INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 2000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit Annual Report. This report is designed as a brief summary of Unit performance and activities during the 2000 calendar year.

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

2000 HIGHLIGHTS

- 87 new students
- 215 students in total
- Postgraduates up 24%
- 1,303 students in courses
- 42 publications by Unit staff
- $185K in research funding
- 40,000 web site hits

2000 ENROLMENTS

The total number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students enrolled at the University of Queensland declined slightly from 234 in 1999 to 215 in 2000 (Fig 1). Of these, 124 (58%) students were female and 91 (42%) were male. This 8.1% decline in Indigenous student enrolments at the University compares with a national decrease of 15.2%*, the lowest enrolment levels since 1994.

In 2000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students were represented in every University faculty (Fig 2). Health Sciences had the most students, closely followed by Arts and then other faculties.

During the past academic year the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in postgraduate programs increased by 24% from 25 in 1999 to 31 in 2000 (Fig 3).

2000 GRADUATIONS

The past year saw a decrease in the total number of graduates from 44 to 26 (Fig 4). This decrease is primarily attributed to the fact that a large proportion (19%) of the overall Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student body graduated in 1999. The graduation rate is expected to recover during 2001.

2000 COURSES COORDINATED BY UNIT STAFF

AY207 Music in Human Life: Anthropological Perspectives
AY254 Women's Music & Dance in Indigenous Australia
EN262 Black Australian Literature A
EN266 Black Australian Literature B
ID101 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Perspectives
ID202 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Approaches to Knowledge
ID227 Aboriginal Women
ID232 Independent Project in A&TSI Studies I
ID233 Independent Project in A&TSI Studies II
ID234 Research with Indigenous People: Principles & Practice
ID329 Torres Strait Islander Studies
ID333 Aboriginal Politics & Political Issues
MU323 Practice in Ethnomusicology A

2000 UNIT STAFF

Director
Michael Williams
Deputy Director
Jackie Huggins*
Deputy Director
Sam Watson
Reader
A/Prof. 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

*On secondment to Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation 17/07/99 to 30/06/00.
#On sabbatical leave 1/07/00 to 31/12/00.

2000 PART-TIME STAFF (EXCLUDING ATAS)

Unit Researcher
Tony Eales
Acting Student Support Secretary
Lynda Flower
Unit Researcher
Jill Reid
Senior Unit Researcher
Norm Sheehan

2000 HONORARY STAFF

Honorary Visiting Fellow
Dr Anna Shnukal
Honorary Research Adviser
Maria Cotter

2000 GUEST LECTURERS

Margaret Armstrong
Annie Isaac
Denise Proud
Edna Billy
Belzah Lowah
Lexine Solomon
Samantha Chalmers
Melissa Lucashenko
Maureen Watson
Robbie Canning
Dinah Norman
Samuel W. Watson
Shane Coghill
Jemima Miller
Dennis Walker
McRose Elyu
Lyndon Murphy
Georgina Whap
Lionel Fogarty
Sharon Parsons
Patricia Wiley

ABORIGINAL TUTORIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME (ATAS)

During 2000, 72 students were registered for assistance through the Aboriginal Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ATAS). Of these, 46% 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 generally achieved higher results than those who did not access the scheme.

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 2000, a total of 1,303 students were enrolled in 30 courses (Fig 5). This reflects a continuing stabilisation of student numbers after a review and subsequent expansion of the program in 1995. Unit staff directly coordinated 11 (37%) of these courses, representing a total of 350 students or 27% of all students enrolled in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies courses. During 2000, seven students graduated with majors in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies.

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Jackie Huggins*
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Lecturer
John Budby
Lecturer
Dr Elizabeth Mackinlay
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2000 RESEARCH GRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year/s</th>
<th>Grantee</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<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>$44K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Unit</td>
<td>University of Queensland URG, RIF &amp; Research Performance Allocation</td>
<td>UQ</td>
<td>$124K</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

UNIT PUBLICATIONS

Australian Journal of Indigenous Education (ISSN 1326-0111)
Two volumes of this journal were produced during 2000 – Volume 28, Number 1 and Volume 28, Number 2. Articles and book reviews covered a range of contemporary issues in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education.

Ngulaig Monograph Series (ISSN 1322-0314)
A single volume (Volume 17) of Ngulaig was produced during 2000:
Bradley, J. & E. Mackinlay Songs from a Plastic Water Rat: An Introduction to the Musical Traditions of the Yanyuwa Community of the Southwest Gulf of Carpentaria.

Several manuscripts are under consideration for publication in 2001.

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit Research Report Series (ISSN 1322-7157)
A single volume (Volume 4) of this series was produced during 2000:
Foley, D. Successful Indigenous Australian Entrepreneurs: A Case Study Analysis.

Several manuscripts are under consideration for publication in 2001.

UNIT INFORMATION & PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL

During 2000 two handbooks, three flyers and one bookmark 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 to prospective students. Handbooks included the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Undergraduate Student Handbook and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit Student Handbook. Flyers included the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Flyer, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit General Information Flyer and Study Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies in Australia Flyer.

WEB PAGES

In 2000 the Unit’s web site 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 38,908 hits from users based in 69 countries (Fig 6). This represents a 50% increase in total web traffic over 1999. Notably, 28.5% of total hits were from users based outside of Australia (Fig 7). University of Queensland users (staff & students) account for 22% of hits on the site. The top-10 pages hit remained the same as 1999 (with the ranking of some pages changed slightly), asserting the dominance of pages relating to resources, courses and links to other sites.

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

www.uq.edu.au/ATSIS/

Fig 6. Unit web page usage statistics.

Fig 7. Top-10 countries by web page hits (exc. Australia).
**2000 Publications by Unit Staff (Capitalised)**

Bradley, J. and E. Mackinlay 2000 Songs from a Plastic Water Rat: An Introduction to the Musical Traditions of the Yanyuwa Community of the Southwest Gulf of Carpentaria, Ngalig 17. Brisbane: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit, University of Queensland.


Lilley, I. 2000 So near and yet so far: Reflections on archaeology in Australia and Papua New Guinea, intensification and culture contact. *Australian Archaeology* 50:36-44.


