chair)



Dyonne Anderson
CEO - Stronger Smarter
Institute



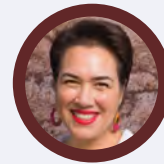
Apryl Day - Founding
Executive Officer -
Dhadjowa Foundation



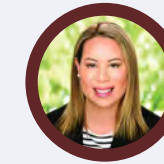
Nick Devereaux - Director
- Australian Human Rights
Commission



Fiona Jose -
CEO - Cape York Partnerships



Catherine Liddle
- CEO - SNAICC



Nattie Smith - Branch
Manager Strategic Insights
- NIAA



Paul Stewart -
CEO - Lowitja Institute



Professor Brendan
Hokowhitu - Centre Director



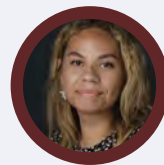
Professor Roxanne
Bainbridge - Centre Deputy
Director



Professor Maria Raciti -
Education & Economies
Co Theme Lead



Associate Professor Amanda
Porter - Law & Justice Co
Theme Lead



Arielle Henaway -
Centre Engagement
& Communications
Coordinator



Dr Daniel McKinnon -
Postdoctoral Research
Fellow



Dr Shea Spierings -
Postdoctoral Research
Fellow

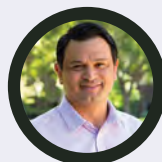
Advisory Board

Chaired by Professor Tom Calma AO, the Advisory Board provides strategic advice to the Executive Committee on research direction, implementation, and impact. The Advisory Board includes esteemed Indigenous international and national members. The Board meets with the Executive Committee biannually advising on implementation of the Centre's key performance indicators.



Professor Tom Calma AO - (Chair) Fellow of Senate - University of Sydney

Professor Tom Calma is an Aboriginal Elder from the Kungarakan (Koong ara kan) tribal group and a member of the Iwaidja (Ee wad ja) tribal group whose traditional lands are south west of Darwin and on the Cobourg Peninsula in the Northern Territory, respectively. He has been involved in Indigenous affairs at a local, community, state, national and international level and worked in the public sector for over 45 years and is currently on several boards and committees focusing on rural and remote Australia, health, mental health, suicide prevention, all levels of education, culture and language, justice reinvestment, research, reconciliation and economic development.



Associate Professor Randall Akee - University of California, Los Angeles

Associate Professor Randall Akee (Native Hawaiian) is an associate professor in the Department of Public Policy and Chair of the American Indian Studies Department at UCLA. Dr. Akee is a graduate of the Kamehameha Schools and Dartmouth College and completed his doctorate at Harvard University. His research is focused on applied microeconomist. Dr Akee has worked in the areas of Labor Economics, Economic Development and Migration and also serves on the University of California Office of the President's Native American Advisory Council and previously on the National Advisory Council on Race, Ethnic, and Other Populations at the US Census Bureau.



Professor Jacinta Ruru - University of Otago

Professor Jacinta Ruru is an award-winning academic based in the Faculty of Law at the University of Otago. Her work has advanced options including legal personality of the environment and creating a bijural legal education. She is the recipient of several significant awards for her research, supervision and teaching and was one of the first two Māori woman to be appointed fellow of the Royal Society Te Apārangi. She is the immediate past co-director of Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga New Zealand's Māori Centre of Research Excellence and past recipient of Fulbright New Zealand awards. She currently holds governance positions with Te Papa Tongarewa, Te Wānanga o Aotearoa, the Environmental Defence Society and the Blue Oyster Art Project Space, and has been appointed to many Government Departmental working groups.



Professor Sheryl Lightfoot - University of Toronto

Professor Sheryl Lightfoot is Anishinaabe, a citizen of the Lake Superior Band of Ojibwe, enrolled at the Keweenaw Bay Community. She is currently Chair and North American Member on the United Nations Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP). At the University of British Columbia, she is Professor in Political Science and the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs as well as a faculty associate in the Institute for Critical Indigenous Studies. She was Canada Research Chair in Global Indigenous Rights and Politics from 2013 to 2023, and between 2018 and 2023, she served as Senior Advisor on Indigenous Affairs. She is also a member of the UN Expert Mechanism and provides the Human Rights Council with expertise and advice on the implementation of the rights of Indigenous Peoples.



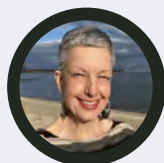
Professor Irabinna Rigney - University of South Australia

Professor Lester-Irabinna Rigney has worked in Aboriginal Education for over 20 years. He has previously been Dean Indigenous Education at the University of Adelaide, Director of Wirritu Yarlur Aboriginal Education and the Director of the Yunggoendi First Nations Centre. He has also won the National Aboriginal scholar of the Year NAIDOC and appointed to the First Peoples Education Advisory Group and as Ambassador for Aboriginal Education. In 2009 he received an honorary United Nations award from the Australian Chapter for his work on Indigenous Education. He has been a member of several high profile expert committees and was co-author of the review of the National Indigenous Education document Australian Directions for the Federal Government.



Professor Leonie Pihama - Tu Tama Wāhine o Taranaki

Professor Leonie Pihama is a mother of six and a grandmother of six. She is Professor of Māori and Indigenous Research and is working as Research Director at Tū Tamawahine o Taranaki and is Director of Māori and Indigenous Analysis Ltd, a Kaupapa Māori research company. Leonie is a leading kaupapa Māori educator and researcher. She was a recipient of the Hohua Tūtengaēhe Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship (Health Research Council) and the inaugural Ngā Pae o Te Maramatanga Senior Māori Fulbright Scholarship at the University of Washington. She served on the Māori Health Committee for the Health Research Council and on a number of key boards including Māori Television, Te Mangai Pāho, and Ngā Pae o te Maramatanga. She has won numerous grants and was recently made a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand.



Professor J. Kehaulani Kauanui - Princeton University

Professor J. Kehaulani Kauanui (Kanaka Maoli/Native Hawaiian) is an activist, radio producer and writer. She is Professor of American Studies and Anthropology at Wesleyan University, where she teaches courses related to Indigenous studies, critical race theory, settler colonial studies and anarchist studies. She is the author of multiple books and her work is widely published in a range of academic journals and edited books. She is one of the six co-founders of the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, established in 2008. And she is the recipient of the Western History Association's 2022 American Indian History Lifetime Achievement Award.

Executive Committee

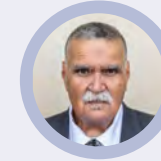
The Executive Committee is the central governing body of the Centre. The Executive Committee meets quarterly is chaired by the Centre Director. The Committee sets the Centres strategic direction and oversees implementation of the centres research and business operating plans ensuring that the Centre's activities are integrated across the different thematic threads and participating institutions. The Executive Committee ensures that the Centre meets with the performance, reporting and regulatory requirements set out by the Centre and Australian Research Council.



Professor Brendan Hokowhitu -
Centre Director (Chair)



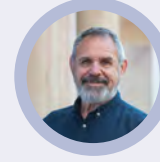
Professor Roxanne Bainbridge -
Centre Deputy Director



Gregory 'Uncle Cheg' Egert -
Elder in Residence



Professor Bronwyn Fredericks -
Education & Economics Theme
Lead - Chief Investigator



Professor James Ward - Health
& Wellbeing Theme Lead -
Chief Investigator



Associate Professor Crystal
McKinnon - Law & Justice
Theme Lead - Chief investigator



Professor Pat Dudgeon WA/NT
Node Lead - Chief Investigator -
Health & Wellbeing
Co-Theme Lead



Associate Professor Paul Gray
- NSW/ACT Node Lead -
Chief Investigator



Shane Boseley -
Chief Operating Officer

Research Committee

The Research Committee is a diverse body chaired by the Centre Deputy Director and includes the Elder in Residence, Theme Co-Leaders, researchers, and partner representatives. Guided by the Elder in Residence, it oversees research priorities, fosters collaborative and trans-disciplinary programs, and identifies opportunities for funding and community engagement. The Committee advises on Indigenous Knowledges Infrastructure, research translation, capacity building, and performance reviews, while also supporting Centre reporting and overseeing biannual conferences.



Professor Roxanne Bainbridge -
Centre Deputy Director (Chair)



Gregory 'Uncle Cheg' Egert -
Elder in Residence



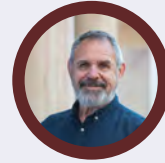
Dyonne Anderson - Stronger
Smarter Insitute



Nattlie Smith - National
Indigenous Australians Agency
(NIAA)



Professor Brendan Hokowhitu -
Centre Director



Professor James Ward - Health &
Wellbeing Theme Lead



Professor Maria Raciti -
Education & Economics Co
Theme Lead



Distinguished Professor Linda
Tuhiwai Smith - University of
Waikato



Associate Professor Amanda
Porter - Law & Justice Co Theme
Lead



Associate Professor Hinekura
Smith - University of Queensland



Dr Chontel Gibson - University of
Western Australia

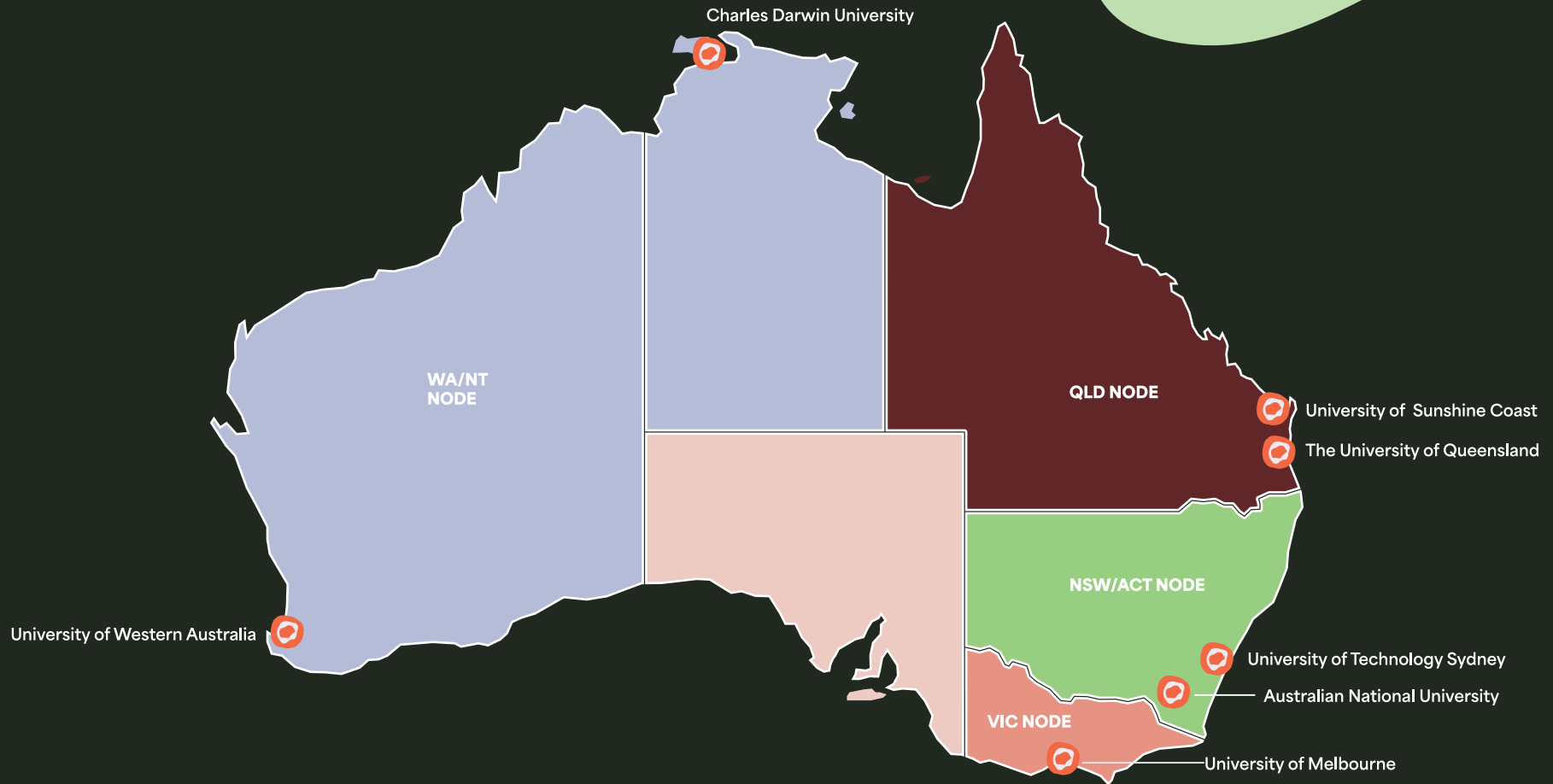


Dr Krystal Lockwood - The
University of Queensland



Associate Professor Marnee
Shay - The University of
Queensland

Nodes



The Nodes, located across Australia in NSW/ACT, QLD, WA/NT, and VIC are fundamental to the Centre's success, ensuring a unified yet geographically diverse approach to research. They enable the Centre to operate as a single, cohesive entity while fostering cross-disciplinary and cross-nodal collaboration. The nodal approach is essential for addressing contextually specific challenges that feed in the broader complex social determinants of Indigenous inequity that the Centre addresses at national and international levels. Each Node contributes unique expertise and perspectives, enhancing the Centre's ability to deliver impactful, community-engaged research. While the Lead Node at UQ oversees primary operations, other Nodes share administrative and leadership responsibilities, ensuring contextually specific representation and strengthening the Centre's national reach and effectiveness.

Research

What are the vital relationships and synthesis required to meaningfully address inequity and survivance as complex problems to ultimately transform Indigenous lives? Our approach to research is grounded in the principle of Indigenous self-determination. We prioritise community-led research, ensuring that Indigenous peoples are not just participants, but leaders in shaping research agendas. The Indigenous Futures Centre fosters transdisciplinary collaborations that address the real-world challenges faced by Indigenous communities, from economic inequalities to health disparities. By blending Indigenous knowledge systems with contemporary research methodologies, we strive to create innovative, culturally appropriate solutions that are sustainable and transformative for future generations.

Research Themes



Law and Justice

Law & Justice focuses on giving Indigenous communities access to address legal inequities and systemic discrimination. Through Indigenous-led legal frameworks and research, the Centre seeks to develop fair and culturally appropriate legal systems. Projects under this theme aim to dismantle structural barriers and ensure justice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Education and Economies

Education & Economies explores pathways to improve education outcomes and economic opportunities for Indigenous communities. By focusing on education systems that are culturally responsive and equitable, the Centre works to enhance lifelong learning and economic empowerment. Research under this theme also addresses barriers to employment and economic development, creating sustainable growth opportunities.



Health and Wellbeing

Health & Wellbeing addresses health disparities through culturally informed healthcare systems, ensuring better access and outcomes for Indigenous communities. It promotes holistic approaches to wellbeing, considering mental, physical, and spiritual health, rooted in Indigenous knowledge systems. Improving the health and wellbeing of Indigenous peoples is a core focus of the Centre's research.

Relational Transdisciplinary Approach

Historically, 'Indigenous research problems' have been treated opportunistically with disciplinary singularity, and with policy expediency. Instead, ARC-IFC will adopt a different approach to provide a unique and fertile environment for university-based researchers, community end users, researchers and experienced on-the-ground workers to collaborate and engage in co-design.

Our Relational Research Program's three and nine Projects

Health & Wellbeing

- Indigenising Health Policy
- Empowering Indigenous Health Communities of Practice
- Culturally Responsive and Empowering Health Institutions

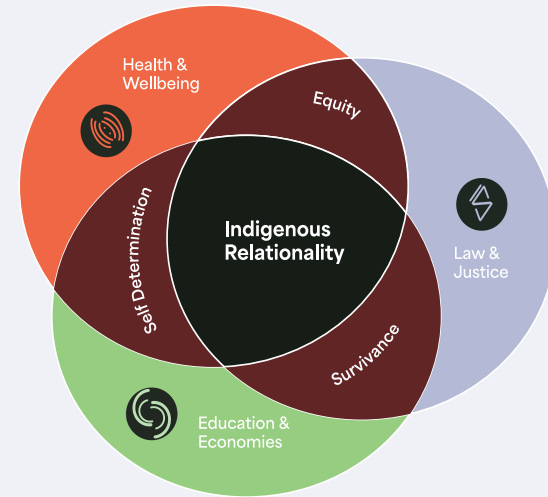
Education & Economies

- Education-to-economies Pathways
- Education Policy
- Economies and Business Success

Law & Justice

- Deaths and Survivance
- Survivance and Correctional Services Programs
- Community Survivance

ARC Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures



2024 Research Highlights

Education & Economies

Sitting under the Education & Economies Theme Project Sitting under the Education and Economies Theme Project 2.3, 'Transformative Indigenous Economies and Business: Determining the conditions for effective Indigenous-led economies and businesses', is a transdisciplinary focused on survivance and transformation, with the underpinning research question: what attributes manifest Indigenous survivance in relation to Indigenous businesses, economic sovereignty and stability?

The Transformative Indigenous Economies and Business project is structured in two phases: Scoping (phase 1, Years 1-2) and Strengthening (phase 2, Years 3-7). The current Scoping (phase 1) package addresses the research question: What is the state and range of Indigenous economies and businesses?, and will include a comprehensive review of the state and range of Indigenous economies and Indigenous-led businesses. This phase will provide an integrated analysis to determine the factors associated with both financial insecurity and economic success not only in relation to Indigenous individuals but also Indigenous communities and niche Indigenous businesses. Here it will be particularly important to understand inequity and success in relation to geographical location and specific economic services whilst integrating organisational and communal health, wellbeing, incarceration, youth detention and family violence variables.

Strengthening (phase 2) examines what factors underpin successful Indigenous economies and business success?, and will include analysing Indigenous business practice and community economic security in different urban, rural, and remote contexts. The research will establish

pathways to success that read legal obligations, tax incentives, capital infrastructure, technology and investment portfolios, and procurement practices via Indigenous specific case-studies. This phase relies primarily on in-depth semi-structured interviews with successful Indigenous business leaders, which a focus on key leadership survivance skills required to be successful, the nature of successful Indigenous business communities in various settings, and the conditions of production required for a healthy Indigenous labour-force. Key information will also be gathered through a longitudinal case-study that tracks a sovereign Indigenous economy.

Led by CI and Co-Theme Leader Professor Maria Raciti, Project 2.3 addresses the National Closing the Gap Target 7 Youth are engaged in employment or education, and Target 8 Strong economic participation and development of people and their communities. Project 2.3 follows a double-diamond design approach with an embedded theory of changes process over its seven-year life course. In the current Scoping phase, co-design with Indigenous partners, community, organisations and key individuals has informed the development of the project blueprint. Inter-theme nested projects with Theme 1 Law and Justice address National Closing the Gap Target 11 Young are not overrepresented in the criminal justice system, while those with Theme 3 Health and Wellbeing centre on Target 14 People enjoy high levels of social and emotional wellbeing. Research questions and timeline for all nested projects and key outputs and outcomes has been developed with a focus on the practical sequencing and scaffolding of research, emphasising the translation and mobilisation of evidence-based insights for impact.



Image: Professor Maria Raciti and Associate Professor Marnee Shay at the inaugural Symposium

Health and Wellbeing

The Indigenous Futures Centre's 'Demonstrating Warriorship in the Face of Racism from an Indigenous Standpoint' project sits under the Health and Wellbeing Theme Project 3.3, "Empowering Indigenous Health Communities of Practice". Racism is an ongoing colonial legacy that causes harm, both historically and in contemporary times and disconnects Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from Country, culture, knowledges, family, and community. Since the 2023 Voice to Parliament campaign which resulted in a National "No" Vote against First Nations people having constitutional recognition through partaking in a voice in parliament, First Nations people have experienced excessive amounts of direct racism.

This Project explores how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples continue to be resilient and advocate for their rights through dismantling racism within health contexts and beyond. While racism has a negative impact on Indigenous people's health and wellbeing it is important for us to recognise how Indigenous people continue to resist, advocate and speak out against racism. The 'Demonstrating Warriorship' project seeks to co-design a culturally grounded tool that embodies and demonstrates warriorship; resilience, resistance, and empowerment against racism. This Project will empower First Nations people to go from 'survival to thriving' and share their stories and tools through contributing to Nationhood.

The project is led by Chief Investigator, WA and NT Node Leader, and Health and Wellbeing Theme Co-Theme Leader, Professor Pat Dudgeon, and supported by Professor Yvette Roe, Dr. Abby-Rose Cox, Tegan Scheffe and Dr. Res McCalman. Dr. Chontel Gibson was instrumental in setting up the Communities of Practice (CoP). The key research questions guiding this Project include; What constitutes warriorship in the context of First Nations experiences with racism? How does Nationhood contribute to thriving in the face of racism? How can First Nations peoples' perspectives inform a tool that embodies this warriorship? In what ways can yarning circles facilitate the co-creation of this tool?

With the NA/WT Node team brought together a CoP with Indigenous health professionals and academics, providing a culturally safe and supportive space for knowledge sharing, storytelling, and collective strategising in relation to racism.



Image: Professor Pat Dudgeon and Dr Chontel Gibson at the Inaugural Symposium

Health and Wellbeing continued

Methodological Framework

Indigenous Standpoint Theory will guide the research by centering the lived experiences and perspectives of First Nations people, acknowledging their unique position in understanding and resisting racism.

This research will adopt a qualitative research approach from an Indigenous standpoint theory. Aboriginal Participatory Action Research (APAR) will be the primary method for collecting data to inform the development of the final tool. APAR Engages participants as co-researchers, ensuring that the research process and outcomes are relevant and beneficial to the community.

Ethical Considerations

The research will adhere to the AIATSIS Code of Ethics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research and NHMRC's Ethical Conduct in Research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and Communities: Guidelines for Researchers and Stakeholders. The Project will ensure Respect for Indigenous Knowledge Systems by recognising and valuing Indigenous ways of knowing and being, Community Consent and Ownership by confirming that the community has control over the research process and outcomes and Benefit to community by ensuring that the research outcomes are beneficial and empowering to the Indigenous community.

Data Collection Methods

Yarning as the primary method of data collection is a central method for knowledge sharing, fostering trust, and ensuring cultural strength and integrity. Yarning circles allow participants to share stories and experiences in a respectfully safe and controlled environment. Yarning Circles will be held which include facilitated discussions for participants to share their experiences and perspectives on racism and warriorship. These sessions will be audio-recorded (with consent) and transcribed for analysis. Participants will also be invited to use creative modes of yarning through visual or performative representations of warriorship. Surveys and interviews may be used as supplementary methods to gather individual perspectives and experiences.

Purposive sampling will be used, and this means that the research team and research stakeholders, including the Indigenous Futures Centre, will reach out to their networks, to see if anyone would like to participate in this project.

The research team will provide an email to the stakeholders involved in the CoP and information about the project will be shared on social media. The research team and stakeholders will send this communication to their networks, as well as raise discussions about the project with their networks.

Data Analysis

- Thematic Analysis: Identifying and analysing patterns and themes related to warriorship and racism.
- Art-Based Analysis: Interpreting artistic expressions to understand the symbolic representations of warriorship.
- Community Validation: Engaging participants in validating and interpreting the findings to ensure the tools are culturally strong.

Development of the Tool

The co-designed tool will be a multimedia resource that educates on racism (providing information and resources on understanding how it manifests), embodies warriorship (showcasing how First Nations people are thriving in Nationhood and cultural identity) and empowers individuals and communities.

Dissemination and Implementation

- Tool Launch: Presenting the tool to the participants and community through an IFC hosted event.
- Workshops and Training: Providing sessions to educate others on using the tool effectively.
- Feedback Mechanisms: Establishing channels for ongoing community input and refinement of the tool.

⚖️ Law and Justice

The Law and Justice Theme aligns with four socio-economic outcomes identified in the NA-CTG-2020 priority reform areas: reducing Indigenous incarceration, child detention and out of home care, family violence, and the impact of racism. The central research question explores how the criminal justice system alongside other closed environments shapes and perpetuates Indigenous educational, economic, health and wellbeing inequities.

Sitting under Project 1.3, Indigenous Survivance and Correctional Services Programs, is the project “First Nations youth justice models: An Indigenist scoping review”, that aims to establish First Nations’ youth justice models derived from First Nations’ perspectives and worldviews. The project is led by Research Fellow Dr Krystal Lockwood with community partner Victorian Aboriginal Legal Services, research assistant Rebekah Ruddy, and Centre Director Professor Brendan Hokowhitu.

The current project aims to develop a solid foundation and support initiatives that address the continued and adverse First Nations justice outcomes. First Nations’ peoples in Australia continue to be the highest incarcerated population in the world. Despite numerous commissions, inquires, reviews, and research, First Nations contact throughout the criminal justice system continues to rise, with disparities widening.



Image: Associate Professor Amanda Porter, Associate Professor Paul Gray, Dr Krystal Lockwood discussing Law & Justice projects

Since 2020, Closing the Gap has included justice targets, and outlined how self-determined models can improve First Nations life chances. However, the conceptualisation, development, and implementation of First Nations' models are lacking in the justice sector.

Framed by an Indigenist collaborative research-design, the project will identify self-determined initiatives that can inform First Nations youth justice models. The research focuses on current practices and will identify their current strengths and barriers to implementation. The expected outcome of this project is to establish the foundational work for developing First Nations' justice frameworks that can address the impact of carceral systems on First Nations peoples. The project team looks forward to working together, and continuing to strengthen our IFC and VALS partnership.



2024 Centre Highlights

Establishment

In December 2023 the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures was officially established, making the Centre the first Indigenous-led Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence, and the first national Centre of Excellence in the world to focus on the social determinants of Indigenous inequality.

Following its establishment, the Indigenous Futures Centre swiftly transitioned into its foundational phase, focusing on setting up strong governance, business management, and operational systems and processes. The establishment phase included the recruitment of a highly skilled professional staff team, as well as our first cohort of Principal Research Fellows, Research Fellows, Postdoctoral Fellows and Research Assistants who will help enact the Centre's ambitious research agenda supervised by CIs. In parallel, we worked to create and launch our Centre's brand identity and online presence, culminating in the release of our dedicated website. The website is an important platform for communicating our purpose, partnerships, and progress to communities, collaborators, and the broader public, along with the various social media platforms utilised, especially as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples are high social media users compared to non-Indigenous Australians.

Building our Team

A Centre derives its true value from its people; they are its greatest asset and enduring strength. Here, collaboration is more than a buzzword; it is a shared way of working that guides us toward collective impact. The Indigenous Futures Centre began building its team by appointing the Director and Elder-in-Residence, who together led the search for a Chief Operating Officer to oversee the development of a committed professional team to support the Centre's research and operations. Since its establishment, we have recruited a strong national team including our Business Manager, Senior Administration Officer, Senior Coordinator Marketing & Communications, Coordinator Community Engagement & Communications, Coordinator Community Engagement & Events, and Node Administrators across our QLD, NSW/ACT, VIC, and WA/NT nodes.

To date a Principal Research Fellow and 10 talented Early Career Researchers and 4 Research Assistants have since come onboard to work with CIs and to drive the Centre's core purpose—groundbreaking research led by and for Indigenous communities. More recently, new Masters and PhD students have are furthering their academic journeys with the Centre, reflecting our deep commitment to nurturing the next generation of Indigenous knowledge holders and leaders.

Rooted in Indigenous values, the Centre's work culture is shaped by collaboration, care, and respect. Weekly team meetings, yarning and an open-door policy ensure that ideas and directions are discussed, debated, and refined collaboratively.

Image: (L-R) Gregory "Uncle Cheg" Egert, Professor Tracey Bunda, Professor Leonie Pihama, Professor Bronwyn Fredericks and Professor Brendan Hokowhitu exchanging cultural gifts at the Inaugural Symposium

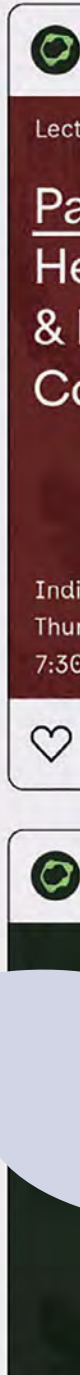
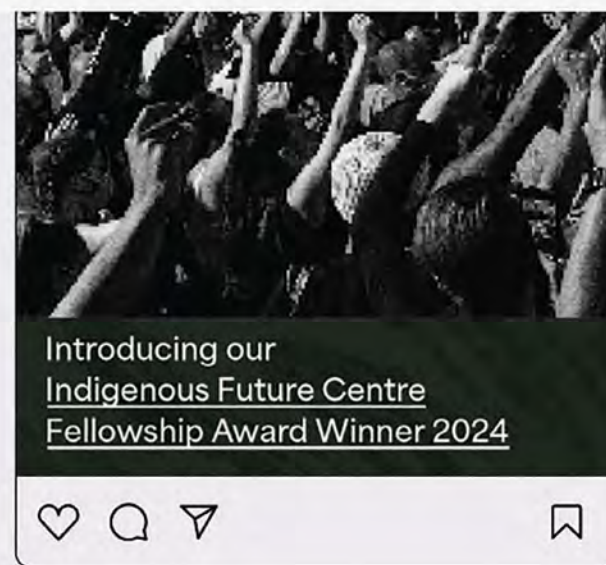
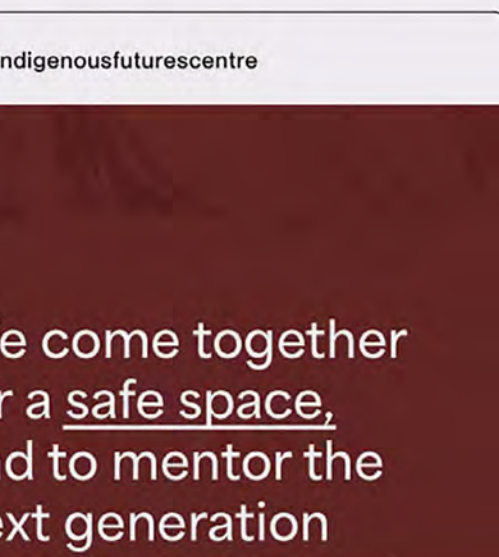
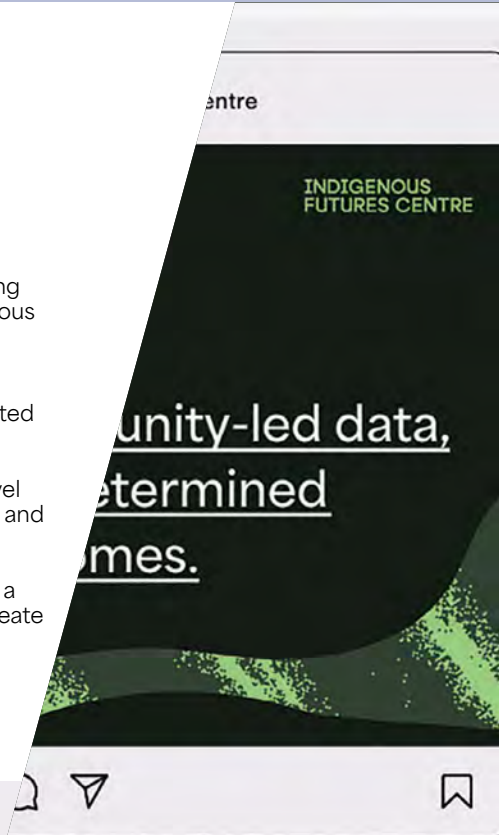
Building our Brand

Through the establishment and early operations of the Indigenous Futures Centre (IFC), there was a need to create a unique, culturally driven identifying brand that is consumable for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander & Indigenous communities, our community and academic partners; this brand seeks to uniquely identify the IFC as its own entity.

The stunning artwork and engaging icons commissioned through and created by Cause/Affect, now forms the eye-catching branding of the Indigenous Futures Centre. Through Cause/Affect, a design studio led by Waanyi and Kalkadoon woman Keisha Leon, the brand tells the story of the Centre's novel direction, capturing the evolving nature of research through a collaborative and collective ethos.

"The Centre is opening the lens over the whole social sector to encompass a transdisciplinary picture. It's led by the community for the community, to create self-determined and impactful futures," said designer Keisha.

While the fluid, organic icon reflects the changing shape of Indigenous research and collective community, the colour and textured backgrounds offer connection to Country.



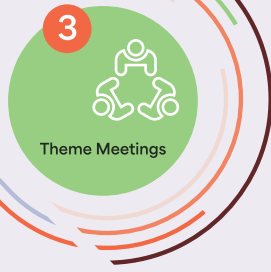
Inaugural Symposium

Researchers and community members from across Australia, Aotearoa (New Zealand), and North America came together for the inaugural Indigenous Futures Centre's 'Chief Investigators and Community Partners Symposium'; a three-day event in Meanjin (Brisbane). Held in July, the symposium provided the first opportunity for all involved to come together as a collective, leading to inspired and insightful discussions and community-led research project design as the foundation for the self-determined research across the life of the Centre.

The three-day event included masterclass workshops from Distinguished Professor Linda Tuhiwai Smith, who presented "He Waka Eke Noa: Māori & Pasifika Approaches to Violence Reduction in Aotearoa". Professor Leonie Pihama and Researcher/Advocate Shirely Simmonds' presentation on Indigenous Methodologies, followed by a Relationality workshop with Distinguished Emeritus Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson. The event wrapped up with an open forum presented by Professor Brendan Hokowhitu, which discussed Indigenous research capacity building, professional development and mentorship.



Image: Delegates attending the Inaugural Symposium



"It was a wonderful gathering of incredible people."

"The opportunity to meet people face-to-face in formal and informal settings! First class support and coordination by centre staff across all three days. First class support and coordination by centre staff across all three days."



Image: Associate Professor Paul Gray and Dr Chontel Gibson at the inaugural Symposium



Image: Professor Bronwyn Fredericks speaking to the Education & Economies theme projects



Image: Aaron Ruska welcoming launch guests to Country

Our Official Launch

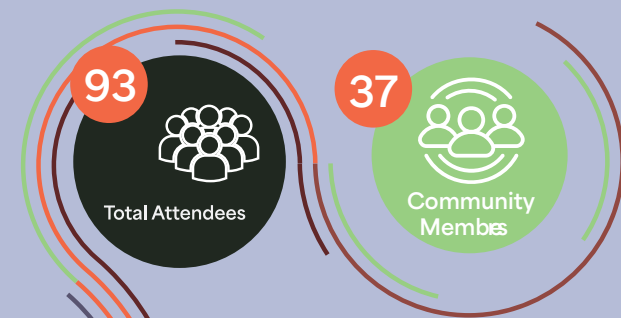
In September, the ARC Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures officially launched, setting a new precedence of what it means to conduct Indigenous-led research.

The Centre's Chief Investigators and Executive Team are all Indigenous peoples, and the Centre has invested in a community-driven research approach where community partner organisations and community participants are integral to each stage of the research process.

Answering the call for change in the way governments work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People and communities, through research, the Indigenous Futures Centre will deliver outcomes intentionally focused on all four of the NA-CTG-2020 Priority Reforms.

The launch was attended by 93 people including the IFC team, 37 community partners, Indigenous Elders, and distinguished guests including;

- Dr. Richard Johnson - ARC CEO
- Commissioner Katie Kiss - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner
- Professor Tom Calma
- Distinguished Emeritus Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson
- Professor Aidan Byrne - UQ Provost (and former ARC CEO)

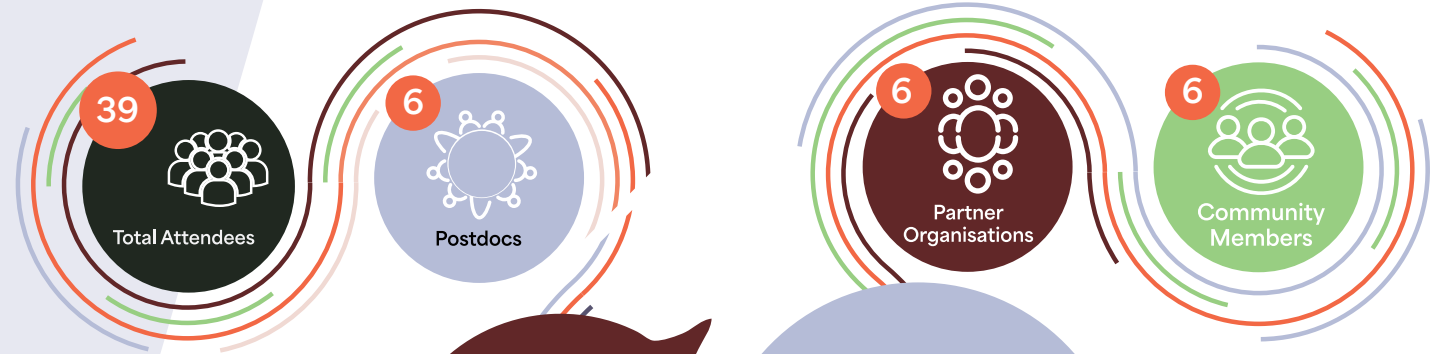


INDIGENOUS FUTURES CENTRE

ARC Centre of Excellence for Indigenous Futures Launch



Image: (L-R) Professor Brendan Hokowhitu, Professor Tracey Bunda, Professor Bronwyn Fredericks, Distinguished Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson, Professor Aidan Byrne, Dr Richard Johnson (Australian Research Council), Gregory "Uncle Cheg" Egert and Professor James Ward at the Indigenous Futures Centre launch



Inaugural Summit & Linkage Retreat

The retreat, held on Yugambah Country at O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat, saw the Centre research and professional teams, plus many representatives from our Partner Organisations, gather for a three-day retreat to co-create and further develop the Centre's research projects for the life of the Centre.

For the majority of the retreat the participants worked within the three research themes to co-create and develop the nine research projects as outlined in the Centre's proposal. A significant portion of time was also dedicated to discussions with the group as a whole to unearth transdisciplinary opportunities between the themes and partner organisations.

There was also a chance for some great shared dinners, hikes, and birdwatching in the brief gaps between seminars, workshops, and meetings.

"Being amongst Blak Excellence Learning more about what the IFC is aiming to achieve."

"Meeting in person with partners and staff and CIs being able to have important conversations about the future. Also being around leaders and partners, who have a wealth of experience and knowledge to share."



Image: Attendees of the Inaugural Summit and Linkage Retreat



Image: Quandamooka delegates at inaugural Summit & Linkage Retreat

New Meanjin Office - UQ Faculty of Business, Economics and Law

The Indigenous Futures Centre QLD node in Meanjin (Brisbane) moved into its new offices at the University of Queensland's St Lucia campus in late September, following the launch.

Establishing a presence on campus in a vibrant new space is a positive step toward strengthening the Centre's role within the research community and the Academy. We are now located on Level 5 of the Sir Llew Edwards Building, right in the heart of campus, with a fantastic view of the grounds - especially when the jacarandas in bloom. If you are nearby, we would love for you to drop in and say hello!

The Centre would also like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the Faculty of Business, Economics & Law Executive team for their support in making this great new space a reality.





Transformational Indigenous
and community led research

Team Highlights

Distinguished Emeritus Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson

Distinguished Emeritus Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson was inducted as a fellow of Australian Academy of Social Sciences for her contributions in pioneering Indigenous research.

The Fellowship is an honour conferred for scholarly distinction in research or the advancement of social sciences.

The honour adds to a long list of accolades of the Distinguished Emeritus Professor who is well-known for her world-class and groundbreaking intellectual scholarship and for leading Indigenous research projects and capacity building initiatives, including the Australian Research Council's National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network (NIRAKN).



Professor James Ward

Indigenous Futures Centre Theme Leader and UQ Poche Centre for Indigenous Health Director, Professor James Ward, received two new honours to add to his accolades, being elected as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (AAHMS) and receiving the inaugural AAHMS medal for Outstanding First Nations Researcher.

This comes after decades of work leading Aboriginal health research, and more recently, developing an urban Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research program.



Team Highlights continued

Professor Pat Dudgeon

Professor Pat Dudgeon AM, a trailblazing Indigenous psychologist and Bardi woman from UWA, has been elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities—the highest honour in Australian humanities. As the first Aboriginal psychologist to graduate in Australia, her groundbreaking work in Indigenous mental health, social and emotional wellbeing, and suicide prevention continues to create lasting impact. Professor Dudgeon's work has profoundly impacted Indigenous mental health, social and emotional wellbeing, and suicide prevention.



Dr Janine Gertz

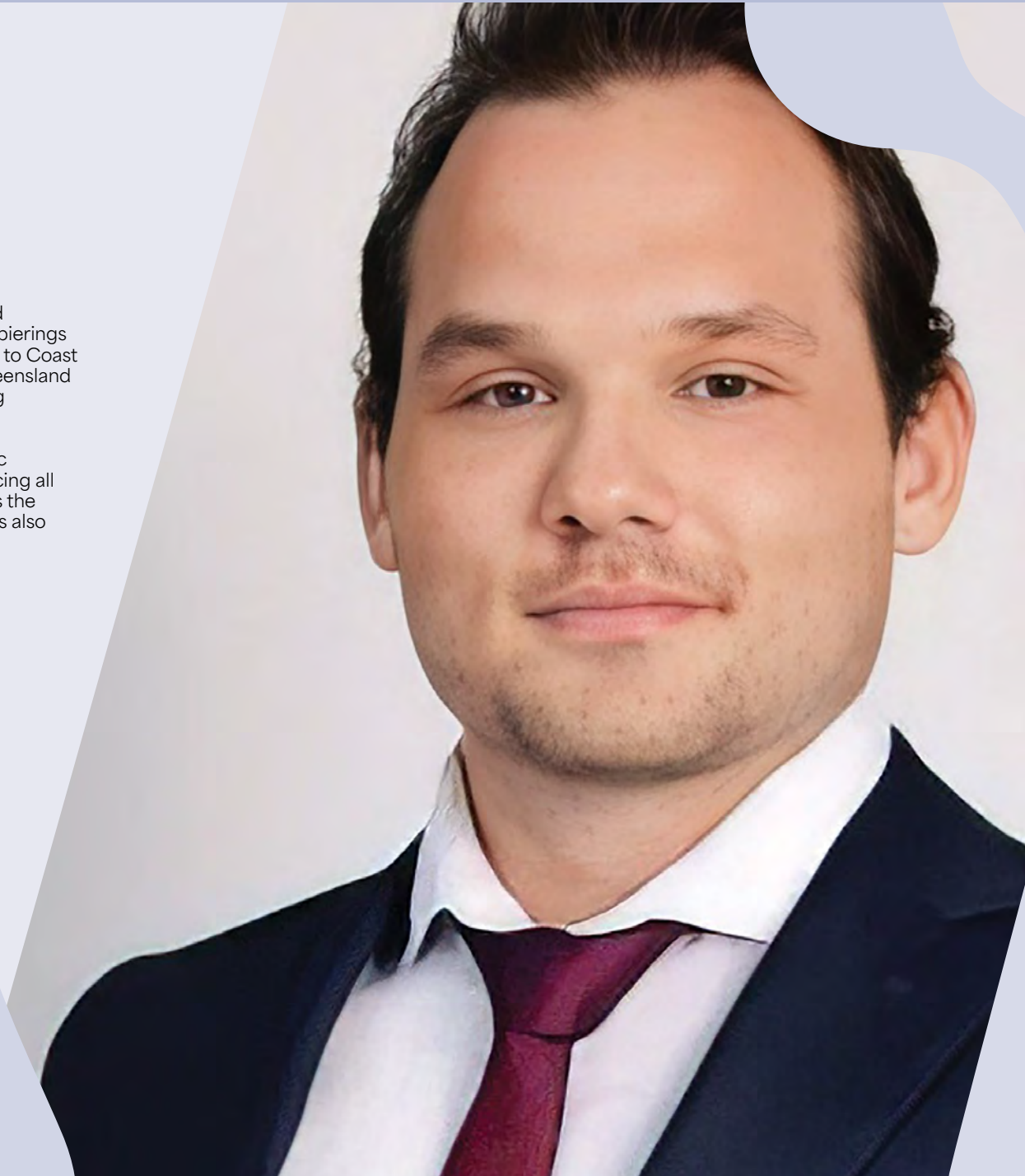
Research Fellow Dr. Janine Gertz had a year of highlights, including being announced as the winner of the prestigious 2023 Stanner Award (i.e., the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander biennial prize for the best academic writing by an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander author).



Team Highlights continued

Dr Shea Spierings

On top of delivering multiple presentations and conducting research throughout the year, Dr Spierings was announced as Chairperson of the Country to Coast Primary Health Network. Country to Coast Queensland is an independent not-for-profit commissioning organisation funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health to improve the health outcomes of the region, comprising of 31 Public Health Networks throughout the country servicing all the regions of Australia. Not only is Dr Spierings the only current First Nations Chairperson, but he is also the youngest in the organisation's history.



Professor Roxanne Bainbridge

In March, the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) released the 15th edition of its “10 of the Best” publication, showcasing the calibre of the nation’s health and medical researchers working to prevent disease, improve detection and treatment methods, increasing understanding of common health conditions and deliver extraordinary outcomes. Among this impressive list was Professor Roxanne Bainbridge’s project titled “Developing an evidence-based intervention and tools to assess and predict risk, protective and promotive factors of psychosocial resilience for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adolescents: A mixed methods program of research”, demonstrating the Centre’s Deputy Director’s excellent research profile and dedication to comprehending and resolving the social determinants of Indigenous inequity.



Prizes and Awards



Natalie Ironfield (Postdoctoral Researcher, The University of Melbourne)

Prize/Award: Winner of the Continuum Post Grad/Early Career Researcher Best Cultural Studies Association Abstract Award, awarded at the Cultural Studies Association Conference.



Professor Maria Raciti (Chief Investigator, The University of the Sunshine Coast)

Prize/Award: Market Research Society (Global) 2024 Best Paper Finalist International Journal of Market Research for the paper "Unmuted: An Indigenist truth-telling provocation."



Dr Krystal Lockwood (Research Fellow, The University of Queensland)

Prize/Award: Award for Excellence and Innovation in Teaching from the Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology (ANZSOC).



Associate Professor Hinekura Smith (Research Fellow, The University of Queensland)

Prize/Award: Marsden Fast Start - Royal Society New Zealand, a 3-year funded grant titled "Cloaked in love: Indigenous women's pedagogy and the culturally generative garments they create."



Professor Asmi Wood (Chief Investigator, Australian National University)

Prize/Award: ANU Vice Chancellor's Teaching Award for Educational Excellence for outstanding contributions to teaching and education



Professor Tracey Bunda (Chief Investigator, The University of Queensland)

Prize/Award: Award for Teaching Excellence, 2024 University of Qld Teaching Excellence Award, with Associate Professor Katelyn Barney



Professor Brendan Hokowhitu (Centre Director, The University of Queensland)

Prize/Award: Somatechnics Best Essay Prizes 2024 - Indigenous Author Category for '[Indigenous Materialisms and Disciplinary Colonialism](#)'



Ms Susan Beetson (Chief Investigator, The University of Queensland)

Prize/Award: Science and Technology Australia, Superstar of STEM

Capacity Building Area of Responsibility

Capacity building is essential for strengthening institutional leadership and advancing research excellence in Indigenous knowledges. This initiative focuses on integrating Indigenous research methodologies into university frameworks, with a key component being the development of an Indigenous research methodologies masterclass and post-graduate programs within the Centre.

Capacity Building Area of Responsibility

A key part of the Centre's mission is developing the next generation of Indigenous research leaders. The number of Indigenous academic positions in the Australian academy remains extraordinarily low at 1.1% in 2021 (Dept. of Education, Skills and Employment). Concentrated cohorts of Indigenous academics are almost non-existent; where they do exist, they are employed in more junior ranks compared to non-Indigenous academics (Indigenous Strategy 2022-25, Universities Australia). The impact of low numbers results in diluted and disparate Indigenous research capability (Kidman, Chu, Fernandez, Abella, 2015). The ARC-IFC will provide the foundation, with longer-term commitment of investment for capacity building at scale, with the mechanism to collectively engage internationally and learn from global trends.

Capacity building is essential for strengthening institutional leadership and advancing research excellence in Indigenous knowledges. Our Capacity Building initiatives foster self-determination, survivance, and relationality, equipping emerging researchers with the skills and support needed to excel in academia and beyond. Through mentorship, training, and transdisciplinary collaboration, we empower scholars to navigate complex research challenges while remaining accountable to Indigenous communities.

The Indigenous Futures Centre Capacity Building Area of Responsibility (IFC-CBAR) has three fundamental principles that align with IFC's overall values.

Relationality

Indigenous social research is relational, involving investigating the inter connectedness of what people are doing and experiencing as the outcome of actions in the actualities of their lives and lands (Moreton-Robinson 2017). As an integral element of the IFC-CBAR, relationality provides a network where Indigenous ideas can flourish, whilst providing the conditions of possibility for coming to know and producing knowledge through ECR research with communities. Moreover, it reinforces the centrality of community to the centre's success where, for instance, there is a focus on building the capacity of community researchers.

Survivance and Thrivance

Indigenous survivance is understood as ‘an active sense of presence, the continuance of [our] stories [as]... renunciations of dominance, tragedy and victimry’ (Vizenor 1999, p. vii). Survivance is a foundational principle of the IFC-CBAR that recognises the enduring presence and resilience of Indigenous communities. It acknowledges the underrepresentation of Indigenous scholars within the Western academy, the persistent burden of historical and ongoing institutional racism experienced by Indigenous students and staff, and the critical need for Indigenous early career researchers to develop survivance skills that enable them to not only persist but thrive within the academy and beyond.

Self-determination

The principle of self-determination underpins the IFC-CBAR because it centralises the sovereignty of both IFC and the ECRs themselves, to be responsible and accountable for their research and scholarship. As Indigenous researchers, we have a cultural obligation to our respective communities as to how we conduct research. Our institutional obligations include being compliant with the ARC endorsed AIATSIS Code of Ethics. Indigenous self-determination, Indigenous leadership, impact and value, sustainability and accountability, are all values embedded in the IFC-CBAR.

Indigenous Futures Preparation (IFPrep)

The flagship Indigenous Futures Preparation Program (IFPrep) focuses on training future research leaders to think about complex problems in a relational way, be confident in their specialisms, and to facilitate and co-lead research partnerships. Masterclasses and workshops primarily teach practical survivance skills and responsibility. The Indigenous Futures Preparation Program (IFPrep) program offered by the Centre is designed to support Higher Degree Researchers (HDR) and Early Career Researchers (ECR) to come together and form a highly skilled research community to develop foundational and higher-level skills, as well as to connect Indigenous researchers across all our nodes.

The Centre’s young Indigenous researchers learn how to survive in the research environment, be accountable to Indigenous communities and hold responsibility for finding solutions to Indigenous inequity related to Closing the Gap in Australia. IFPrep provides structured support for Centre ECRs, including a competitive research grant scheme. IFPrep cultivates confident, well-rounded researchers who can co-produce impactful, world-class research and lead meaningful collaborations across disciplines, institutions, and Indigenous communities.



Image: Professor James Ward presenting on the Health & Wellbeing theme project plans

Building Indigenous Scholars of the Future

Critical to the Centre's legacy is building a nurturing and fertile environment where Indigenous HDR students can be the generation of Indigenous researchers who can follow in the footsteps of Indigenous scholarly pioneers of the past and Indigenous researchers of the present.

The Centre offers attractive PhD and MPhil scholarships designed to support excellent Indigenous researchers at the inception of their scholarly careers. As an IFC HDR Scholarship recipient, HDR students also gain access to the IFPrep program described above so as to best position them for successful academic careers through support, training, mentoring and career opportunities.

In 2024, we advertised for PhD students to join the Centre and received a hugely positive response with thousands of hits on the online advertisement. After a rigorous process of applications, we have at least five post-graduate students commencing in 2025.



Sarah Isaacs (MPhil at The University of Queensland):

The impact of Cultural diversionary activities to reducing youth crime in Indigenous remote communities



Rhiannon Moreton (MPhil at The University of Queensland):

The impact of Inter-Generational Trauma on First Nations students and their education



Alice Melmeth (PhD at The University of Queensland):

Exploring how to strengthen a nation and build community agency post-mining transition in order to promote positive social and emotional wellbeing outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities over the life course.



Aidan Kampers (MPhil at The University of Western Australia):

Indigenous Worldviews in Shaping Primordial Suicide Prevention.



Kaitlin Dunn (PhD at The University of Western Australia):

Exploring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander University Health Students' Experiences of Social and Emotional Wellbeing.



Image: Dr Shea Spierings presenting at the inaugural symposium

Community Engagement Area of Responsibility

Community Engagement is a foundational cornerstone of the Centre and drives how research is to be undertaken. As a Centre that strives to deliver transformational Indigenous and community led research, it is essential that appropriate community engagement be at the core of projects, people and progress.

Practically, community engagement within the Centre is outworked through both formal governance and informal connection avenues.

The Community Engagement Area of Responsibility is underpinned by 'the three C's' including:

1. Consultation and refers to Indigenous community defined and led research where research is conducted that is consequential and important from their perspective;
2. Collaboration refers to on-going engagement so that Indigenous communities remain as decision makers throughout the entire research process; and
3. Communication refers to transfer of knowledge that is meaningful to Indigenous communities.

The CIs and Professional Staff assigned to the Community Engagement Area of Responsibility will guide the Indigenous Futures Centre researcher community engagement and how it is undertaken.



Image: Indigenous Futures Centre staff attending a UQ Anthropology Museum tour led by Michael Aird

Community Highlights

NAIDOC 2024 Musgrave Park Family Fun Day Meanjin

On Friday 12th of July, the Indigenous Futures QLD Node team hosted a stall at the NAIDOC Musgrave Park Family Fun Day celebrations in Meanjin. This event allowed the team to connect and celebrate with the Southeast Indigenous Queensland community and share the vision of the Indigenous Futures Centre.

We engaged with hundreds of community members, giving out over hundreds of notebooks, pens, and flyers, and gathering over 30 sign-ups to our mailing list.



Image: Dr Daniel McKinnon and Arielle Henaway at IFC Booth at NAIDOC Family Day in Meanjin

Building an Indigenous Knowledges Framework (IKF)

In 2024, Indigenous Futures Centre WA/NT Node Leader Professor Pat Dudgeon attended workshops to explore the foundations of an Indigenous Knowledges Framework (IKF) in collaboration with the Our Collaboration with the Health Research Network (OCHRe), the national network for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health researchers, and the Lowitja Institute's OCHRe's Our Wisdom Leading (OWL) hub. IKF is dedicated to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers who are committed to sharing their wisdom and experiences to build and elevate the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research workforce. A discussion paper followed.

In partnership with senior Indigenous researchers and for the OWL network, the next phase commences a research project to further shape and co-develop the IKF. This will involve a series of roundtables with experienced Indigenous researchers to guide this journey.



Image: Professor Pat Dudgeon and Dr Rama Agung-Igusti at the OCHRe Convocation.

MMIEC Research Partnership Collaboration

The Indigenous Futures Centre is excited to continue to build a collaborative partnership with the Minjerribah Moorgumpin Aboriginal Elders in Council (MMEIC) and the Social Justice Reinvestment team on Minjerribah (Stradbroke Island).

The collaboration is led by MMEIC's "Justice our way through research" protocols which sets out the community's research priorities, research engagement protocols and projects that the MMEIC Justice Reinvestment team have identified as enhancing the Justice Reinvestment work across the Quandamooka region.

The MMEIC research priorities represent key areas identified as critical for further investigation. In alignment with excellent community-driven research the Indigenous Futures Centre will work along side the MMEIC to help deliver, these priorities, which reflect the most significant and essential topics requiring focused research to address the needs of the Goenpul, Ngugi and Noonuccal people.



Image: MMEIC team and Indigenous Futures Centre team on Minjerribah discussing the MMIEC Justice Reinvestment Program and Collaborative Research Partnerships

Knowledge Transfer Area of Responsibility

The impact of the Centre and its research must be translatable into policy and practice that leads to positive transformation in the lives of Indigenous Australians. The Centre's Knowledge Transfer Area of Responsibility plays a key role in effectively communicating knowledge to communities and influencing key stakeholders through social media, presentations, public speaking engagements and more.

Along with the communications that have transpired this year, in 2025, the Centre will begin a program to create an 'Indigenous Australia' MOOC (Massive Online Open Course) concentrating on social justice, intergenerational inequities and Indigenous survivance.

Additionally in 2025, the Centre will begin its National Indigenous Knowledge Infrastructure (NIKI) project.

Given that the Centre assembles a unique, critical mass of Indigenous researchers that forms a world-class international community of researchers, a fundamental goal is to simultaneously become Australia's Indigenous research infrastructural nexus, acting as a creative conduit between national leading Indigenous community researchers, prominent international Indigenous researchers, emerging researchers, Indigenous communities and the multiple sectors that engage with Indigenous communities.

Knowledge Transfer Highlights

NAISA Conference

Professor Brendan Hokowhitu, Distinguished Emeritus Professor Aileen Moreton-Robinson & Gregory Egert (Uncle Cheg) headed to Bodø Norway to attend and present on the dialects of critical Indigenous Studies at the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) Conference, alongside Professor Tracey Bunda, A/Professor Crystal McKinnon and Professor Bronwyn Fredericks. Attendance and presentation at the NAISA conference allowed IFC researchers to share knowledge, form academic collaborations and connect with other Indigenous scholars internationally.



Image: (L-R) Professor Kēhaulani Kauanui (Princeton University), Professor Jean O'Brien (University of Minnesota) and Professor Brendan Hokowhitu

ARC Centres of Excellence Directors Forum & Professional Staff Day 2024

The ARC Centre of Excellence Day, held at Queensland University of Technology in Meanjin, saw leaders and professional teams from CoEs around Australia come together to discuss operations, research and public communications. Centre COO, Shane Boseley, Dr. Krystal Lockwood, Gregory 'Uncle Cheg' Egert and CD Professor Brendan Hokowhitu, joined a 'fireside chat' panel alongside Professor Sean Ulm on engagement with Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples in Research. This forum enabled the Indigenous Futures Centre to connect with other ARC COEs, while providing expert guidance on engagement with Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Image: Dr Krystal Lockwood, Gregory "Uncle Cheg" Egert and Shane Boseley during the Professional Staff Days fireside chat.

International Indigenous Research Conference (IIRC)

In late 2024, a contingent of researchers from IFC travelled to Aotearoa (New Zealand) for the International Indigenous Research Conference (IIRC), hosted by the Centre's sibling organisation and partner the Māori Centre of Research Excellence, Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga at the University of Auckland. Centre Director Professor Brendan Hokowhitu said there were amazing presentations from researchers all over the world, as well as from our team.

"The conference themes were 'Whitiki Taua' - Research Solidarities - which speak to community collective strength and collaborative research endeavours; together, they symbolise solidarity, sharing and empowerment," he said. "These themes are not only highly relevant to our Centre, but also to current events in Aotearoa, with Te Hikoio mō te Tiriti (March for the Treaty), a protest against the Treaty Principles Bill in New Zealand, that we proudly attended, along with more than 40,000 others." On returning to Australia, the IFC team said the week was a reminder of how powerful collective community strength is and the importance of research solidarity, and relational approaches. These concepts remain the cornerstones of our Centre as we near the first year of our existence. The team also visited the Unitec & Ngā Wai a Te Tūi Māori & Indigenous Research Centre, to form new connections and share learnings and discussions.

IFC presentations at the 2024 International Indigenous Research Conference included:

- Dr Daniel McKinnon presented on "good policy" in charter school education based in Aotearoa
- Dr Krystal Lockwood focused on closing the knowledge gaps in criminology
- Dr Janine Gertz spoke to Gugu Badhun Self Determination and Self-Government
- Professor Maria Raciti highlighted Australia's Indigenous Business Landscape and the drivers of success
- Associate Professor Hinekura Smith presented an Arts-based pedagogy and Māori aspirations for thriving reo and tikanga
- Professor Bronwyn Fredericks and her team presented on Indigenous health evaluations
- Professor Jarrod Haar and team spoke to whānau-centered livelihoods



Image: Dr Krystal Lockwood presenting at IIRC on justice evaluations



Image: Outside the whare whakairo (carved meeting house) 'Ngākau Māhaki' at UNITEC, furthering partnerships Ngā Wai a Te Tūi Māori & Indigenous Reearch Centre

Communications and Social Media Area of Responsibility

Communicating results, successes, and our work in general is a key focus for the Centre and a responsibility as a public research organisation. It will be imperative that the Centre maintains a strong social media presence. As our social and news media presence grows, it is envisaged that the Centre will be intensively active including providing free access to publications, position papers, think pieces, conferences, and public presentations and to provide media organisations with advice on areas of expertise.

The Centre's developing social media presence includes the provision of updates, posting of relevant events and blogs all designed to reach and build positive relations with Indigenous communities with. The Centre also releases a monthly newsletter to internal staff and partners, and a quarterly update to an external audience who subscribes to the mailing list.

Website

A website is an online first impression for any brand or organisation. Our website launched in June 2024, was designed to reflect our vision and connection to community, in a simple and easy to navigate platform. Based on our brand guidelines, the website with built with help from local Meanjin (Brisbane) company MarkeTeam and highlights our partners, team, and research themes. There has also been a very popular 'opportunities' page for those wanting to get involved with the Centre.

18,000 pages views since going live in June 2024.

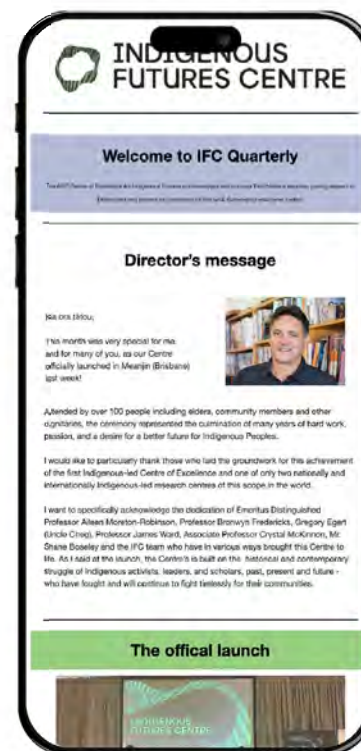
Most popular pages included;

- People page, which has our team and their bios
- Scholarships page, which was the advert and application page for our scholarships
- News and Events page, which keep the public informed about what's happening at the Centre

Newsletter

We have a growing mailing list of more than 200 people, interested in hearing about the Centre, who receive a quarterly update from the Centre. We also have a monthly internal newsletter for staff and community partners, to keep them up to date with news, as well as share useful links and grant and conference opportunities.

Both our newsletters have an average open rate of above 65 per cent, which is significantly better than the industry average of 30 per cent.



Social Media

We created social media accounts for the Centre in May, 2024 and in the months since we have grown a strong following across platforms.


- **LinkedIn** is our bulk of social media followers, with high levels of use by key researchers at IFC and our community partners.
- **Facebook** is a community-focused platform and we expect this platform to grow as we engage in more community projects around Australia
- On **X (Twitter)** some of our team are active, but with many respectable organisations and researchers leaving the platform in the past year, we will examine the purpose of this platform in 2025.
- **Instagram** is the newest platform for us. Similar to Facebook, we expect this community-facing platform to grow as community projects take off, along with projects with our community partners who are active on the platform.

LINKEDIN 

1254 followers
2000 Profile visits

FACEBOOK 

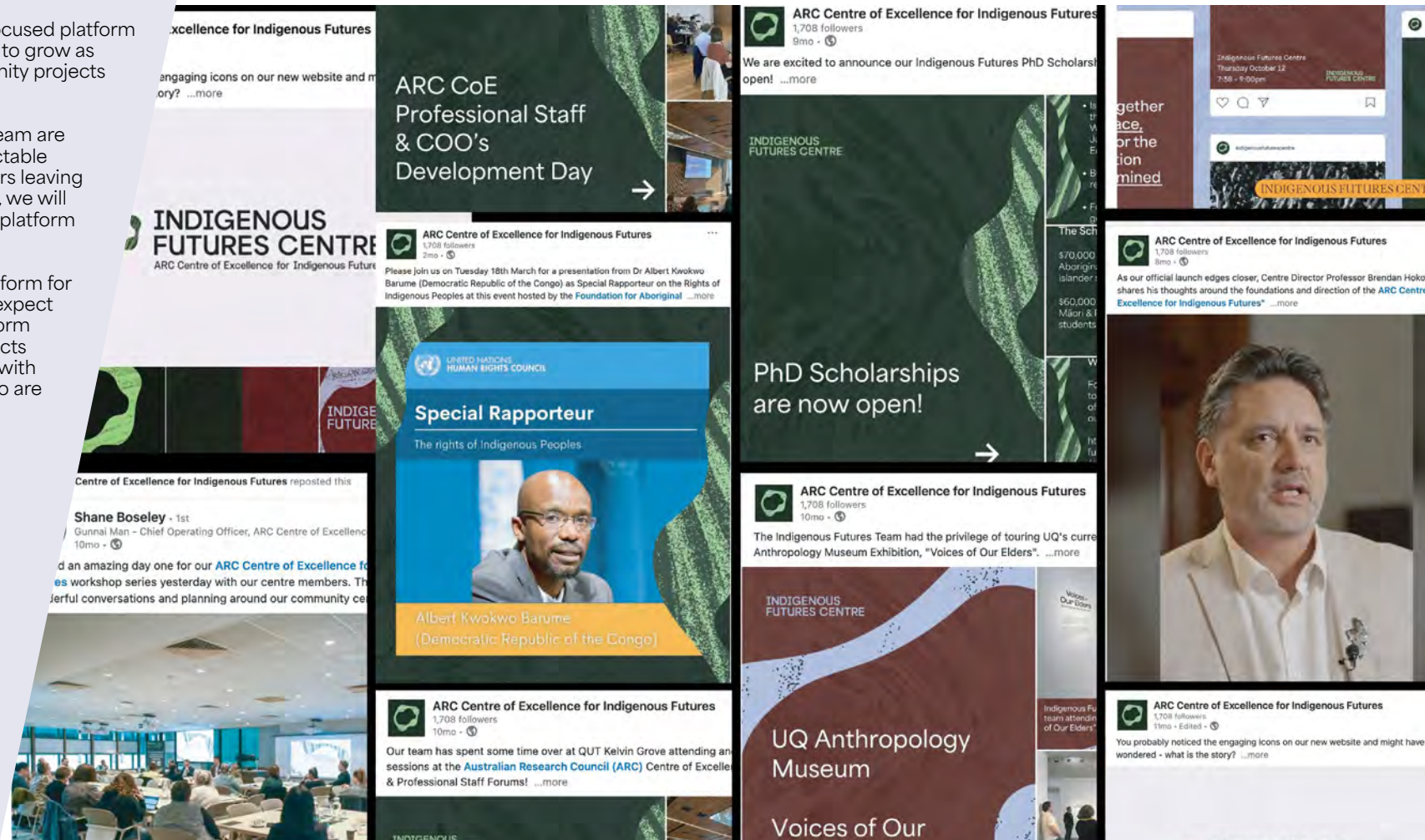
129 followers

X 

131 followers

INSTAGRAM 

53 followers



Media

The IFC has been featured in a number of different media outlets and our experts have also been interviewed, or written about, a variety of topics, including: Coverage of the Centre launch on SBS/NITV, National Indigenous Times, and UQ News.

- Researchers published an article on **The Conversation**, by Dr Marnee Shay and Amy Thompson, in response to Jamie Oliver's children's book.
- **National Indigenous Times** - Racism, colonialism 'driving Indigenous self-harm crisis' - **Patricia Dudgeon** (The University of Western Australia)
- **Dr Janine Gertz** has been on numerous podcasts and radio interviews in recent months
- **UWA News** - Prominent Indigenous Psychologist recognised with award - Patricia Dudgeon (The University of Western Australia)
- **Australian Academy of Health & Medical Sciences** - **Professor Pat Dudgeon** elected to second academy - Patricia Dudgeon (The University of Western Australia)
- **National Indigenous Times** - New data shows alarming rise in suicide rate for Indigenous Australians - Patricia Dudgeon (The University of Western Australia)
- **National Indigenous Times** - Indigenous delegates to bring back vital knowledge from international psychology event- **Patricia Dudgeon** (The University of Western Australia)
- National Indigenous Times - Call for national system to ensure coroner findings lead to change - Patricia Dudgeon (The University of Western Australia)
- **National Indigenous Times** - First Nations psychologists from around the world meet in Perth - **Patricia Dudgeon** (The University of Western Australia)
- **Mindframe** - New data highlights the need for culturally safe suicide prevention - **Patricia Dudgeon** (The University of Western Australia)
- **Life in Mind** - Impacts of flooding on social and emotional well-being of Indigenous Australians - **Patricia Dudgeon** (The University of Western Australia)
- **National Indigenous Times** - Indigenous Psychology Education Project launches - **Patricia Dudgeon** (The University of Western Australia)
- **UWA Media Advisor** - New resources to improve cultural safety in psychology training - **Patricia Dudgeon** (The University of Western Australia)
- **APAC** - Project offers Indigenous-led resources for psychology training - Patricia Dudgeon (The University of Western Australia)
- **NACCHO Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health News** - Indigenous Psychology Education Project launch - Patricia Dudgeon (The University of Western Australia)
- **IAHA News** - Indigenous Psychology Education Project launch - Patricia Dudgeon (The University of Western Australia)
- **AAPI** - Listening More: Embedding Cultural Safety in Psychology - Patricia Dudgeon (The University of Western Australia)
- **Croakey Health Media** - Now, more than ever, governments must support Indigenous-led research - Bronwyn Fredericks (The University of Queensland)
- **The Australian** - Let's Create a Pipeline of Indigenous Researchers - Bronwyn Fredericks (The University of Queensland)



Academic rigour, journalistic flair

Arts + Culture Books + Ideas Business + Economy Education Environment + Energy Health Politics + Society Science + Tech



Jamie Oliver's novel really missed the mark.



LATEST NEWS BUSINESS LIFESTYLE SPORT CULTURE OPINION PRINT EDITION

Racism, colonialism 'driving Indigenous self-harm'

Aaron Burch - November 8, 2024

LOW RESOLUTION



Publications

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Image: Sharon Williams (Sharing Stories Foundation), Shane Boseley, Aunty Denise Proud & A/Professor Marnee Shay attending the Indigenous Futures Centre Launch

Centre Key Performance Indicators

Performance Measure	Output	2024	Actuals
Number of research outputs	Research Books/Monographs/Edited Collections	1	1
	Journal articles	27	55
	Book Chapters	27	6
	Conference publications	6	3
	Plenary/keynotes at major government and academic conferences	4	12
Other (please specify)	Position papers, project reports and submissions to enquiries	3	9
	Participation in national events, workshops, seminars, symposia and conferences	15	236
Quality of research outputs	Citations	10	92
	Publications in Q1 Journal Quartile by CiteScore (%)	20	29
	Non-academic citations (policy documents, media)	5	0
Number of workshops/conferences held/offered by the Centre	Annual Summit	1	1
	Linkage Retreat	1	1
	Bi-annual International Conference	0	0
	Community/Partner Organisation/Researcher Professional Development Workshop	2	2
	Community/Partner Organisation/Researcher 1-day Symposium	1	1
Number of training courses held/offered by the Centre	Postgraduate Masterclass and Workshop	1	5
	Postgraduate Writing Retreat	1	0
Number of additional researchers working on Centre research	Postdoctoral researchers	10	10
	Honours students	1	0
	PhD Students	18	0
Number of additional researchers working on Centre research	Masters students	1	0
	Associate Investigators	1	12

Performance Measure	Output	2024	Actuals
Number of postgraduate completions	HDR and honours completions	10	0
Number of mentoring programs offered by the Centre	Research Assistants (recruited, mentored)	9	2
	Capability building programs	1	5
Number of presentations/briefings	Plenary and keynote addresses at major government and academic conferences	4	12
	Policy papers and reports developed for government, partner organisations and the public	10	9
Number of new organisations collaborating with, or involved in, the Centre	New Collaborations	1	6
Number of female research personnel	Female	30	30
CENTRE SPECIFIC KPI'S			
Community Outreach & Communications - End User links	Visits to/with Indigenous communities, schools and sector partners	20	61
	Opinion pieces, stories, media releases, advertorials in Indigenous media, sector bulletins and websites	40	34
	Social Media engagements - Twitter, Instagram, TikTok	600	630
	Centre Website hits (increasing 15% per annum)	500	18000
International and national links and networks	New international linkages and partners	2	2
	International visitors and visiting research fellows	5	15
	Co-publications with international co-authors and PIs	5	6
	Memberships in international and national professional communities	10	110
	New Research projects co-designed with partner organisations and communities	9	17
Number of Indigenous research personnel	Staff Numbers	50	43

Income and Expenditure Report

Income	TOTAL
Australian Research Council Grant	5,578,652
University Cash Contributions	
University of Queensland	719,744
Australian National University	33,015
University of Technology Sydney	184,758
University of Melbourne	138,773
University of Western Australia	70,080
University of Sunshine Coast	34,934
University Cash Contributions	1,181,304
Total	6,759,956

Expenditure	TOTAL
Personnel	1,603,022
Equipment	-
Maintenance	20,215
Travel	169,499
Field Research	42,353
Other	204,875
Total	2,039,964

2025 Activity Plan

Research	Governance	Community Engagement	Linkage Events	Capacity Building	Knowledge Transfer	Communications and Social Media
<p>In 2025 we will continue implementing our transformative research program by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding bimonthly theme meetings to discuss progress, manage risk and communicate outcomes. • Launching 17 new research projects led by Community & our ECR cohort • Actively creating new Partnership opportunities with Community 	<p>In 2025 we will continue to embed our good governance structure across the Centre's operations, gathering for the following board and committee meetings;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly Community & Partner Advisory Board • Biannual Advisory Board • Quarterly Executive Committee • Quarterly Research Committee • Quarterly Area of Responsibility Working Groups 	<p>In 2025 we will continue to lead our Community first approach by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with our Community & Partner Advisory Board Quarterly • Meeting on a regular basis with our Community Partners to listen to Community needs and priorities. • Implementing the Indigenous Futures Internship program with our Community Partners. • Actively engaging in Community Events across our Nodes • Hosting Community Engagement Events across each Node 	<p>In 2025 the Centre will hold 2 Centre wide linkage events including our;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd IFC Annual Symposia • Inaugural IFC International Conference 	<p>In 2025 we will deliver our annual Indigenous Futures Capacity Building Program for our ECR/HDR Cohort which will include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2x Writing Retreats • 7x Masterclass Workshops • Monthly IFC Seminar Series delivered by our ECR Cohort • Monthly IFC Yarns 	<p>In 2025 the IFC will continue communicating knowledge to communities and influencing key stakeholders through;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National and International Conference Presentations • Public speaking engagements • The development of an 'Indigenous Australia' MOOC (Massive Online Open Course) • The development of the Centre's National Indigenous Knowledge Infrastructure (NIKI) project 	<p>In 2025 the IFC will continue to drive our communication strategy to deliver useful return of research for Community, Partners and Government across the following channels;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IFC Website • IFC Social Media Channels - Facebook, Instagram & Twitter • Monthly Internal IFC Newsletter • Quarterly External IFC Newsletter • Member Updates & Highlights (Community, Partners & Team) • Monthly New Publication Announcements • Quarterly Research Theme Updates • Ongoing News and Events Updates (linkage events, seminar series, partner events)









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