

The Centre for Indigenous Education

Semester 2, 2009

The Power to Change the World



Welcome to the second edition of the CIE Newsletter for 2009. As the academic year comes to a close, staff of the CIE would like to wish you all well for your exams and congratulate all our graduating students for this year.

I would like to acknowledge staff and students for your contributions. There has been many wonderful programs and events in this year, including the inaugural Bachelor of Arts Extended students about to complete their first year, Indigenous post-graduate Seminar Series, First Australians Seminar Series, Indigenous Thesis Writer's Circle, student events and a busy recruitment schedule.

I wish all students success in the upcoming exam period and look forward to welcoming our new Indigenous students in 2010. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Chris Heelan

General Manager, The Centre for Indigenous Education

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Bachelor of Arts Extended

The Bachelor of Arts (Extended) is a new course aimed at Indigenous students whose secondary school results do not allow direct entry to the University of Melbourne's Bachelor of Arts degree, as well as those who would like more time to refine their skills.

For 17-year-old Abby Rose Cox, making the move from Broome, Western Australia, was terrifying, even after having attended boarding school in Perth. Now settling in to Melbourne life, Abby Rose is planning to major in either Psychology or Media Studies, and says she wants to return to her community to show all students, not just those of Indigenous backgrounds, that opportunities are out there.

"Don't hold back, or be shame," she says, "because anything is possible. You get out what you put in and as Nelson Mandela said, education is the most powerful weapon which we can use to change the world." Bubbly, motivated, and ambitious, Abby Rose hopes to become a psychologist and communicator, using her skills to help young people in her community deal with emotional issues, and encouraging their educational aspirations.

The BA (Extended) runs over four years as opposed to the regular three-year program.

Students benefit from a supported transition to University through the provision of an extra year of study which helps them develop the academic skills needed for success at University.

Transitional mentoring is provided through the Trinity College Foundation Studies Program, in co-operation with staff from the University's Faculty of Arts, the Centre for Indigenous Education and the Academic Skills Unit. Participating students may live in one of the University's residential colleges.

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Recruitment & Engagement

2009 has seen a very busy time for the CIE Recruitment and Engagement Team, with visits taking place across the country. This year, the team visited:

- QLD – Cairns, Townsville, Noosa, Brisbane, Weipa, Thursday Island
- NSW – Sydney, Albury
- WA – Perth
- NT – Alice Springs, Darwin
- Tas – Launceston, Hobart
- Vic – Bendigo, Horsham, Hamilton, Geelong, Wodonga, Shepparton, Morwell, Ballarat, Wangaratta, Warrnambool, Mansfield and metro visits

We have also had quite a few groups visit us at the CIE, and next year, we are planning a bigger and better recruitment schedule, so if you are interested in having a CIE rep coming out to speak about the opportunities for Indigenous students at The University of Melbourne, or being hosted by the CIE for a campus visit, please contact us.

We have also ran, and co-ran, a gruelling events schedule, including the First Australians Seminar series (a new seminar series will commence in 2010), a NAIDOC function (with Onemda), the weekly student lunch and info sessions, and are looking forward to the Christmas function! 2010's calendar of events will be available soon, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Finally, we are in a period of transition in Recruitment and Engagement, with two new Recruitment and Engagement Officers coming on board soon. This is exciting, as it will allow for the broadening of the work we do, and allow for more work to go on with the faculties, so that more innovative programmes are developed.

Good luck to all the students during SWOTVAC, as well as all of our Indigenous applicants. See you next year!

Celeste Liddle

Team Leader – Recruitment and Engagement



CIE Events & Projects

NAIDOC Week

CIE staff and students attended the 2009 NAIDOC dinner at Moonee Valley racecourse.

The 2010 National NAIDOC Awards Ceremony and Ball will be held in Melbourne.

NAIDOC Week 2010 will be held from 4 to 11 July.



Garma Festival

The 11th Garma Festival – Australia's leading cultural exchange event – was held from 7-11 August 2009 at Gulkula, North East Arnhem Land, NT. CIE sponsored postgraduate student Scott Winch, and BA Extended student, Diana David, in partnership with Ormond College, to attend Garma.

Garma is a nationally significant, intimate, spectacular celebration of cultural traditions and practices – dance, song, music, and art (including presentations, collaborations, sales) – and the annual venue for a major Key Forum on Indigenous issues.

The theme of the key forum was 'Creative Industries'. It included important and practical discussions on issues and practices surrounding cultural outputs and inputs and commercial opportunities afforded Indigenous Australians through training, development and practice in many forms of creative industry, including design, music, graphic art, multimedia, film and photography, performance arts, visual arts, broadcasting and electronic media, new media and professional writing and editing.



2009 Australian Indigenous Doctor's Association (AIDA) Symposium



Each year, the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA) holds a symposium, giving Indigenous Doctors and Medical Students the opportunity to meet, and engage in dialogue about Indigenous-specific health issues, research and practices. This year the CIE was proud to partially sponsor two Indigenous University of Melbourne medical students to attend the symposium: Robert James and Shirley Godwin. Both students had a great time, and gained a lot from the experience. The CIE looks forward to continuing to work with AIDA so these opportunities can continue to inspire our students.



Professor Mason Durie
Massey University, New Zealand

Narrm Oration

I write to invite you to take an important role in our 1st Parkville Indigenous Oration (The Narrm Oration) and the launch of the Melbourne Institute of Indigenous Partnerships which will take place between 5.30pm & 7.30pm on Thursday 05 November c/o the Spot, Basement Theatre, at the Economics and Commerce Building.

Date: Thu 05 November

Time: From 05.30 pm to 7.30pm

Venue: 'The Spot' (Basement Theatre), Faculty of Economics & Commerce, 198 Berkeley Street, Carlton (corner of Pelham Street)

The Oration will be delivered by Prof Mason Durie, Professor of Māori Research and Development & Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Māori & Pasifika) at Massey University in New Zealand.

The title of his oration is: – 'Indigenous Partnerships: Enduring Relationships, Knowledge Transfer, and New Economies'



The University of Melbourne has topped the Australian University Games medal tally for the second successive year, winning seven Australian University Championships on the Gold Coast last month.

Melbourne won its seven national championships in AFL, Badminton – Men, Badminton – Women, Fencing, Football (Soccer) – Men, Squash - Men and Volleyball – Women.

The University was runners-up in a further six sporting competitions, placing second in Basketball – Men, Cycling, Golf, Kendo, Netball – Women and Squash – Women; while the five sports of Athletics – Women, Basketball – Women, Hockey – Women, Table Tennis and Touch – Mixed placed third overall.

The University of Melbourne team was represented by three of our Indigenous students: VFL footballer Clinton Benjamin (North Ballarat), Simone Gristwood in Women's Football (Soccer), and Ed Morrissey in Kendo.



Indigenous Postgraduate Summer School

The eighth Indigenous Postgraduate Summer School to be held at Trinity College, University of Melbourne, in February 2010. The summer school has seen over 100 participants go through the program from universities from across Australia.

The Summer School is a five day residential program, bringing together Australian Indigenous postgraduate students and their thesis supervisors with a distinguished faculty of senior Indigenous and non-Indigenous scholars. The purpose of the Summer School is to provide students with the knowledge, skills and mentoring to help them toward successful completion of their postgraduate degrees and furthering of their careers.

In 2010 the Indigenous Postgraduate Summer School will also be offered as an awards based program for those students who wish to undertake an assessment module to gain a Professional Certificate in Indigenous Research Training and Practices which may be contributed towards a Graduate Certificate.

The Summer School will be hosted by the Centre for Indigenous Education (CIE) at the University of Melbourne in conjunction with the Australian Indigenous Studies Program at the University of Melbourne, the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health and the Melbourne Institute for Indigenous Partnership (MIIP). Other universities involved include Monash University, LaTrobe University and Deakin University.

Application form can be found on the CIE website at www.services.unimelb.edu.au/cie

For more information please contact Simone Brotherton on sbr@unimelb.edu.au or Tel: (03) 8344 0451



The Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education (LIME) Network

The Leaders in Indigenous Medical Education (LIME) biennial conference, LIME Connection is to be held in Melbourne on 3 - 4 December 2009.

This year's conference will focus on 'Advancing Indigenous Health: Workforce Innovations'. Specifically, the Conference will address leading practice approaches to integrating Indigenous health into medical education and workplace training. In addition, the Conference will provide an opportunity to discuss and challenge some current practices and discuss emerging tools and techniques to drive continuous improvement in outcomes for Indigenous health.

The LIME Network is a Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand Project and is hosted by the Onemda Vi-chHealth Koori Health Unit within the School of Population Health at The University of Melbourne.

www.limenetwork.net.au

Student Profiles

Name? **Ashlee Rose**

Age? 18

One word to describe yourself? Bubbly

Something we don't know about you? I have a crazy obsession with Officeworks

Something you are looking forward to? The Britney Spears Concert in November

Studying? Bachelor of Arts Extended

What are your future aspirations? To own my own successful business

A quote or message you would like to share with other Indigenous students?
"Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try"



Name? **Rikara Ahmat**

Age? 18

One word to describe yourself? Chordate

Something we don't know about you? I can't stand watching other people brushing their teeth

Something you are looking forward to? Summer holidays

Studying? Sometimes

What are your future aspirations? To travel



Name? **Al Fricker**

Age? 25

One word to describe yourself? Optimal

Something we don't know about you? I'm allergic to ginger

Something you are looking forward to? Graduating!

Studying? Bachelor of Arts (History/Classics)

What are your future aspirations? World domination

A quote or message you would like to share with other Indigenous students?
"When French people swear, do they say 'pardon my English?'"



CIE Staff Profiles

Chris Heelan

General Manager

One word to describe yourself: Busy
Something we don't know about you: I secretly love Beyonce
Something you are looking forward to: West Coast Eagles premiership

Celeste Liddle

Team Leader, Recruitment & Engagement

One word to describe myself: Enigmatic
Something we don't know about you: I have a hard time ordering breakfast because I don't like eggs
Something you are looking forward to: Travelling more and buying a house.

Simone Brotherton

Recruitment & Engagement Officer

One word to describe yourself: Indescribable
Something we don't know about you: I used to play the flute
Something you are looking forward to: The weekend

Courtney Bannister

Recruitment & Engagement Officer

One word to describe yourself: Happy
Something we don't know about you:
Something you are looking forward to: My wedding & honeymoon

Michelle Earthy

Project Officer

One word to describe yourself: Intense
Something we don't know about you: I buy things, feel guilty and then take them back
Something you are looking forward to: Going home

Meg Roche

Student Support Officer

One word to describe yourself: Human
Something we don't know about you: My first pet's name was 'Jock Henry' A blue budgie.
Something you are looking forward to: Going to the ocean

Didier Hin

Technology & Administrative Manager

One word to describe yourself: Determined
Something we don't know about you: For me to know and you to find out
Something you are looking forward to: A salary rise

Danielle Walker

Administration Assistant

One word to describe yourself: Shoe-a-holic
Something we don't know about you: I have danced at Rod Laver Arena in front of 14,000 people.
Something you are looking forward to: My trip to the US next year.

For more information about CIE, please phone (03) 8344 7722 or email cie-info@unimelb.edu.au
www.services.unimelb.edu.au/cie