

Staff Movements

George Villaflor left the NTRU at the end of June. Siv Parker has taken up her new position in Executive and is no longer the Native Title Conference Co-ordinator. Craig Greene, previously from the Indigenous Leadership Centre, is now Conference Co-ordinator for the both the 2004 AIATSIS Conference and the 2005 Native Title Conference. Dr Lynley Wallis has joined the Indigenous Facilitation and Mediation Project for two and a half days each week.

James Weiner has joined the NTRU for three months as a visiting fellow. James has been a consultant anthropologist in native title since 1998. He has authored native title connection reports on behalf of various applicant groups in Queensland, including the Butchulla and Wondunna clan of Fraser Island, and has acted as a peer reviewer for connection reports for the States of Queensland and Victoria.

Research Activities July-August

Lisa Strelein, Stuart Bradfield and former NTRU staff member Jane Anderson (now a Visiting Research Fellow) assisted in compiling the AIATSIS submission to the Senate Select Committee on the Administration of Aboriginal Affairs. The submission discussed how the proposed changes to ATSIC/ATSIS will affect the Institute, anticipating an expanded role as a national Indigenous institution and, consequently, a significantly higher profile for AIATSIS. The submission also noted the wider implications of proposed changes to the administration of Indigenous affairs, suggesting new arrangements to replace ATSIC structures should be taken only after full and open consultation with Indigenous peoples. They will have to respect both the diversity of Indigenous communities, as well as the particular role of traditional owners. Further information can be found at

<http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/indigenoussaffairscctte/submissions/sublist.htm>

Toni Bauman attended the New Humanities conference in Prato, Italy. She presented a paper, 'Australian Indigenous 'Cultures', Conflict and Categorisation', as part of a panel titled 'Culture and Conflict' with Dr Patrick Sullivan, Michael Bissell (Minerals Council), Prof. Michael Dodson as discussant and Dr Mary Edmunds (ANU Centre for Cross Cultural Research) as chair. The Indigenous Facilitation and Mediation Project would like to thank Newmont Australia for their sponsorship of Toni's participation in this panel, which also explored implications for the mining industry.

Lisa Strelein and Stuart Bradfield published an article in the July/August edition of the *Indigenous Law Bulletin*, 'The Single Noongar Claim: Negotiating native title in the South West'.

Serica Mackay prepared a submission on behalf of AIATSIS to the Queensland Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee's inquiry regarding a preamble for the Queensland Constitution. The submission addressed the proposed preamble's reference to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Stuart Bradfield presented his paper, 'Agreement making is the way to go, but where are we going? Coming to grips with native title agreement making' for the AIATSIS Seminar Series 'Profiling AIATSIS Research: Current themes of AIATSIS staff, grantees and members'.

Grace Koch attended the International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives (IASA) and International Association of Music Librarians (IAML) joint conference 'Music and Multimedia' held at the University of Oslo, Norway from 8-13 August 2004. The Conference provides valuable information on

dissemination and preservation of audiovisual materials, which are being requested more frequently by native title clients.

Grace organised a session on multimedia applications for endangered languages, presented a paper, written with Patrick McConvell on 'Multimedia and the preservation of endangered languages – recent developments', and served as Secretary for the Research Archives Section of IASA, documenting the session and resolutions that were agreed on.

Lara Wiseman has been liaising with native title representative bodies and other stakeholders seeking feedback on a draft version of a new NTRU publication, the *Native Title Resource Guide*. The *Guide* is an on-line research resource that acts as a portal site for accessing information about native title. The *Guide* includes some brief commentary and collates native title information from a wide range of sources including: native title representative bodies, the National Native Title Tribunal, the Indigenous Land Corporation, government departments, the Agreements Treaties and Negotiated Settlements Project, and the Federal Court, providing one-stop access to native title web resources. For information

about this project or to suggest material for inclusion in the *Guide* please contact Lara on 02-6261 4244 or lara.wiseman@aiatsis.gov.au.

The Indigenous Facilitation and Mediation Project (IFaMP) has commenced work on establishing an e-mail network for Indigenous facilitators and mediation practitioners. The first issue to be discussed concerns the establishment of a register of Indigenous dispute resolution practitioners. IFaMP is currently compiling a list of Indigenous practitioners, but questions such as access, criteria for inclusion, and maintenance of the list past the life of the project (June 2006) need to be considered. IFaMP would be pleased to hear from any Indigenous facilitators or mediators who wish to be added to this preliminary list.

Individual reports on the three NTRB workshops held in May 2004 have been provided by IFaMP to participating NTRBs. The final summary report, with analysis of the issues and future directions, has been drafted. Once comments have been received from the Project Reference Group, the Report will be revised and made available on the IFaMP web site in October.

WHAT'S NEW

Issues Papers

Issues paper no. 28 is now available. The paper, Promoting Economic and Social Development Through Native Title was to be presented at the Native Title Conference in June 2004 by Bill Jonas, the former Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner. The paper is available online at http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/rsrch/ntru/ntru_is_suespprs.htm. To subscribe free of charge to the Issues Paper series please contact ntru@aiatsis.gov.au.

Conference Papers

Native Title Conference papers are now available on the Conference website (accessible through www.aiatsis.gov.au under Native Title Conference 2004). Please note that this is not a complete list. Papers will be posted as we receive them but speakers need to forward them to Serica.mackay@aiatsis.gov.au (Ph 02-6246 1171) before this can happen.

NTRB.net

NTRB.net, the website for and about Native Title Representative Bodies, has had a make-over. The website is designed as a guide for NTRBs to provide information and to assist