INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the new-look Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit Annual Report. This report is intended as a brief summary of Unit performance over the previous calendar year.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit plays a dual role at the University of Queensland. First, the Unit is charged with the major responsibility for recruitment, retention and graduation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Second, the Unit is the focus for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies.

1999 was a busy year at the Unit, with increases in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student numbers and sustained high student numbers in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies courses as well as successful grant applications and a range of research publications by Unit staff.

ENROLMENTS

The total number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students enrolled at the University of Queensland grew by 18% from 192 in 1998 to 234 in 1999. Of these, 130 (56%) students were female and 104 (44%) were male. These figures reflect the overall trend of rising student enrolments established in the mid-1980s and provide a clear indication of the efficacy of University equity policies and the student support initiatives of the Unit combined with broader patterns of increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation in education (Fig 1).

In 1999 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students were represented in every University faculty (Fig 2). Health Sciences had the most students, comprised mainly of students enrolled in the Bachelor of Applied Health Science (Indigenous Primary Health Care) program, closely followed by Arts and then other faculties.

During the past academic year the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students enrolled in postgraduate programs increased from 19 to 23 (Fig 3).
GRADUATIONS
The past year saw a slight increase in the total number of graduates from 39 to 41 (Fig 4). This figure represents an increase of more than 50% from graduation rates in the early 1990s.

ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDIES
The Unit is responsible for coordinating the interdisciplinary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies major and double major offered in the Faculty of Arts. In 1999, a total of 1,168 students were enrolled in 27 courses (Fig 5). This reflects a continuing stabilisation of student numbers after a review and subsequent expansion of the program in 1995. The Unit directly coordinated 11 (41%) of these courses, representing a total of 334 students or 29% of all students enrolled in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies courses. During 1999, eight students graduated with majors in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, while two graduated with double majors. This makes it the thirtieth (out of a total of 54) most popular major/double major in the Faculty of Arts.

1999 SUBJECTS COORDINATED BY THE UNIT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AY254</td>
<td>Women’s Music &amp; Dance in Indigenous Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN262</td>
<td>Black Australian Literature A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN266</td>
<td>Black Australian Literature B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID101</td>
<td>Aboriginal &amp; Torres Strait Islander Perspectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID202</td>
<td>Aboriginal &amp; Torres Strait Islander Approaches to Knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID227</td>
<td>Aboriginal Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID232</td>
<td>Independent Project in A&amp;TSI Studies I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID233</td>
<td>Independent Project in A&amp;TSI Studies II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID234</td>
<td>Research with Indigenous People: Principles &amp; Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID329</td>
<td>Torres Strait Islander Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID333</td>
<td>Aboriginal Politics &amp; Political Issues</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1999 UNIT STAFF (FULL TIME)
Director: Michael Williams
Deputy Director: Jackie Huggins*
Senior Lecturer/Acting Deputy Director: Dr Ian Lilley
Lecturer: John Budby
Lecturer: Dr Elizabeth Mackinlay
Associate Lecturer: Dennis Foley
Senior Unit Researcher: Sean Ulm
Administrative Officer: Mary Dunn
Secretary: Sue Randell
ATAS Coordinator: Lesa Norman
Student Support Secretary: Mary Ware


1999 PART-TIME STAFF (EXCLUDING ATAS)
Unit Researcher: Tony Eales
Acting Student Support Secretary: Lynda Flower
Unit Researcher: Jill Reid
Senior Unit Researcher: Norm Sheehan
Associate Lecturer: Sam Watson

1999 HONORARY STAFF
Honorary Visiting Fellow: Dr Anna Shnukal

1999 GUEST LECTURERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Constance Andrews</td>
<td>William Lowah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maroochy Barambah</td>
<td>Melissa Lucasenko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edna Billy</td>
<td>Dinah Norman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samantha Chalmers</td>
<td>Jemima Miller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McRose Elu</td>
<td>Lyndon Murphy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annie Isaac</td>
<td>Ram Niwas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas Jacobs</td>
<td>Anna Nolan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erica Kyle</td>
<td>Doris Pilkington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Nolan</td>
<td>Georgina Whap</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ABORIGINAL TUTORIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME (ATAS)
During 1999, a total of 96 students were enrolled for assistance in the Aboriginal Tutorial Assistance Scheme. Of these, 79% were first year or equivalent reinforcing the important role of ATAS in assisting in the transition of students into university. Academic results indicate that students accessing ATAS to the maximum allowable level achieved higher results than those who did not access the scheme.
RESEARCH GRANTS CURRENT OR OBTAINED IN 1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year/s</th>
<th>Grantee</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998-9</td>
<td>Ulm</td>
<td>Southern Curtis Coast Regional Archaeological Project Stage II</td>
<td>AIATSIS</td>
<td>$15.5K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Lilley</td>
<td>Stone Axes and Ethnicity in Gooreng Gooreng Country Coastal Queensland: A Social-Scientific Application of Inductively-Coupled Plasma Mass-Spectrometry</td>
<td>ARC</td>
<td>$9.5K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Lilley</td>
<td>Geoarchaeological and Palaeoenvironmental Investigation of Aboriginal Cultural Landscapes on the Southern Curtis Coast, Central Queensland</td>
<td>ARC</td>
<td>$17K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000-3</td>
<td>Lilley</td>
<td>The Gooreng Gooreng Archaeology Project</td>
<td>ARC</td>
<td>$131K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Unit</td>
<td>University of Queensland URG, RIF &amp; Research Performance Allocation</td>
<td>UQ</td>
<td>$124K</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNIT PUBLICATIONS

Australian Journal of Indigenous Education
Two volumes of this journal were produced during 1999 – Volume 27, Number 1 and Volume 27, Number 2.

Ngulaig Monograph Series
No volumes of this series were produced during 1999 although several manuscripts are under consideration for publication in 2000.

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit Research Report Series
No volumes of this series were produced during 1999 although several manuscripts are under consideration for publication in 2000.

UNIT INFORMATION & PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL

During 1999 two handbooks and three flyers were produced to promote and explain the services, courses and facilities offered by the Unit. These materials were widely distributed throughout the University and other universities, as well as to guidance officers in high schools and directly in response to enquiries from prospective students.

Handbooks
The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Undergraduate Student Handbook details the courses offered as part of the major and double major in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit Student Handbook is produced specifically for prospective, new and continuing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, providing information on alternative entry, avenues of financial support and services and facilities provided specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Flyers
The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Flyer and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit General Information Flyer are summaries of information contained in the two handbooks presented above, designed for broad and cost-effective dissemination. The Study Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies in Australia Flyer is a new addition to the Unit’s promotional material aimed specifically at the international student market which continues to heavily patronise courses in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies.

WEB PAGES

In 1999 the Unit’s web pages continued to be a primary vehicle for promoting the Unit’s activities and providing information to staff, students and the general public with a total of 19,498 hits from users based in 47 countries (Fig 6). The mid-year spike in the graph corresponds with a major restructuring of the web site and subsequent promotion. The courses and resource pages on the web site continued to be heavily used.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit web site can be viewed at:

http://www.uq.edu.au/ATSIS/
1999 PUBLICATIONS BY UNIT STAFF (CAPITALISED)


