



50 years on

AIATSIS National Indigenous Studies Conference 2014

In 2014, AIATSIS will be celebrating its 50th year. To commemorate this milestone, AIATSIS will be holding its biennial Indigenous Studies Conference with the theme 'Breaking Barriers in Indigenous Research and Thinking: 50 years on'. This conference will begin AIATSIS' anniversary celebrations by acknowledging how far we have come in the area of Indigenous studies in Australia in the past 50 years.

The conference will bring together multi-disciplinary expertise from across the Indigenous studies sector, including researchers, policy makers, community members, academics, representative organisations, consultants, traditional owners and service providers. Whether your interest in the conference topic is from the perspective of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education, health, cultural heritage, arts, policy, sport, economics, language, anthropology, archives, IT or other equally relevant sectors, the conference presents a unique opportunity to communicate information about your research,

projects and programs with a wide audience and to benefit from discussion around shared areas of interest.

The conference will be held from Wednesday 26 - Friday 28 March 2014 at the National Convention Centre Canberra ACT, with a welcome reception to begin the proceedings on Tuesday 25 March and a cultural program that will run throughout the conference. For more information about the program go to <http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/research/50yearson.html>

We are thrilled to announce the latest addition to our exciting line-up of keynote speakers for the conference.

Professor James Lance Taylor is an associate professor and Chair of the Department of Politics at the University of San Francisco, where he teaches in the areas of religion and politics, race and ethnic politics, law and public policy, and African American politics. He is the author of the much lauded *Black nationalism in*

the United States: from Malcolm X to Barack Obama and more recently he co-edited, with Katherine Tate and Mark Sawyer, *Something's in the air: race and the legalisation of marijuana*. Professor Taylor serves as the university's commentator on US politics and speaks frequently with youth and community groups on issues of education and community empowerment.

Linda Tuhiwai Smith is Pro-Vice Chancellor Maori at the University of Waikato in Hamilton, New Zealand. She is the author of *Decolonising methodologies: research and Indigenous peoples*, which has significantly informed research methods in social justice since its original publication in 1999 (a new edition was published in 2012). Professor Smith was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in 2013 for services to Maori and education.

THE CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD FROM WEDNESDAY 26 - FRIDAY 28 MARCH 2014 AT THE NATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE CANBERRA, ACT.

Martin Nakata was the first Torres Strait Islander to receive a PhD in Australia. He is Director of Nura Gili at the University of New South Wales and Chair of Australian Indigenous Education. He has presented more than 20 plenary and keynote addresses at national and international conferences in 10 countries and has published on Indigenous Australians and education in various academic journals and books in Australia and abroad. His current research focuses on higher education curriculum areas, the academic preparation of Indigenous students, and Indigenous knowledge and library services.

Along with the keynote presentations, the conference will start with an introductory panel which will discuss 'What is Indigenous Studies in Australia'. Other key panels include three high profile panels discussing critical topics including: '50 years – who owns it?', 'Languages and education' and 'Bringing on Indigenous scholars'.

Registrations for the 2014 AIATSIS National Indigenous Studies Conference are now open. The early bird registration rates will close at close of business on 18th December 2013. No registrations will be accepted after 5th March 2014. You can register to attend the conference at <http://wired.ivvy.com/event/NISC14/>.

To stay up to date with conference news and developments please follow us on Twitter @indigitweet or visit the conference website, <http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/research/50yearson.html>.

If you have any questions please contact AIATSIS on (02) 6261 4223 or via email at 50yearson@aiatsis.gov.au.

For our 50th anniversary conference, AIATSIS invited Indigenous students from the Canberra Institute of Technology's Yurauna Centre to submit pieces of work that could form the basis of the conference logo. The works submitted were all exceptional and the logo was designed from the winning piece of artwork.

