



AIATSIS National Indigenous Studies Conference 2014

From the 26 – 28 March 2014, AIATSIS held its biennial Indigenous Studies Conference with the theme 'Breaking Barriers in Indigenous Research and Thinking: 50 years on'. The conference was held at the National Convention Centre in Canberra, and included a welcome reception that coincided with the launch of the 50th Anniversary of AIATSIS and the Lorrkkon Ceremony.

This conference helped to begin the anniversary celebrations by recognising how far the area of Indigenous studies in Australia has come over the past 50 years and what the future might hold.

The conference brought together almost 500 delegates with multi-disciplinary expertise from across the Indigenous studies sector, including researchers, policy makers, community members, academics, representative organisations, consultants, traditional owners and service providers.

The conference included 123 presentations by 227 presenters. Presentations ranged in topic and covered Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education, health, cultural heritage, arts, policy, tourism, economics, language, anthropology, archives, IT, history, native title, musicology, ethics and more. Other highlights included the

four keynote speakers, four cultural performances, five launches, the trade exhibition, the poster session and the conference dinner.

The conference was an overall success and showcased the strengths of AIATSIS in not only undertaking research in the area of Indigenous studies, but also in fostering dialogue and bringing together all different sectors with an interest in the field.

AIATSIS would like to thank all Speakers, Delegates and Sponsors for their enthusiasm and support and we are looking forward to the next 50 years.



Conference name tags. (Photo Supplied)

AIATSIS would like to thank our sponsors for their kind support of the conference. Our Platinum sponsor – the Department of Education, our Silver sponsors – the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Australian Centre for Indigenous Knowledge and Education, our Bronze sponsors – Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education and the Berndt Foundation, and our other sponsors – delegate sponsor – Lowitja and our satchel insert sponsors.



Professor Martin Nakata giving his keynote presentation at the AIATSIS National Indigenous Studies Conference (Photo Supplied)



Students from NAISDA performing a Torres Strait Islander dance at the closing session of the conference (Photo Supplied)