

Special points of interest:

- Executive Committee Profiles
- Indigenous Scholarship
- Portfolio Teams
- Indigenous Students Section

Indigenous Scholarship

AT A GLANCE

Since the Annual General Meeting of the Australian Society of Archivists (ASA) at Port Macquarie in October 2006 which endorsed the idea of a scholarship for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people undertaking professional training in archives and records the Scholarship Portfolio Team has:

- Finalised the name of the scholarship;
- Sought support from partners to add to the ASA's Public Fund to provide money for the scholarship;
- Developed criteria for selection of scholarship winners;
- Developed criteria for choosing members of the Governance Panel that will be responsible for the scholarship process and the conduct of interviews;
- Developed guidance on the scholarship selection process for the Governance Panel;

- Drafted correspondence to formally invite people to become members of the Governance Panel;
- Gained Council approval that two Scholarships of up to \$3000 value will be available for 2008;
- Developed advertising and promotion guidelines for the scholarship;
- Developed a project plan for the scholarship focusing on the award of the first scholarship in 2008 but also including some actions for future years;
- Prepared a first draft of the scholarship application form and explanatory material for intending applicants.

Some of these guidelines are a requirement of the Public Fund's status on the Register of Cultural Organizations

maintained by the Department of Communications Information Technology and the Arts so that contributions to the fund are tax deductible .

The Scholarship Team is coordinated by Jill Caldwell and includes Kirsten Thorpe, Simon Flagg, Andrew Wilson.

All major issues relating to the scholarship are discussed with the ASA Indigenous Issues Portfolio Holder Catherine Robinson and major decisions must be approved by the ASA Council. If you have any ideas to whom we should promote the scholarship and/or any help with getting publicity for the scholarship in media which have a large Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander audience, please email Jill Caldwell on cldwll@pcug.org.au .

New Established Portfolio Teams

AT A GLANCE

At the IISIG Executive Meeting held in Sydney on the 28th and 29th March 2007, the proposed portfolio teams were discussed and accepted by members with the development of five portfolio teams as follows:

- ◆ Team 1 ASA Conferences
- ◆ Team 2 Indigenous Scholarship
- ◆ Team 3 Policy Development
- ◆ Team 4 Marketing & Promotions
- ◆ Team 5 Online Media Resources

The purpose of the portfolio teams is to balance the IISIG project workload through the committee with the intent of co-opting other interested IISIG members where possible.

If you are a member of the ASA and/or IISIG and wish to be involved in project works, please

contact the list of Team Coordinators. Email addresses are located on the last page of the newsletter:

- ⇒ Team 1: Kirsten Thorpe.
- ⇒ Team 2 : Jill Caldwell
- ⇒ Team 3: Andrew Wilson
- ⇒ Team 4: Anne Wright
- ⇒ Team 5: Ryan Brinkworth

With the amount of project works generated by IISIG over the past few years it has become necessary to prioritise such with the Indigenous Scholarship deemed number one priority for 2007 along with the continued Pathways brochure distribution which is the undertaken by the Marketing & Promotions team.

Inside this issue:

Convenor and Secretary Report	2
Newsletter Editor	2
Call for Nominations –IISIG Office Bearers at Alice Springs	2
IISIG Executive Committee Profiles	3
New Indigenous Student Section	4
Loris Williams Memorial Lecture	4
National and State Records At a Glance	5-7
Message Board	8-9
IISIG Executive Committee Email Addresses	9

Convenor and Secretary Report

Welcome to the second edition of the newly formatted IISIG Newsletter for 2007. As a result of the two day meeting held in Sydney in March 2007 positive outcomes were achieved with the development of five portfolio teams to not only balance the workload of IISIG but to ensure project works run smoothly. The number one priority for IISIG in 2007 is the final development stages of the Indigenous Scholarship. Congratulations to the team of people who have been working together to bring the scholarship to fruition. The Marketing and Promotions portfolio team have been busy updating the Pathways brochure distribution list and we are happy to advise that in collaboration with the ASA Secretariat since 2004 to 2007 we have distributed 8,525 brochures nationally.

The ASA Conferences portfolio team have been busy in securing a speaker for the Loris Williams Memorial Lecture. In addition, to planning and preparations for the IISIG AGM. This year we will focus on the future directions of IISIG and review the Policy Statement on Aboriginal Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People with intent of making recommendations to the ASA Council. In June, both of us were invited to participate in the second round of the invitational workshop on Pluralizing the Archival Paradigm hosted by the University of California in Los Angeles.

Until next time,

Kirsten Thorpe, Convenor &
Anne Wright, Secretary



Pictured:

Kirsten Thorpe & Anne Wright at the 2006 Annual Conference of the ASA presenting the paper 'Where the bloody hell are we? A paper on the current position of Indigenous employees and students in the archives and records profession in Australia' at the Inaugural Loris Williams Memorial Lecture.
Photograph courtesy Tim Robinson, University of Sydney Archives

"If you are interested in becoming part of our team, and have time and a strong commitment, why not nominate yourself at the forthcoming IISIG AGM in Alice Springs"

Newsletter Editor

The Newsletter Editor position will remain vacant until the August IISIG AGM and Elections in Alice Springs on the 23rd August 2007.

In the meantime, the newsletter continues to be prepared by the IISIG Secretary with the help of members from the Online Media Resource team.

It has been proposed that only three editions of the IISIG

newsletter per year be published in the months of February, July and December.

The Online Media Resources team is now responsible for providing assistance with the preparation and development of the newsletter which includes format, call for articles, development of a timeline for receipt of articles as well as reviewing the current distribution methods.

We are happy to report that we have received positive feedback for the newsletter's new format.

We welcome any feedback, at any time, please forward directly to: anne01@bigpond.net.au.



Alice Springs IISIG AGM—Call for Nominations of Office Bearers

Minutes of the IISIG AGM at Port Macquarie in October 2006 at the Quality Resorts is available on the ASA website: <http://www.archivists.org.au/pubs/newsletter.html#indig>

This is a call for nominations for following Office Bearers:

- ◆ Convenor
- ◆ Secretary

◆ Newsletter Editor
◆ Executive Member (s)
Nominations are now opened for the listed positions. Remember you can nominate another person or yourself. Please email your nomination to **Kirsten Thorpe at: alo@records.nsw.gov.au by close of business Friday 10th August 2007** or you can nominate at the AGM.

Furthermore, if you wish to have your apologies recorded at the IISIG AGM and/or have a specific agenda item, these should also be forwarded to the designated email address by the same close of business date.

IISIG Executive Committee Profiles



KIRSTEN THORPE is a descendant of the Worimi people of Port Stephens NSW and is descended from the Manton, Feeneys and Newlins. As the Archivist-Aboriginal Liaison at the State Records NSW is responsible in assisting Indigenous people to gain access to historical records held as State Archives and is a point of contact for Aboriginal people making enquiries about accessing records. Since the establishment of the NSW Aboriginal Trust Fund Scheme (ATFRS), coordinates the research at State Records NSW to assist the verification of claims submitted via the ATFRS Unit based in the Premier's Department.



ANNE WRIGHT is from Coffs Harbour on the North Coast of NSW with both parents of Aboriginal heritage, mother's (Sampson) family from Quirindi and father's (Morris) family from Kempsey NSW. Previously employed with the National Archives of Australia, Darwin Office initially as an indexer on the Bringing Them Home Project and then the Facilities & Corporate Services Officer for seven years and recently became an employee of the State Records NSW as Research Officer - Aboriginal Liaison funded by the Aboriginal Trust Fund Scheme (ATFRS) Premier's Department.



SIMON FLAGG a descendant of the Wamba Wamba people from the Swan Hill region. Initially employed with the National Archives of Australia as an indexer on the Bringing Them Home Name Index Project then took up the joint position of Koorie Reference and Indexing Officer for National Archives of Australia and Public Record Office Victoria (PROV). In February 2007 became the Acting Manager Koorie Records Unit (KRU) at PROV and have been responsible for a number of publications, one being the implementation of the *nilam naling* report on access to records, including the KIN project.

"Meet our dedicated executive team and be inspired, one day you might have the time and want to join our dynamic team"



ANDREW WILSON is of Wirangu and Kokatha descent via his maternal grandparents. Andrew and his wife Maria have five children. Andrew has been at State Records (SA) since November 1989, and is now the Senior Aboriginal Project Officer. Prior to working at State Records, Andrew had not had any archives training or related background. However, his many years in government working in "Aboriginal areas" with a number of Aboriginal groups across South Australia proved invaluable at State Records. Andrew has also long since developed a keen sense of Aboriginal history and how such history provides a greater insight into the many "Aboriginal" issues confronting Australia today.



JILL CALDWELL worked under the leadership of the late Loris Williams on the team which developed the Pathways brochure in 2004 and have been working with IISIG ever since. This has given me many opportunities to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture and to work with a great bunch of people on the committee. I retired from National Archives Canberra in October 2004 and I now have more time to visit my daughter in Sydney and my son who lives in Japan.



RYAN BRINKWORTH is a "Murri", being an Aboriginal from Queensland - through his mother, whilst his father's ancestry is from England. His mother's parents were taken from their families to live in a strict dormitory systems at the Yarrabah Mission. This act broke the family's tie with their traditional lands, culture and identity. However, it is believed his grandmother was from the Gungganyji tribe of Yarrabah and his grandfather was from the Djankun tribe of the tablelands area around Mount Mulligan. He is currently working for Queensland Health, in information management strategy and policy.

ABSENT PROFILE OF KATHY FRANKLAND

Indigenous Student Section



Anne Wright

I am a second year student at Edith Cowan University enrolled in the on-line Graduate Diploma of Science (Information Services) Archives and Records.

Prior to entering the archives and records field, I was employed in universities over a number of years and didn't have a career path until 2004 when I had met the only two known Indigenous Archivists in Australia who were simply so inspirational. I knew then and there that my career path was in the field that I now work in, archives and records.

Commencing studies late in life has certainly been a challenge for me, working full-time, running a household of seven children under the

age of twelve, researching my own family history and my role as Secretary of the Australian Society of Archivists Indigenous Issues Special Interest Group.

Support is such a significant part of the process of studying without this it becomes an impossible task. For me support starts in the home, progresses through to the workplace and then through to your professional colleagues. When reflecting on my first year of studies, I am amazed that I was able to complete three units given that I had started experiencing problems with my own health. What got me through my studies was the fantastic support given to me by my course coordinator along with my husband who both believed in me that instilled confidence within myself that I could achieve positive results and that I did. It's about being flexible with your study plan and not to put yourself under pressure by having too many high expectations of yourself to achieve top results all time. In my

second year of studies it hasn't gone to plan with my re-occurring health issues which had an impact on my studies in semester one. On the road to recovery I have enrolled in semester two. We have to be mindful that challenges and barriers will come from all different directions in our lives and have an impact on what we do. It doesn't matter that we have to put our studies on hold to deal with issues at hand, it's about finishing what we started even if it takes more time than first expected or planned. The passion that I have in what I study and learn, where I have worked and will work, what I am constantly facing and learning about my own family history and the work that I do for IISI all contribute to my career path. I have a goal and I want to achieve that goal as an Indigenous woman within our chosen profession where we are so under represented.

"Let's take the journey together, along the Pathways career . An initiative and very much inspired step by one of our past leaders whom will always be part of our journey"

Loris Williams Memorial Lecture



Permission has been given by the Williams Family to continue to use this image of the late Loris Elaine Williams.

The 2007 ASA Conference is nearly upon us and we look forward to welcoming the speaker of the second Loris Williams Memorial Lecture, Ms Alana Garwood-Huong, Chair of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Library Resource Network (ATSILRN).

Alana will present a paper to the conference on the ATSILRN protocols which is very fitting

given that it was the last time around in Alice Springs that the paper was presented by Kathy Frankland on the development of the protocols.

The Loris Williams Memorial Lecture is held at Annual ASA Conference. The aim of the lecture is to inspire, challenge and inform the archives and records community about Indigenous issues which affect the profession. The lecture is designed to stimulate discussion, debate and active engagement with a full range of Indigenous issues which have an impact on professional archival practice.

We look forward to the paper this year.

The link following gives details of the programme, if you are interested in taking a look at:

http://www.archivists.org.au/events/2007_conf/ASA_2007_Conference_intro.htm

IISIG have been active in developing guidelines for the Loris Williams Memorial Lecture which will assist IISIG Executive to plan and present the lecture at annual ASA Conferences. The guidelines provides a brief statement on the background, aim, topic, speakers, venue, timing, funding, chair, Williams Family, local Indigenous communities, entertaining and welcoming speaker and guests, publicity, Conference Committee Handbook, updating and authorization including a timeline for arrangements.

National and State Record Offices At a Glance

National Archives of Australia

Activities relating to the 1967 referendum

Like many other organisations, the National Archives has been involved in activities associated with the 1967 referendum.

The Archives:

- * has supplied copies of archival documents relating to the 1967 referendum to a number of other archival and other government & non-government organisations who have been arranging exhibitions or publications;
- * has assisted the ABC *Message Stick* television program with documents;
- * has shown a selection of documents to visiting link-up staff undertaking an AIATSIS training course;
- * had a small display in its *Find of the Month* display case in the Canberra office; and
- * is updating some finding aid material relating to the referendum.

The National Archives' main activity in relation to the 1967 referendum has been its involvement in an exhibition, *Drawing Together, Showcasing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Art Collection*.

The exhibition was developed by the Australian Public Service Commission in collaboration with the National Archives to mark the 40th anniversary of the 1967 Referendum. The exhibition is being held in the National Archives building in Canberra and was launched on 17 May in conjunction with the Museums Australia conference that the Archives co-hosted. The exhibition closes on 15 July.

The exhibition consists of 80 artworks – a mix of hanging works and sculptures – sourced from a collection of works brought together over the last 40 years by a

number of different Australian government agencies. Many of the works are early works of well-known artists and have not been on display for the general public previously.

The exhibition coincides with an art competition organised by the Public Service Commission that explores reconciliation. Artworks short listed in the competition are also on display at the National Archives building in Canberra, from 2 to 29 July 2007.

Article provided by Hilary Rowell

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### Queensland

Exhibition of artist's book dedicated to the late Loris Williams

The National Library is exhibiting Judy Watson's artist book 'a preponderance of aboriginal blood' as part of its contribution to NAIDOC week. You can find the details on the National Library's Events page at <http://www.nla.gov.au/apps/events?category=main&time=week>

In 2005 Judy Watson was asked by the State Library of Queensland to contribute an artist's book to the celebration of the 40th anniversary of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders achieving the vote in Queensland. She dedicated this work to the late Loris Williams after hearing Loris speak about the significant story which could be found in the records held at the Queensland State Archives. The dedication appears on the title page.

The book consists of 16 etchings, each a page from the records, which has been overlaid with a pattern of blood. The title is taken from a letter written in 1949 by the Acting Assistant Director of Native Affairs to Mrs H. Tyson telling her that 'the State Electoral Act provides that persons having a preponderance of Aboriginal blood are not eligible to vote, and that the fact that such persons hold Exemption Certificates does not alter the matter in any way'. Sometimes

complete documents are used. The details have a very powerful effect in emphasizing the way the government controlled Aboriginal people's lives. Sometimes only fragments of documents are used, for example part of a police report on an Aboriginal girl whose name is not given. These fragments seem to show that the official record only tells us a small part of a particular person's story and we are left with a feeling of great sadness for the injustices they experienced. The blood which spills over the documents is a potent symbol of both life and suffering.

Judy Watson's latest work 'fire and water' stands in Reconciliation Place.

The exhibition will remain in the National Library's Visitors Centre until 14 October. The State Library of Queensland also holds a copy of this work.

*Article provided by Jill Caldwell*

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**"At a Glance
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Cont'.... National and State Record Offices At a Glance

Tasmania State Records

Tasmania - Stolen Generations Act

In November 2006 both houses of Parliament in Tasmania passed the Stolen Generations Act creating a five million dollar fund for eligible members of the stolen generations of Aboriginal people and their children.

The Act began operation in January 2007 with applications being accepted until mid July 2007 and eligibility & payments to be finalised in January 2008. The Office of the Stolen Generations Assessor will determine eligibility based on three categories:

- Removal as a ward or child of the state under the Infants' Welfare Act 1935 or the Child Welfare Act 1960 for 12 months or more.
- Removal in other circumstances without consent or under duress for 12 months or more.
- Children of a deceased Aboriginal person who would have been eligible under categories 1 and/or 2.

As there wasn't a designated Department for Aboriginal Affairs in Tasmania until the 1970's, records created by a range of Government departments are being used to determine eligibility, many of which have been retrieved from the Archives Office of Tasmania over the last six months.

Applicants are able to gain free access to relevant personal records during this process.

Further information can be found on the DPAC site at:

<http://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/stolengeneration/index.html>

Article provided by Caroline Homer

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### State Records New South Wales

In July 2006 *In Living Memory* exhibition open at State Records

in The Rocks. The exhibition is the official surviving photographs of the Aborigines Welfare Board NSW. The photographs show snapshots of all aspects of Aboriginal people lives from removal of children, health, education, and housing of people on reserves and missions. Staff are happy to take group bookings for visits to the exhibition.

For any future enquiries please contact me on (02) 8247 8609 or email [poal@records.nsw.gov.au](mailto:poal@records.nsw.gov.au) The *In Living Memory* exhibition has been so successful that it has been extended to June 2008.

#### Aboriginal Trust Fund Repayment Scheme (ATFRS)

State Records is continuing work on the project to digitise and index Aboriginal Welfare Board files among the Chief Secretary correspondence, 1938 – 49. Two indexing staff have been employed at the Sydney Records Centre, The Rocks to work on the project. The project is due to be completed by the end of August 2007.

A new project to complete the indexing of all other known records of the former Aborigines Protection Board (APB) and the Aborigines Welfare Board (AWB) commenced on Monday 16 July 2007. The indexing of 319 boxes is expected to take approximately 29 weeks with eight personnel and will also involve the checking and quality of assurance of another 72 previously indexed boxes.

The Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Department of Aboriginal Affairs have provided funding for this very important initiative. The indexing will greatly assist the ATFRS in locating evidence when considering claims for unpaid monies. In the long term the indexing will provide an invaluable tool for the Aboriginal community in accessing the records of the Boards.

Article provided by Sue Newman and Warwick Hunter

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AIATSIS

Online Exhibitions

AIATSIS has recently launched

online exhibitions commemorating the anniversaries of the 1967 referendum and the Bringing Them Home report:

Yes! the 1967 referendum

AIATSIS has produced an online exhibition to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the of the 1967 referendum.

Yes! the 1967 referendum presents a comprehensive time-line of the history of the referendum, drawing together resources digitised from the AIATSIS collections, the National Archives of Australia (NAA), the National Library of Australia (NLA), National Film and Sound Archive (NFSA) and items already online. The exhibition also examines the years after the referendum, highlighting the major milestones – the 25th, 30th and 40th anniversaries.

To Remove and Protect

The AIATSIS Library has also recently launched the *To Remove and Protect* online exhibitions commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Bringing Them Home Report.

To Remove and Protect: Laws that changed Aboriginal Lives

This website draws together, and makes available electronically, the State Legislations identified in the Bringing Them Home report that enabled the forced removal of Aboriginal children from their families and communities.

To Remove and Protect: Aboriginal Lives Under Control

This section of the *To Remove and Protect* exhibition presents, electronically, the annual reports of all state and territory 'Protection Boards' and subsequent government agencies. The reports in this exhibition are fully searchable. New South Wales and Victoria reports are currently available with the other states added in the coming months.

Both *Yes! the 1967 referendum* and *To Remove and Protect* can be viewed at www.aiatsis.gov.au/library/online_exhibitions.

Article provided by Rebecca Stubbs

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## Cont'.... National and State Record Offices At a Glance

### State Records South Australia

#### Aboriginal Access Team

The State Records Aboriginal Access Team has for some time had three team members equating to 2½ full time positions. Jay Morrison who has the “half” position is dedicated to our indexing project to list names of Aboriginal people and references to them from our records onto our AIMS (Aboriginal Information Management System) database.

Very soon, we will have to say goodbye to Isabel O’Loughlin who at the end of August will complete her year with us and return to the SLSA (State Library of South Australia). Isabel has been a real asset to the team particularly with her very good research skills and enthusiasm coming to the fore when addressing family/community history enquiries. Her departure will see Laura Winslow return to us after spending time in a research position at Flinders Medical Centre conducting an Aboriginal health survey.

#### Oodnadatta Community Reunion

As part of our “outreach” program, in Mid April this year Andrew Wilson and Isabel O’Loughlin attended a “community reunion” at Oodnadatta in South Australia’s far north. The event was organised by SA Link-Up, designed as part of a “healing” process for Aboriginal people, who as children were separated from family and placed in the now former Aboriginal Children’s home run by the Australia Inland Mission. Isabel and I took a laptop with us and held “one to one” sessions with many of the 40 plus ex residents that attended. They were provided a print out of names/references downloaded from our AIMS database (mentioned in the previous article) so that they could follow

through seeking access to records in the hope that they might find information relating to family members and/or their experience of “separation” and “institutionalisation”.

#### Curriculum Development Project using SA Government Records Relating to Aboriginal People

For some time now as the Senior Aboriginal Project Officer, State Records of South Australia, I have been a member of the Aboriginal Studies Subject Advisory Committee of SSABSA (Senior Secondary Assessment Board South Australia).

SSABSA is responsible for the assessment of senior secondary school students in South Australia. However, the committee I am on is more specifically responsible for the development of “Aboriginal” curriculum.

Although in train for a long time, in recent months I have been working with two teachers associated with SSABSA to access and examine records of South Australian government held by State Records that relate to Aboriginal people to develop an “illustrative program”. So far this has been a small scaled “curriculum development” pilot project, which very shortly will mean that:

- A list providing a cross section of records relating to “Aboriginal Children” and “Aboriginal Missions” will be placed on the SSABSA website for senior secondary school students to access.
- With respect to the mentioned list, senior secondary school students can visit at State Records to research the records first hand.

To this extent State Records is currently in the process of organising the transcription of the mentioned records, as the handwriting of many of these original records would be too difficult for students to read. In the longer term it is envisaged that

many more records will be examined and also eventually digitised and made available for senior secondary school students via the State Records website.

*Article provided by Andrew Wilson*

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Public Records Office Victoria

It has been a very busy year for the Koorie Records Unit (KRU) so far, delivering workshops and seminars. KRU received funding from the Aboriginal Affairs Victoria to address a number of recommendations that came out of the *wilam naling, knowing who you are* report released in June 2006.

As a result the KRU developed a free two-day workshop that focused on delivering an Aboriginal cultural focus towards recordkeeping, the three main themes of the workshop were:

- Training for non-government record-holders.
- Promoting good record-keeping in Koorie communities.
- Cultural awareness training for government record-holders.

Eight workshop were conducted throughout Victoria covering Lakes Entrance, Warrnambool, Mildura, Swan Hill, Ballarat, Shepparton, Bendigo and Melbourne.

KRU has also commenced an index project called Koorie Index of Names (KIN), which is indexing all the relevant records with PROV collection. Eventually the KIN project aims to have indexed records across a number of areas, not just Aboriginal records. This is why KIN is a unique indexing project, which has only been possible through the use of PROV’s volunteer unit. The KIN database is planned for launch in mid 2008, while information continues to be updated on a ongoing basis, for more information please visit the KRU webpage on PROV website.

Article provided by Simon Flagg

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## Message Board

### International Conference on the History of Records and Archives

#### CALL FOR PAPERS FOR ICHORA4, Perth, Western Australia 3-5 August 2008

*Minority reports: Indigenous and Community Voices in Archives.*

The general theme of this conference explores issues relating to the history of recordkeeping by and about Indigenous peoples, migrant communities, minority communities, forgotten and disappeared communities. This includes historical and contemporary responses by these groups to recordkeeping by dominant communities. This conference also welcomes discussion on the impact and histories of the destruction of archives relating to the above communities and peoples, and the role of records in human rights contexts, including slavery and reconciliation.

We invite submissions of proposals for papers that report on original research into topics and themes that have not been widely discussed in the archival literature. Papers may treat any time period, any format and any national jurisdiction. Topics might include, but are not limited to the following areas:

- o Cultural provenance/virtual repatriation.
  - o Collecting against the grain.
  - o Representation and self representation.
  - o Approaches to keeping cultural memory.
  - o Expanding definitions of archives beyond traditional formats (for example Rock art).
  - o Reading traditional records to tell new stories.
  - o Historical and contemporary approaches to outreach and access.
  - o Absences and silences in archives and cultural institutions.
- We encourage cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural perspectives on issues relating to the scope of the conference.

Proposals may be for individual papers or for whole sessions which may consist of 2-3 papers and a panel discussion.

Papers by people from Indigenous, migrant, minority and forgotten communities are particularly welcome.

Proposals for papers Abstracts should be approximately 300 words and in word or RTF format.

All papers will be refereed.

Proposals should be sent to [ichora4@ecu.edu.au](mailto:ichora4@ecu.edu.au) by 14 July 2007. We will advise on acceptance by the end of October 2007

The language of the conference is English.

ICHORA4 Conference Programme Committee

Joanna Sassoon (SROWA)  
Karen Anderson (ECU)  
Toby Burrows (UWA)  
Carly Lane (UWA)  
Michael Piggott (UMelb)  
Kirsten Thorpe (SRNSW)  
Adrian Cunningham (NAA)

This conference is timed to be directly after the ICA Congress in Kuala Lumpur, and just prior to the Australian Society of Archivists Conference, Perth, Western Australia 7-9 August 2008. A call for papers for the Australian Society of Archivists Conference will be made in a few months.

For further information in the meantime please contact Dr Karen Anderson [k.anderson@ecu.edu.au](mailto:k.anderson@ecu.edu.au)

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### "WHERE WILL YOUR SPIRIT BE WHEN THE SUN RISES IN 2008?"

#### HISTORY

This was the question asked by the indigenous people of the world to mark their entrance into the 21st Century for their children. With only the promise of a place to stay and one good meal a day, over 187 tribal nations responded & gathered in Tucson, Arizona to greet the rising sun. They came from Australia, Mexico, Bolivia, Honduras, Panama, Alaska, Canada and the United States. It was a globally doomed Y2K year with no corporate sponsor, still they came for ten days to share their songs, foods, dances and crafts in an epic event called "Thunder in the Desert". It became the world's largest Native American media covered event as part of ABC Peter Jennings' live coverage of the sun-rising in each time zone seen by three quarters of a billion people world-wide. Peter Jennings expressed to his audience that only among indigenous people do we see men holding hands with other men to bring in the New Millennium during our midnight friendship round dance. The elders and the indigenous communities have asked for it to be repeated an additional three times to fulfil the sacredness of the number four. The all-volunteer committee has committed to complete this request in the years 2004, 2008, and 2012.

#### INVITATION

It is an honor for the committee to invite all indigenous cultures of the world to return and again share their unique cultural expressions with indigenous peoples of other tribes. A formal request for participation by dance groups, musicians, poetic and literary artists, pow-wow folks, war mothers and veteran's societies, seventh generation youth and

*"If you ant to share your information with others, pin it on our message board and get the information out there"*

## Message Board cont'

youth and golden age groups, tribal tourism, art and craft vendors and tribal commercial exhibits, sponsors and volunteers are welcomed. We also send out an invitation to all four directions of the world to invite the four races of mankind, the red, the yellow, the black and the white to participate, share, experience and taste this unique event of ten thousand years of cultures, one hundred-fifty tribal nations, 12 days all at one location - Tucson, Arizona, USA. To be held on December 29, 2007 through January 6, 2008. "Thunder in the Desert 2008" will feature parades, fashion shows, birds of prey, equestrian events, pow-wows, concerts, midnight friendship dance, elder's, veterans', children's and world indigenous people's exhibition days and a lot more.

### MISSION STATEMENT

A recommitment will be made to the continuation of the strength, beauty and endurance of our traditions and cultures by providing a platform of inspiration for our Native American Indian Youth, as they continue into the 21st Century. Following the request of our elders, traditional teachings of our ancestors, and the needs of

our seventh generation youth, we will showcase the strength, beauty and endurance of our spirituality, traditions and cultures. The People will come together in celebration of our continued existence throughout the past millennium. The all volunteer committees and it's sponsoring non-profit group Reservation Creations Women's Circle Charitable Trust and the National Native American Cooperative and North American Indian Information and Trade Center is dedicated to providing an enjoyable, educational and inspiring experience from an indigenous point of view. We welcome everyone to join us and again we ask,

### ***"WHERE WILL YOU BE WHEN THE SUN RISES?"***

December 29th, 2007 - January 6th, 2008  
December 30th, 2011 - January 8th, 2012

**This Event is always held in January every four years...2008, 2012**

***"Thunder in the Desert"***

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Australian Society of Archivists Inc.

#### Indigenous Issues SIG Email Addresses

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**Do you work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people AND archives and records?**

**Would you like to meet other people who share your passions and concerns?**

IISIG aims to encourage discussion about archives and records issues and services relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples; to make information about archival services available to Indigenous Australians; and; to encourage contact between those working in the field. All interested people are welcome to join. We have a regular newsletter and meet annually at the ASA Conference. We work on projects to improve access to archives and records for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Membership costs \$120 or \$60 for students and unemployed but joining the ASA and IISIG listserv is free.

For more information visit <http://www.archivists.org.au/structure.html#indig> and contact us at

[ozarch@velocitynet.com.au](mailto:ozarch@velocitynet.com.au) or 1800 622 251 (Free call). Our office is staffed part time but please leave a message and we will get back to you.

Post messages to  
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