INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 2002 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit Annual Report. This report is a brief summary of Unit activities during the 2002 calendar year.

The Unit provides personal and academic support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and specifically aims to increase the recruitment, retention, academic performance and graduation rates of Indigenous students. The Unit also administers schemes to help Indigenous students gain access to, and receive support in, tertiary studies such as the Alternative Entry scheme and the federally funded Aboriginal Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ATAS). The Unit is also the focus for teaching and research in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies at the University of Queensland.

In 2002, UQ performed well in the Department of Education, Science & Training State and National Performance Indicators for Indigenous Higher Education Students. UQ achieved well in both success and retention indicators with a student progress rate of 74% (national average=66.7%) and an apparent retention rate of 75% (national average=60.5%).

2002 HIGHLIGHTS

- 108 new students [15%]
- 248 students in total [8.3%]
- 33 postgraduates [32%]
- 34 graduations
- 1,506 students in courses
- 30 publications by Unit staff
- $110K in research funding
- 126,626 web site hits [76%]

2002 ENROLMENTS

The total number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students enrolled at the University of Queensland increased by 8.3% from 229 in 2001 to 248 in 2002 (Fig 1). Just over 55% (n=137) were women, more than 43% (n=108) were commencing students and over 13% (n=33) were postgraduates.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students were represented in every University faculty (Fig 2). Arts had the most students, accounting for 27% (67) compared to 20% (46) in 2001.

Of the 33 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students enrolled in postgraduate programs, 11 were undertaking Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) research degree programs (Fig 3).

In one of the highlights of the year, Nathan Woolford was awarded the prestigious Neville Bonner Memorial Scholarship.
30 courses. Unit staff directly coordinated 11 postgraduate courses. During 2002, nine fewer courses being on offer in 2002 (30 pharmacy and physiotherapy (Fig 4).

Students graduated with majors in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies. Compared to 32 in 2001) owing to staff are not traditionally strong for Indigenous and five finished honours programs. A number of students graduated in fields that number of students graduated in fields that

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 2002, a total of 1,506 students was enrolled in 30 courses. This represents a slight decline over 2001 enrolments (1,719) attributable to fewer courses being on offer in 2002 (30 compared to 32 in 2001) owing to staff absences. Unit staff directly coordinated 11 courses in the program, in addition to two postgraduate courses. During 2002, nine students graduated with majors in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies.

2002 COURSES CoORDINATED BY UNIT STAFF

ABTS1000 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Perspectives
ABTS2000 Torres Strait Islander Studies
ABTS2010 Aboriginal Women
ABTS2020 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Approaches to Knowledge
ABTS2040 Black Australian Literature A
ABTS2050 Black Australian Literature B
ABTS2080 Independent Project in A&TSIS I
ABTS2090 Independent Project in A&TSIS II
ABTS2120 Women’s Music & Dance in Indigenous Australia
ABTS3000 Aboriginal Politics & Political Issues
ABTS3020 Working with Indigenous People
ABTS7000 Introductory Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies for Australian Studies Postgraduates
ABTS7002 Transforming Conflict between Indigenous & Non-Indigenous Peoples

2002 STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

Michael Williams
- Council Member, Australian Institute of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies
- Council Member, University of the Sunshine Coast

Jackie Huggins
- Co-Chair, Reconciliation Australia
- Director, Telstra Foundation
- Director, Chain Reaction Foundation
- Member, ATSCG Review Panel
- Member, Indigenous Forum, Australian Youth Foundation
- Council Member, Australian Institute of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies
- Editor, The Australian Journal of Indigenous Education

Ian Lilley
- Executive Member, Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association
- Secretary, Australian Archaeological Association
- Editor, World Archaeological Bulletin

Elizabeth Mackinlay
- Treasurer, Musicological Society of Australia
- President, Queensland Chapter, Musicological Society of Australia
- Council Member, Queensland Chapter, Australian Society for Music Education
- Editor, Queensland Journal of Music Education
- Editor, The Australian Journal of Indigenous Education

Sean Ulm
- President, Australian Archaeological Association
- Membership Secretary, Australian Association of Consulting Archaeologists
- Co-Webmaster, www.australianarchaeology.com
- Discussion List Administrator, aacai@lists.uq.edu.au
- Discussion List Administrator, naw@lists.uq.edu.au

2002 GRADUATIONS

Thirty-Four Indigenous students graduated in 2002. One student graduated with a PhD, two were awarded research masters degrees and five finished honours programs. A number of students graduated in fields that are not traditionally strong for Indigenous enrolments, including: speech pathology, pharmacy and physiotherapy (Fig 4).
NEW UNIT POSTER LAUNCHED
Early in 2002 the Unit launched a new poster using artwork adapted from Norm Sheehan’s *Nguurrang* (2002). Over 1,000 copies of this poster have been widely distributed throughout Queensland and northern New South Wales.

**WEB PAGES**
In 2002 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 126,626 hits (Fig 5). This represents a 76% increase in total web traffic over 2001.

**Fig 5. Unit web page usage statistics, 1999-2002.**

MAJOR EVENTS
- National Sorry Day/Week Activities 20-24 May 2002
- UQ Union/Goorie Berrimpa Sorry Dinner 24 May 2002
- Doris Pilkington (Nugi Garimara) in conversation with Jackie Huggins 18 July 2002
- Prayer for Reconciliation 7 August 2002
- Purga Dawn Ceremony October 2002

2002 GUEST LECTURERS
- Barbara Ashby
- Amanda Blivet
- Robert Canning
- Samantha Chalmers
- Ernest Chong
- Vivienne Cleven
- Nicole Clevens
- Frederick Coolwell
- Theresa Creed
- Jeannette Fabila
- Susan Featherstone
- David George
- Robyn Kina
- Steve Man
- Jemima Miller
- Rosie Noble
- Dinah Norman
- Richard Pascoe
- Smilar Sinak
- Bethelia Stewart
- Daniel Tapau
- Denis Walker
- Maureen Watson
- Samuel Watson (Jr)
- Emma Webb

ABORIGINAL TUTORIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME
ATAS is a federally funded program that offers academic assistance to Indigenous Australian students. During 2002, 75 students were registered for assistance through the ATAS program coordinated by the University of Queensland. A total of 66 casual tutors was employed, including many senior Indigenous students, to support students at St Lucia, Herston, Ipswich, Gatton, Townsville, Cairns and Thursday Island.

2002 RESEARCH GRANTS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year/s</th>
<th>Grantee</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Australian Research Council</td>
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2002 UNIT PUBLICATIONS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit Annual Report 2002
2002 PUBLICATIONS BY UNIT STAFF


