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caik.uts.edu.au

Acknowledgement of investors:

UTS acknowledges the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation and the Boorooberongal People of the Dharug Nation upon whose ancestral lands our campuses stand. We would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present, acknowledging them as the traditional custodians of knowledge for these lands.
Message from the Director

It is an absolute pleasure to provide you with the second Annual Report for the Centre for the Advancement of Indigenous Knowledges (CAIK). Since the establishment of CAIK in early 2015, the team have had many opportunities to meet a range of interesting and passionate people at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS). The CAIK team have particularly enjoyed the generous welcome we have received from the wider UTS Community. UTS is an impressive university with a vibrant culture that makes our institution quite unique. Importantly, the enthusiasm and energy that underpins Indigenous Education across all facets of the university is inspiring and encouraging. It sends a message to our students, fellow staff and wider community that UTS values Indigenous Knowledges and believes that they have a rightful place in our academy. Such ethos makes UTS a most ideal place to house a Centre such as CAIK.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Senior Executive for their ongoing support for CAIK, notably the Vice-Chancellor Professor Attila Brungs and Provost Professor Peter Booth. I would also like to particularly thank the CAIK Management Committee for providing me with ongoing advice, wisdom and support – Professor Mary Spongberg, Professor Michael McDaniel, Professor Larissa Behrendt, Professor Alan McKee, Professor Susan Page, Associate Professor Jo McKenzie and Associate Professor Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews.

Huge thanks goes to my amazing team for their remarkable contributions throughout the year. Professor Susan Page, Associate Professor Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews, Gavin Stanbrook and Alison Whittaker – each of you are an absolute pleasure to work with. Thank you for all you have given to make 2016 such an incredibly successful year for CAIK. Thanks also to our inspiring cohort of HDR students who are very much the future of CAIK.

Finally, a massive thank you goes to the families of the CAIK Team for being so supportive of our work. We appreciate your patience and encouragement as we tread new territories and collectively work together to make positive change for our students and communities.

Kind regards,

Professor Michelle Trudgett
“CAIK has made an enormous contribution to indigenous education at UTS. Not only have Michelle and her team worked tirelessly to promote cultural competency across the university, they have also developed strategies to increase the number of Indigenous Higher Degree Research students at UTS and ensure that they are on the pathway to academic success.”

Professor Mary Spongberg, Dean Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Professor Michelle Trudgett is an Indigenous scholar from the Wiradjuri Nation in New South Wales. Michelle holds the positions Professor of Indigenous Education and Director of the Centre for the Advancement of Indigenous Knowledges at the University of Technology Sydney. Prior to this she was employed as the Head of the Department of Indigenous Studies at Macquarie University. Michelle has developed an international reputation as a leading Indigenous Australian scholar whose research provides considerable insight into the area of Indigenous participation in higher education, with a specific focus on the postgraduate sector. Michelle is passionate about developing strategies to ensure Indigenous higher education students receive culturally appropriate support throughout their academic journeys.

Professor Susan Page is an Aboriginal academic whose research focuses on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ experience of learning and academic work in higher education and student learning in Indigenous Studies. Early in her academic career, Susan was awarded a university Excellence in Teaching Award (University of Sydney). Susan’s current Australian Research Council funded research (with Professor Michelle Trudgett and Dr Neil Harrison) seeks to create a model of best practice for the supervision of Indigenous doctoral students. Other recent research includes, examining Indigenous student engagement in Australasian Universities, a project to explore student learning in undergraduate Indigenous Studies, investigating Education curricula inclusive of Darug knowledge traditions and examining the roles of Indigenous academics in Australian Universities. Susan is a Director of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Consortium (Aboriginal Corporation).
Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews, of the D’harawal nation, is a researcher and lecturer whose outputs are increasingly encapsulating and promoting Aboriginal Australian standpoints and perspectives across a diversity of disciplines (most notably education and psychology). He has managed and led numerous research grants investigating a diversity of topics including, mental health, mentoring, identity, Traditional Knowledges, education, racism, and bullying. His projects have led to the development of a strong foundation in developing robust and diverse research designs, with an increasing dedication to Indigenous Research Methodologies. From this framework, he is continually developing his experience in applying quantitative and qualitative methods within his scholarly work. His research has also attracted a number of national and international awards (including the AARE Betty-Watts Indigenous Researcher award), and he has produced the Healing the Wounds of the Heart documentary focusing on developing resiliency against racism for Aboriginal youth.

Gavin is a descendant of the Gumbaynggirr Nation in the Mid North Coast of New South Wales and the Yuin Nation from Wallaga Lake on the South East Coast of New South Wales. He is passionate about the discipline of Indigenous Studies and aims to position himself in the Higher Education sector to make a positive contribution to the discipline. Gavin’s professional background stems from a substantial working period with the Queensland State Justice Department, the Department of Immigration and Border Protection, the Queensland University of Technology and most recently Macquarie University. Gavin is employed as the Centre Administrator in the Centre for the Advancement of Indigenous Knowledges. He provides excellent administrative support to the academic team, organises events and is a friendly face that greets CAIK’s visitors.

Alison Whittaker is a Gomeroi scholar and author from Gunnedah, New South Wales. Her work focusses on Indigenous peoples and the law, Indigenous epistemologies and, gender and sexuality under colonialism. Alison works to assist Associate Professor Bodkin-Andrews, and Professors Page and Trudgett with the research functions of CAIK and with their established work on Indigenous epistemologies, pedagogies and research methodology. Prior to this, Alison was the Communications Officer of the Gendered Violence Research Network and the Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse, a legal intern at the Australian Law Reform Commission on its Native Title Inquiry, a women’s and Indigenous student advocate, and a volunteer paralegal for the Aboriginal Legal Service.
CAIK HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH STUDENTS

“...my principal supervisor Professor Michelle Trudgett has given me excellent academic mentoring and guidance and my co-supervisor Professor Susan Page has also given me much support when needed. I have also called upon Associate Professor Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews to support me with quantitative research questions during my study and he is always willing to give informative direction and advice. Finally, business administration officer, Gavin Stanbrook has demonstrated a patience and willingness to assist in any situation. The collegial support offered by other students within the CAIK unit, has made the experience, truly enlightening and enjoyable so far!”

Grace O’Brien, PhD Candidate

“...I am very proud to be a student within the Centre for the Advancement of Indigenous Knowledges. The centre provides a culturally safe space, with supportive staff and numerous educational resources. CAIK has also hosted seminars and workshops to assist students in developing our research skills and network with others in the university.”

Lisa Oliver, Masters student

Grace O’Brien
M IndigenousEd (Macq),BA Drama (QUT), BEd (QUT), AssocDipArts (QUT)

Project title: Educational Experiences of Young Indigenous Males and their Over-representation in the Queensland Juvenile Justice System.

Grace O’Brien was born in Scotland, from Irish/Scots heritage. She has worked in partnership with Indigenous communities for the past 30 years. Formally the Manager of Indigenous Education for the North Coast Region of Queensland, Grace completed her Master of Indigenous Education through Macquarie University and received the Vice Chancellor’s commendation for Academic Excellence.

Now a PhD student at the University of Technology in Sydney, Grace is researching education and juvenile justice reforms for Indigenous youth. Her aim is to highlight issues surrounding the disparities which exist within systems of education and in many other policy areas for Indigenous peoples.

Lisa Oliver
BRM (CDU)


Lisa Oliver is a proud member of the Gamilaraay nation north-western New South Wales. She has a degree in Natural and Cultural Resource Management with Charles Darwin University, and has worked and travelled across remote Northern Australia with Indigenous communities. She is currently undertaking a Master of Education (Research) her project title is: Exploring the Role Aboriginal Women’s Groups Play in Building Social Capital Amongst Australian Aboriginal Women.
Project Title: School’s Out for Some: an analysis of the barriers of NAPLAN experienced by some Indigenous Australian learners.

Lynn Griffin is an Indigenous PhD candidate from the Barunggam Nation. Her research interests are Indigenous education and continuing disparity and discrimination for Indigenous Australians in education. She is a committed advocate for social justice and human rights. Whilst studying in the Master of Indigenous Education, Lynn became aware of the inequity that exists in educational outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous learners in Australia. She believes this discrepancy needs to be examined, analysed and action appropriated. For these reasons her research is centred on this important area of social injustice. Lynn believes Education is a basic human right and it provides the key to open the door of opportunity.


Treena Clark is a Kokatha and Wirangu woman born and raised in Adelaide. She graduated from both the Bachelor of Public Relations (2009) and Bachelor of Arts (Honours) (2012) degrees at the University of South Australia. Treena currently lives in Sydney and is undertaking a PhD study to critically analyse the field of Indigenous public relations in theory and practice. Guided by the research question, ‘what is published in the Indigenous and non-Indigenous literature on Indigenous public relations, and how is Indigenous public relations defined and practised in practice?’ Treena hopes the research will substantially contribute to the emerging Indigenous research and theory within the field of public relations and Indigenous communities and organisations.

“Any concerns I may have had about commencing my HDR this year soon disappeared with the support and encouragement of the team at Centre for the Advancement of Indigenous Knowledges (CAIK). Expert supervision and guidance along with positive reassurance has made all the difference for me succeeding in my first year. CAIK is a safe, respectful, welcoming place. Thanks to the dedicated team who make this happen.”

Lynn Griffin, PhD Candidate

“I believe CAIK is the perfect place to align with for my cross-disciplinary topic on Indigenous public relations. I am grateful to my supervisor Associate Professor Bodkin-Andrews and the staff at CAIK for welcoming me, and excited to work towards showcasing and embedding Indigenous knowledges into the profession of public relations”

Treena Clark, PhD Candidate
The Centre for the Advancement of Indigenous Knowledges (CAIK) was established in February 2015. It began with the appointment of Professor Michelle Trudgett as the Inaugural Director of CAIK and the subsequent appointments of two leading Indigenous Australian academics – Professor Susan Page and Associate Professor Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews. A few months later they were joined by Gavin Stanbrook, CAIK’s Administrator. Alison Whittaker also joined the team in 2015 as a part-time research assistant and academic tutor.

CAIK is an Indigenous academic Centre of expertise, with a core business focus on the implementation of Indigenous Graduate Attributes (IGAs). The Centre is co-sponsored by INSEARCH and UTS.

“In 2016 CAIK continues to realize its’ vision to be a centre for postgraduate excellence. Winning the best scholarly paper ‘Using the Threshold Concepts Framework to explore student learning in Indigenous Studies, by Professor Susan Page, Professor Michelle Trudgett and A/Prof Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews, at the 39th Annual Conference of the Higher Education Research & Development Society of Australasia (HERDSA) is a further example of their contribution to the Academy.”

Professor Peter Buckskin
Chair NATSIHEC (AC)
Malpas Director’s Don Palmer (CEO) and Luke Carroll

UTS lays a foundation for better understanding of Indigenous Australia

In summary:
- The Australian Indigenous Psychology Education Project meeting
- Prof Michelle Trudgett and A/Prof Jennifer Carter, Prof Michelle Trudgett, Prof Susan Page & Katrina Thorpe
- Lorraine Towers, Prof David Hollinsworth, A/Prof Jennifer Carter, Prof Michelle Trudgett, Prof Susan Page & Katrina Thorpe
- Workshop allows prospective Indigenous researchers to bring their passion to the fore
- Program aims to open the door wider to Indigenous postgraduate study
- Malcolm McDonald
- Focus on Education 2016
- A spiky and acidic new voice in Indigenous writing
- The Australian Indigenous Psychology Education Project meeting
- Prof Michelle Trudgett and Prof Susan Page presenting at HERDSA 2016

Program aims to open the door wider to Indigenous postgraduate study

In summary:
- UTS has developed a pilot 5-day short course and support Indigenous students who are looking to study a full-time degree.
- The Indigenous Higher Degree Research Information Program will start and call for applications at UTS on 13 and 14 September.
HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

1. CAIK was officially launched on the 2nd February, 2016 by Provost Professor Peter Booth.

2. Professor Susan Page, Professor Michelle Trudgett and Associate Professor Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews were awarded the HERDSA 2016 Best Scholarly Paper (see research summary for further details).

3. Professor’s Michelle Trudgett and Susan Page were finalists for the Vice-Chancellor’s Awards for Research Excellence in the category of Researcher Development (including supervision).

4. CAIK had our first group of Higher Degree Research students commence with us in 2016. Grace, Lisa, Lynn and Treena are undertaking interesting projects that will make a real difference in our community.

“CAIK has made fabulous progress in addressing its goals, it is a focal point of integrating Indigenous Knowledges into the UTS curriculum and more broadly. Its collaborative and scholarly approach sets a benchmark for such initiatives nationally. Particularly impressive is the careful and thoughtful scholarly rigour brought to all initiatives, flowing right from project initiation and design through to rigorous evaluation of implementation.”

Professor Peter Booth, Provost & Senior Vice-President
Research Report

The purpose of this report is to summarize the research and teaching outputs both directly and indirectly related to the development and evaluation of the Indigenous Graduate Attribute (IGA). Key themes to emerge within this report are the ethical clearance for the methods to be utilized within the IGA evaluation, the collection of pilot data, the CAIK Indigenous HDR workshop, the Aboriginal Sydney Project, Awards, and Publications.

IGA EVALUATIONS METHODS

On the 1st of August, 2016, UTS Ethics approved the evaluation materials and methods to be utilized for the IGA evaluation (UTS HREC REF NO. ETH16-0585). This included both quantitative and qualitative measures for UTS students and qualitative interviews with UTS tutors, unit coordinators, and executive staff. The ethics application was based on the IGA Assessment Framework.

IGA PILOT TESTING

Pilot testing was successfully conducted for the quantitative survey with 377 UTS students (undergraduate and postgraduate) across five disciplines (Health Science, Law, Education, Engineering, and Design and Architecture). A further 47 UTS students have consented to take part in in-depth interviews regarding their experiences of learning of Indigenous perspectives within the UTS learning environments.

“...The Malpa Project and its Young Doctors programs received an enormous boost this year when Professor Michelle Trudgett accepted an invitation to join the Malpa Board. Michelle has brought her passion, knowledge and vast experience to the Board and has also opened the door to a very strong collaboration between the Centre for the Advancement of Indigenous Knowledge (CAIK) and The Malpa Project. The mission of CAIK and Michelle’s vision have combined to bring a sharp focus and energy to Malpa’s programs.”

Major General Peter Dunn AO (Retd) – Malpa Chairman
INDIGENOUS HDR PROGRAM

On the 13th and 14th of July, in partnership with Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, CAIK hosted the Indigenous HDR program. This program was specifically run for 13 potential Indigenous Australian post-graduate students and included a diversity of presentations on issues surrounding writing a proposal, submitting HDR applications, Indigenous Research at UTS, designing research, Indigenous Research Methodologies, selecting a supervisor, UTS student support, and conducting a literature review. Feedback from the potential Indigenous students was overwhelmingly positive.

AWARDS

As part of CAIK research and teaching activities, Professor Susan Page, Professor Michelle Trudgett and Associate Professor Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews were awarded the HERDSA 2016 Best Scholarly Paper award for their paper titled “Exploring an Indigenous Graduate Attribute Project Through a Critical Race Theory Lens”.

“CAIK is a unique entity in UTS and provides excellent support to Indigenous students and staff. It is developing a sophisticated culturally based research program in the Indigenous Knowledges area that will have a significant impact across the university.”

Professor John Evans, Faulty of Health


O’Shea, S., McMahon, S., Priestly, A., Bodkin-Andrews, G., & Harwood, V. (2016). We are history in the making and we are walking together to change things for the better: Exploring the flows and ripples of learning in a mentoring programme for indigenous young people. Education as Change, 2011, 59-84.


Conference Presentations


- Page, S. (2016 March). From Tactics to Strategies: The UTS Indigenous Graduate Attribute experience (so far), Keynote address to the Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Knowledges in the Curriculum Forum, University of the Sunshine Coast.


- Page, S & Trudgett, M. (2016, February) Transitioning to success. Invited presentation to the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Pathways to Success in Research Higher Degrees Symposium, University Of Queensland, Brisbane.

- Page, S & Trudgett, M. (2016, November) Transitioning to success. Invited presentation to the 2nd Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Pathways to Success in Research Higher Degrees Symposium, University Of Queensland, Brisbane.


Capacity Building Workshops

(including reviews and invited presentations, and workshops)


> **Bodkin-Andrews, G.** (2016, September). NHMRC Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Scholarship Evaluations. Submitted from the Centre for the Advancement of Indigenous Knowledges, University of Technology Sydney.


> **Bodkin-Andrews, G.** (2016, September). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Standpoints in Research. Presented at the FASS HDR Workshop, University of Technology Sydney.

> **Bodkin-Andrews, G.** (2016, September). Ethics for Research and Creative Practice related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Presented at the the FASS HDR Workshop, University of Technology Sydney.


Inaugural Integration of Indigenous Professional Capabilities into Curriculum Learning and Teaching Award (2016)

One key outcome of our Implementation Plan was to initiate the implementation of a university level Learning and Teaching award to foster a culture of excellence in Indigenous curriculum and to recognise the work of staff. With the support of the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Education and Students) Professor Shirley Alexander, this award was offered for the first time in 2016. The Faculty of Health team are worthy recipients of what will now be an annual award as part of the suite of UTS Teaching and Learning awards. The winning team includes Associate Professor Joanne Gray and Dr Tamara Power (pictured here) Ms Claudia Virdun, Ms Anna Doab, Ms Rachel Smith, Ms Angela Phillips and Ms Jennifer Newman.

Indigenous Graduate Attribute Workshops

In late September CAIK ran a suite of workshops designed to introduce faculty staff to our IGA Curriculum Model and Program Framework. We presented the workshops over three days from the 26-28th of September, to give staff a number of opportunities to attend. Although similar, we offered two variations on the workshops each day. The morning offerings were tailored for Executive staff and the afternoon version designed for program coordinators and teaching staff. In all 13 staff from six of the eight faculties attended with curiosity, enthusiasm and a little trepidation in some cases. CAIK look forward to delivering further workshops in 2017.

IGA Related Presentations

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<td>Faculty of Engineering and IT Learning and Teaching Committee 2nd May</td>
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<td>School of Communication 11th May</td>
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<td>UTS Library staff – 25th May</td>
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<td>FASS Learning and Teaching Committee – 18th August</td>
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<td>School of Communication 23rd August</td>
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<td>Indigenous Studies Committee – 31st August</td>
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<td>Casual Academics Conference – 12th September</td>
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<td>School of International Studies – 5th October</td>
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<td>Courses Accreditation Committee – 10th November</td>
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<td>UTS 2016 Teaching and Learning Forum – 22nd November</td>
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Photo left to right – Prof Susan Page, Dr Tamara Power, Associate Professor Joanne Gray and Professor Shirley Alexander
Aboriginal Sydney Now

Aboriginal Sydney Now was taught for the first time during the Spring session in 2016. We had 26 students enrolled across the 6 and 8 credit point versions of the subject, with students coming from a diverse range of degree programs including Primary Education, Business, Information Technology and Biomedical Science. As well, a number of Exchange and Study Abroad students took the opportunity to find out more about Aboriginal Sydney, fashioning a uniquely Australian learning experience. The range of activities and assessments for this subject required students not only to read and reflect but also to actively engage with Aboriginal Sydney in the UTS area and students’ own communities. Students visited places as diverse as the Redfern Community Centre, the Botanical Gardens and Victoria Park, exploring Aboriginal history and contemporary culture and gaining new understandings of Aboriginal place as they went. The final assignment required students to ‘map’ their local community, in order to develop a sense of how Indigenous culture influences their own local area. North to Awabakal country and south to Dharawal country, the students’ final portfolios were rich reinscriptions of contemporary Sydney.
The CAIK Management Committee comprises of Faculty and Institutional leaders that meet three to four times a year. They provide exceptional direction and guidance to the Director of CAIK and other senior staff. The Director is very thankful to have such a knowledgeable and committed group of people to contribute to the vision and goals of CAIK.

CAIK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- **Professor Larissa Behrendt**
  Director of Research-Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning

- **Professor Michael McDaniel**
  Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Leadership and Engagement)

- **Professor Alan McKee**
  Associate Dean (Research and Development), Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

- **Professor Susan Page**
  Centre for the Advancement of Indigenous Knowledges

- **Professor Mary Spongberg**
  Executive Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

- **Professor Michelle Trudgett**
  Director, Centre for the Advancement of Indigenous Knowledges

- **Associate Professor Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews**
  Centre for the Advancement of Indigenous Knowledges

- **Associate Professor Jo McKenzie**
  Director, Institute for Interactive Media and Learning

**CAIK Team**

- **Professor Michelle Trudgett**
  Director

- **Susan Page**
  Professor

- **Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews**
  Associate Professor

- **Gavin Stanbrook**
  Centre Administrator

- **Alison Whittaker**
  Casual Research Assistant