

cluded policy makers, including representatives from the Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination, the Office of the Registrar of Aboriginal Corporations and the NNTT.

The workshop was aimed at exploring and considering the range of principles and issues that underpin the development of a useful, coherent and easily applied evaluation framework, which would be applied to any pilot training in mediation and facilitation. This will help to ensure accountability, and that the benefits of training are identified and realised.

Community Mediation Centres and Native Title Representative Bodies Forum

The Community Mediation Centres and Native Title Representative Bodies Forum was held at AIATSIS on 26-27 October 2004. There were 14 participants from various community mediation centres and NTRBs in ACT, NSW, Queensland and Victoria.

The Forum aimed to facilitate a dialogue between NTRBs and community mediation centres, discuss the possible development of pilot training and the nature of training required, and the option of community mediation centres providing mediation and facilitation services to NTRBs. NTRBs are now aware of what the community mediation centres have to offer, including free or low cost mediation and facilitation services and training.

AIATSIS Seminar Series

AIATSIS holds a regular Seminar Series usually on Mondays, 12:30pm to 2:00pm, in the Mabo Room, AIATSIS, Canberra. IFaMP is convening the AIATSIS Seminar Series during Semester 1, 2005 commencing 28 February 2004. Papers will explore theoretical, ethnographic and linguistic concerns as well as 'best practice' issues in the native title arena and policy development. A draft program will be distributed in early 2005.

WHATS NEW

Publications

Issues paper no. 30, Daniel Lavery's paper, 'The Level of Recognition of the Native Title Claim Group: A Legal and Policy Perspective', is now available.

Hot Topics is a series that provides information for students on recent changes and current debates in the law and is produced by the Legal Information Access Centre (LIAC). Hot Topics 48 is on native title. For more information on this issue, see LIAC at the State Library of NSW <http://liac.sl.nsw.gov.au/hot/>

The National Native Title Tribunal's Annual Report 2003-2004 is available now through the NNTT website: www.nntt.gov.au/publications/annual2001.html

A draft plan of management for Arakwal National Park, the sacred ancestral place of the Byron Bay Arakwal people, has been released for public comment. The plan of management is available from

www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/PDFs/PoM_draft_ArakwalNP.pdf and submissions are open until 28 February 2005.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Mawul Ceremony belongs to the Yolngu people of East Arnhem Land and has been used traditionally for centuries as a conflict resolution and healing process to restore relationships between individuals, groups and clan nations. The Mawul ceremony is strongly linked conceptually to non-Indigenous ideals

related to mediation, conflict-resolution and decision-making processes. For more information on this week long traditional and contemporary mediation and leadership training go to www.mawul.com, email paul.tolliday@mawul.com or call 0409 177 161.

Opportunities

The Indigenous Law Journal, a Canadian publication, is calling for papers for upcoming editions. The Indigenous Law Journal provides a forum for the discussion of Indigenous legal issues in Canada and internationally. They encourage submissions from all peoples, nations and perspectives. For detailed information regarding submissions, please see www.indigenouslawjournal.org/submit.htm.

Please direct all submission enquiries to submissions.ijl@utoronto.ca.

The Australian Review of Public Affairs (APRA), formerly, 'The Drawing Board: The Australian Review of Public Affairs', is calling for papers. APRA, both a journal and a digest, is edited by an interdisciplinary team based in the School of Economics and Political Science at the University of Sydney. It is available free on the internet from www.australianreview.net.

FEATURE

The New NTRU Website

The NTRU recently launched its new look website which is designed to increase the capacity of the website as a research resource. The website is a key means of disseminating native title research to native title representative bodies, practitioners, academics, claimants and the public. Our website also allows geographically distant individuals and organisations access to quality independent research and helps contribute to the level of native title information available online.

At present, the new website is only partially finished. Over the next six months, the NTRU will continue to develop the website and also ensure it is kept up-to-date.

Some of the highlights of the new website –

The Native Title Resource Guide

The Native Title Resource 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 and related Indigenous land issues information from a wide range of sources including: the Agreements, Treaties and Negotiated Settlements Project, Native Title Representative Bodies, the National Native Title Tribunal, the Indigenous Land Corporation, government departments, the Federal & High Courts and the Australasian Legal Information Institute providing one-stop access to native title information and web resources.

The Native Title Resource Guide includes information about and links relating to:

- Native title legislation and case law;
- Federal, State and Territory Governments' native title policies and procedures;
- Native Title Representative Bodies, registered native title bodies corporate, government agencies and other organisations involved in native title;
- Native title applications and determinations;
- Indigenous Land Use Agreements, future acts and other native title related agreements and outcomes;
- Land tenure, land rights legislation, land acquisitions, Indigenous land management and Indigenous Protected Areas;
- Indigenous population profiles; and
- Related research resources.

The Native Title Resource Guide should be up and running in February.

Research Resource Pages

The new website also includes new research resource pages on subjects relating to native title. Native title resource pages provide researchers with the background of an issue, a brief summary of the determination where necessary, a selected bibliography, links to re-